

# Today:

- **ANSWERS to G3**
- **FEEDBACK LOOP ACTIVITY**  
(based on “Too Hot Not to Handle”)
- **START NEW TOPIC:**  
**#10 on “How Climate Works**
- **Start connecting the General Circulation of the Atmosphere to your WORLD MAPS so you can construct a GLOBAL CLIMATE MAP!**

# THE G-3 ANSWERS

The LEFT side of the equation:

$$R_{NET} = \begin{matrix} \text{SW} \\ \downarrow \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \text{SW} \\ \vdots \downarrow \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \text{SW} \\ \nearrow \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \text{LW} \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \downarrow \\ \text{LW} \end{matrix}$$

**Practice:  
blue skies**



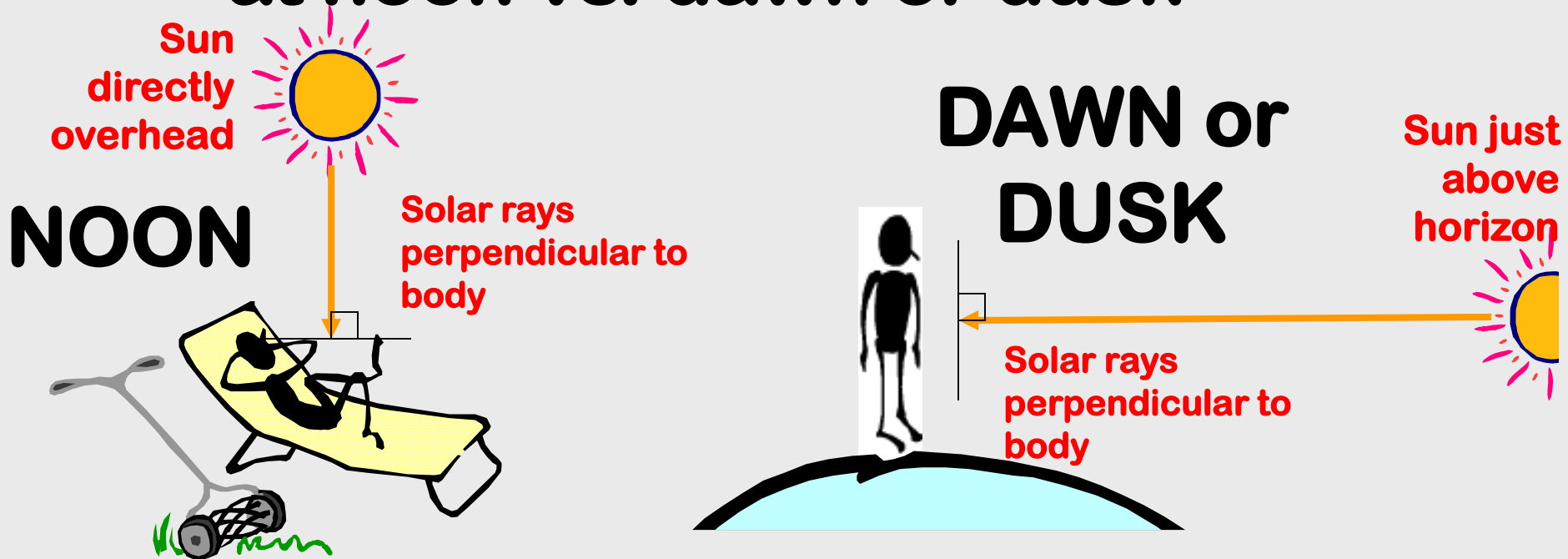
**1. Sunglasses  
while skiing**

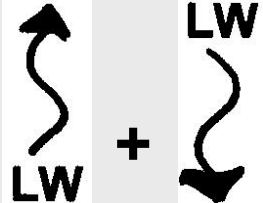


**2. Bright even  
though cloudy**



### 3. More intense solar radiation (tan /skin damage, etc.) at noon vs. dawn or dusk

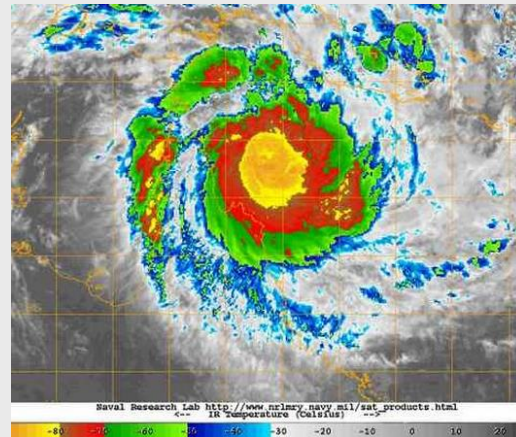
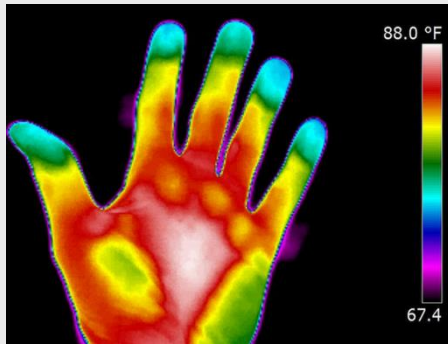


