

Key Concept Builder

LESSON 2

Climate Cycles

Key Concept How has climate varied over time?

Directions: Answer each question or respond to each statement in the space provided.

Causes of Long-Term Climate Cycles	
1. Draw two different orbits that Earth has had over about 100,000 years. Label Earth and the Sun.	
2. Why does the varying shape of Earth’s orbit cause climate changes?	
3. How much does Earth’s angle of tilt vary about every 41,000 years? What is its angle now?	
4. How might a decrease in the angle of Earth’s tilt affect climate?	
5. What are two other influences on long-term natural climate cycles?	

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