

Content Practice A**LESSON 2**

Climate Cycle

Directions: On each line, write the term from the word bank that correctly completes each sentence. Each term is used only once.

axis	climate	drought	El Niño/Southern Oscillation
heat wave	ice ages	interglacials	monsoon
ocean	orbit	seasons	

1. Cold periods lasting from hundreds to millions of years, when glaciers cover much of Earth, are called _____.
2. Warm periods that occur during ice ages are _____.
3. Earth has experienced many major atmospheric and _____ changes, such as ice ages and interglacials, throughout its history.
4. The shape of Earth's _____ varies over the course of about 100,000 years and causes climate changes.
5. The tilt of Earth's _____ changes in cycles of approximately 41,000 years and influences climate.
6. The combined ocean and atmospheric cycle that results in weakened trade winds across the Pacific Ocean is called _____.
7. The tilt of Earth's axis as it revolves around the Sun causes _____.
8. A(n) _____ is a wind circulation pattern that changes direction with the seasons.
9. El Niño/Southern Oscillation and monsoons are two climate patterns that result from interaction between the _____ and the atmosphere.
10. A(n) _____ is a period that has below-average precipitation.
11. A period of unusually high temperatures is called a(n) _____.