4.  together = the Greenhouse Effect

## 5. Red sunsets



## 6. Infrared Imagery



## 7. Shadow on sunny day



## 8. Rainbow



## 9. Black streaks



## 10. Parking on blacktop on a sunny day



# The RIGHT Side of the Equation:

$$= H + LE + G$$

11. Hot air  
balloon

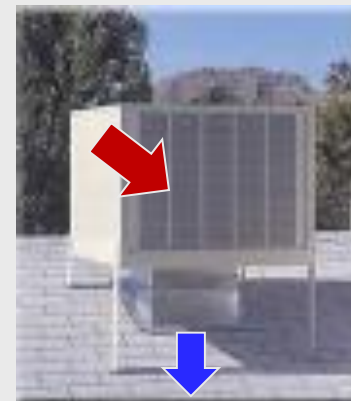


12. Pigs cooling  
off in the mud



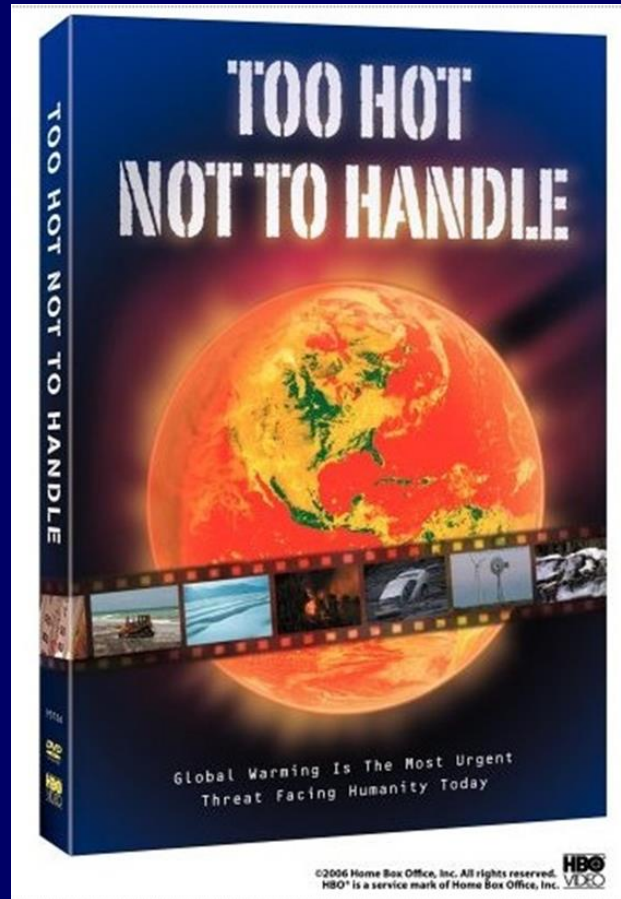
13. Evaporative  
coolers work best  
in the desert

Hot DRY  
AIR goes  
IN & is  
forced  
thru WET  
pads



**COOL AIR**  
enters  
house &  
cools it !

**Next short segment of our film:**

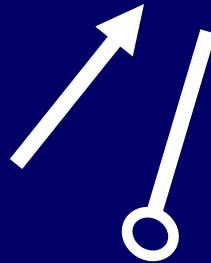


**“MELTING ALASKA”**





Put the components in a logical loop + connect with the proper coupling arrows:



Then decide what kind of FEEDBACK LOOP IT IS.

Amount of melting

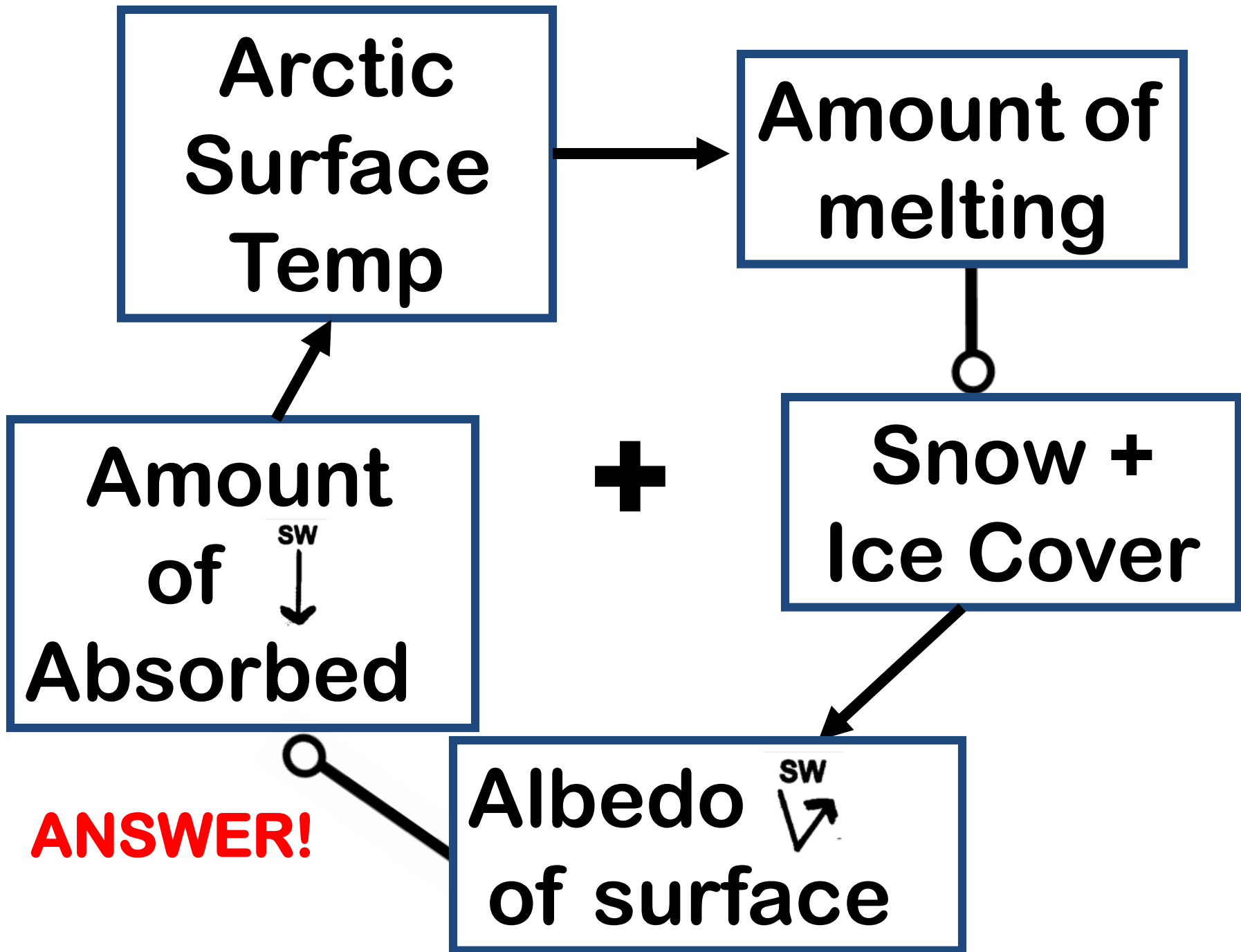
Amount of <sup>SW</sup> ↓ Absorbed

Arctic Surface Temp

Snow + Ice Cover

Albedo of surface <sup>SW</sup> ↗

When done & checked Give p 57 a try!



# Topic # 10

## HOW CLIMATE WORKS

A “Primer” on  
How the Energy Balance Drives  
Atmospheric & Oceanic Circulation,  
Natural Climatic Processes

**How do we get energy from this . . . .**



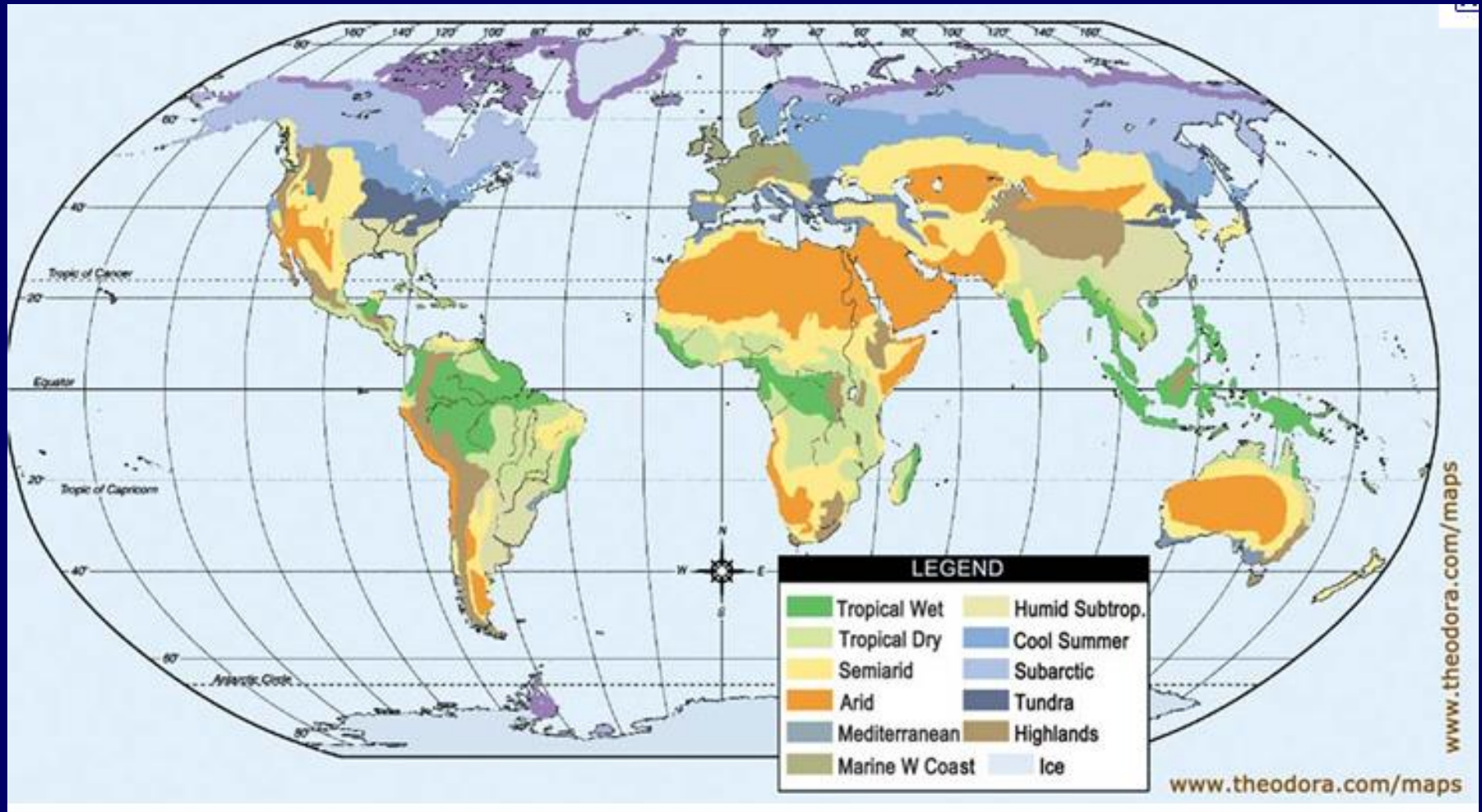
**. . . . to drive this ?**

... or this ?



<http://www.vets.ucar.edu/vg/T341/index.shtml>

...and end up with Global Climatic Regions:

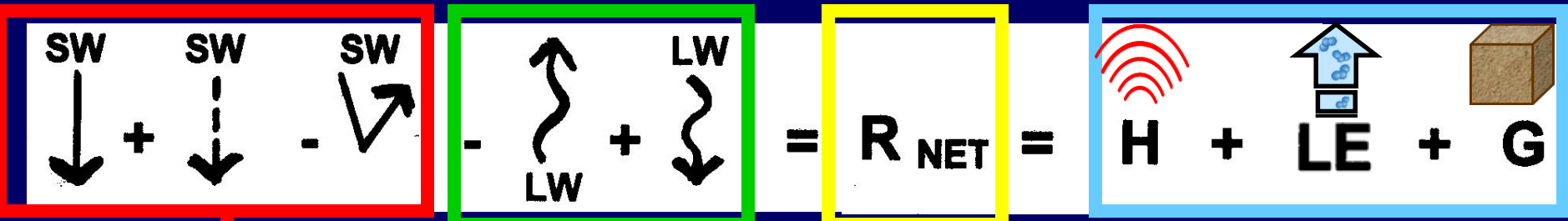


...and **CHANGES** in these regions!

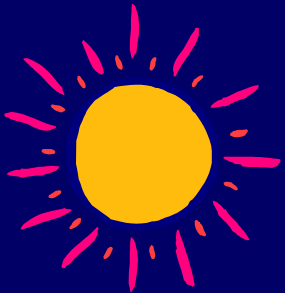
It all happens  
because of changes  
in the  
ENERGY BALANCE!

$$R_{NET} = \begin{array}{c} SW \\ \downarrow \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} SW \\ \vdots \\ \downarrow \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} SW \\ \nearrow \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \text{LW} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} LW \\ \downarrow \end{array} = H + LE + G$$

# ENERGY IN THE EARTH-ATMOSPHERE SYSTEM



Ultimate source of energy is the SUN (SW)



After absorption of SW, LW energy is radiated in & out by EARTH & Atmosphere



Any NET (leftover) energy

Goes into the HEAT TRANSFER processes that drive WEATHER & CLIMATE!



# The Earth [as viewed from space] . . .

has the organized,  
self-contained look  
of a live creature,  
full of information,  
marvelously skilled  
in handling  
the **SUN**.

- Lewis Thomas



# LINKING THE ENERGY BALANCE TO ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION:

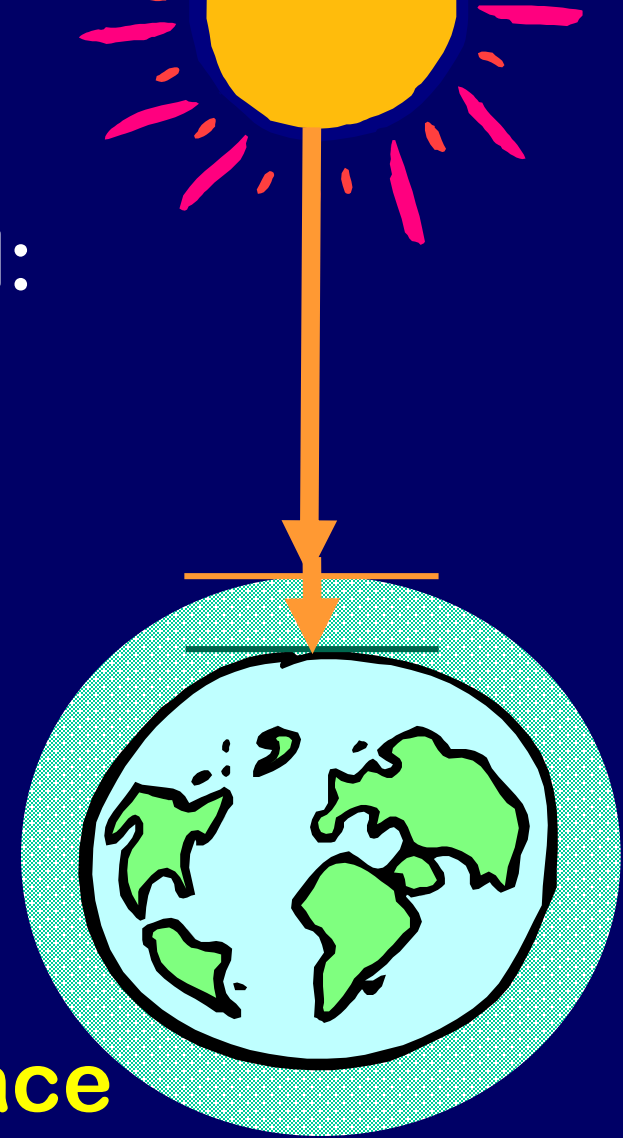
**We'll start with the SUN:**

## SOLAR INSOLATION

IN – **SOL**- ATION

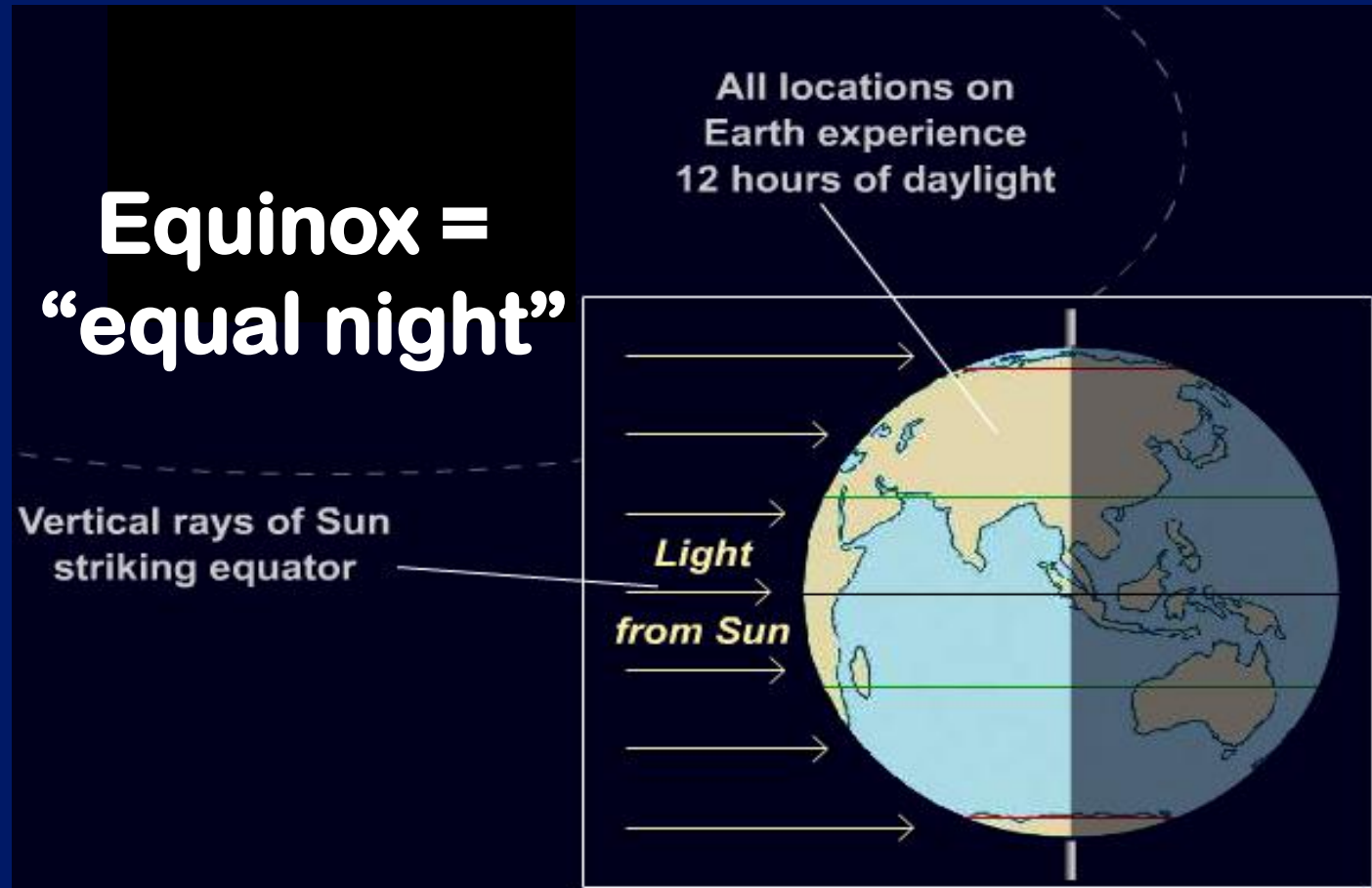
= the amount of incoming solar radiation received by a horizontal surface

(e.g. at the top of the atmosphere, at the tropopause, at the Earth's surface, etc.)

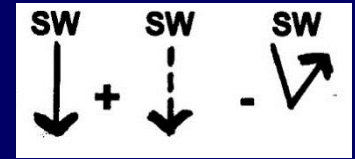
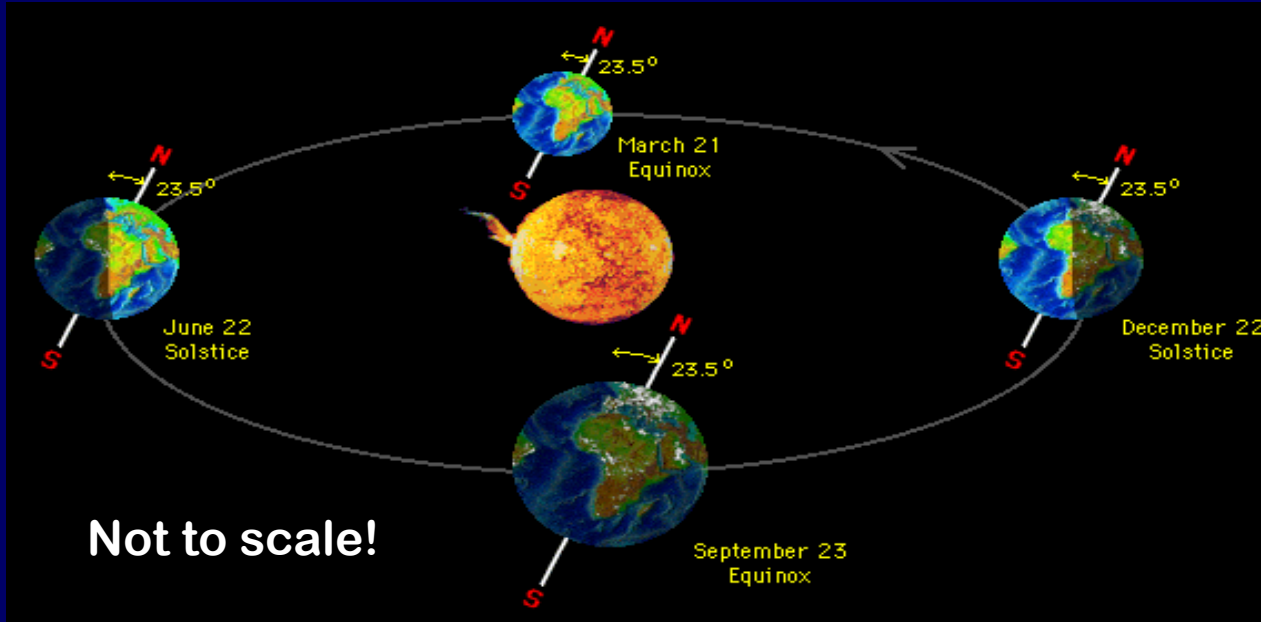


# REMEMBER THIS?? HAPPY SEPTEMBER EQUINOX!

23 Sep 2015



# To drive the circulation, the initial source of energy is from the Sun:



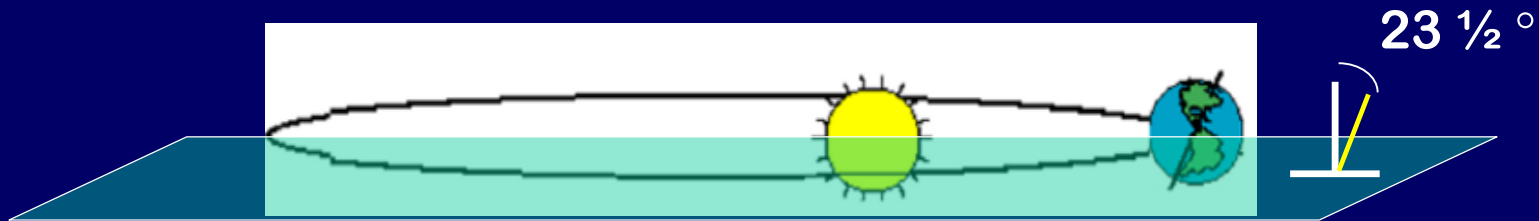
## EARTH-SUN Relationships

### 4 Things to Know about Earth-Sun Relationships:

- 1) Earth orbits Sun
- 2) Orbit not a perfect circle
- 3) Orbit traces “a plane”
- 4) Earth’s axis tilts



# The “4 Things to Know” about Earth-Sun Relationships:



- 1) Earth orbits Sun in one year
- 2) Orbit is not a perfect circle = an ellipse
- 3) Earth's orbit around Sun can be “traced” on a plane (“**Plane of the Ecliptic**” – plane passes thru the center of Sun & Earth)
- 4) Earth's axis **tilts  $23.5^\circ$**  from a  $\perp$  to the “Plane of The Ecliptic”

These 4 Earth-Sun “orbital” properties lead to 2 key factors that determine the AMOUNT OF SOLAR INSOLATION at any spot on Earth as the seasons progress:

(1) INTENSITY of sun’s rays

Depends on AXIS TILT and how

Earth’s SURFACE RECEIVES Sun’s rays

[ Most intense = perpendicular rays  $\perp$  ]

(2) DURATION of insolation (day length)

Depends on LATITUDE & SEASON

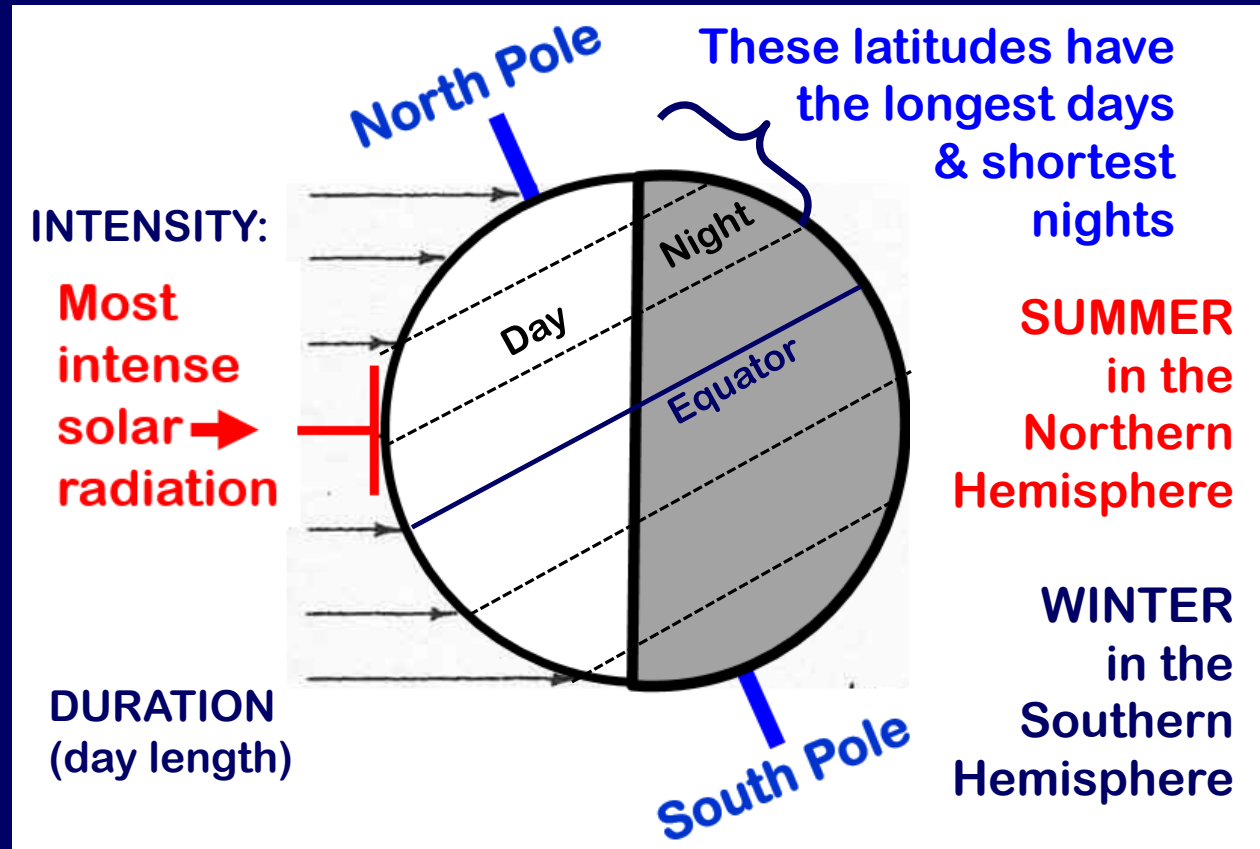
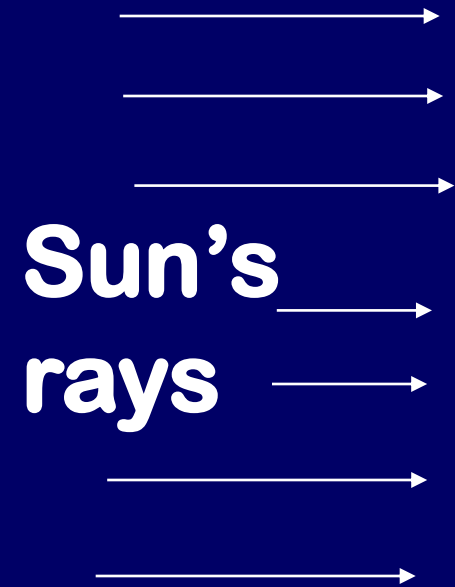
→ *Intensity & Duration vary  
with LATITUDE & TIME OF YEAR*

Box on p 59

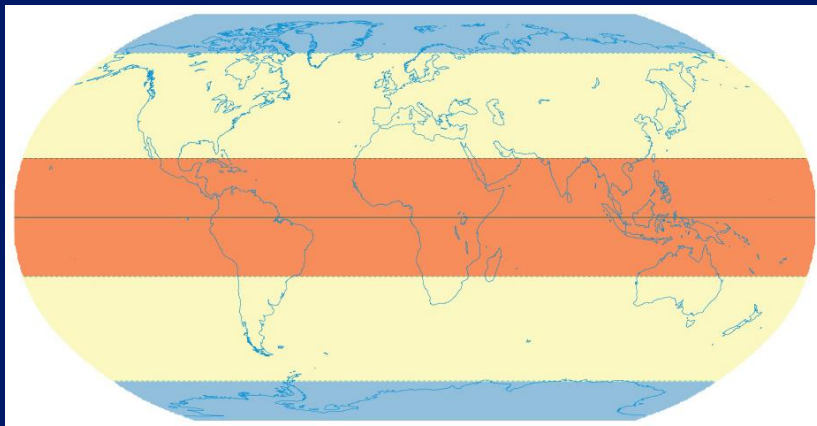
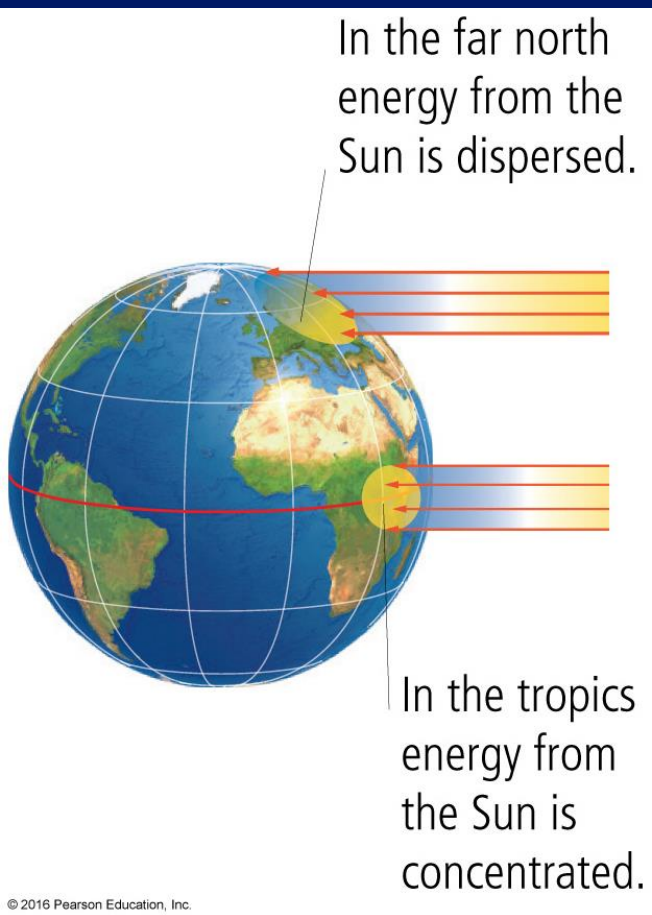
# INTENSITY + DURATION

**INTENSITY** of sun's rays: depends on axis tilt and how earth intercepts sun's rays

**DURATION** of daily insolation (day length): depends on where circle of illumination intersects latitude band

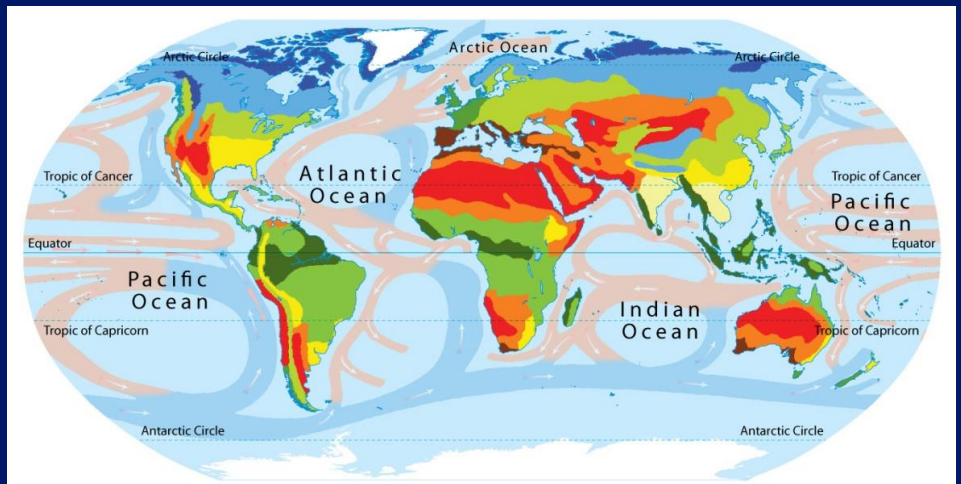


# We'll learn how we get . . .



- Climatic bands**
- Polar regions
  - Temperate zones
  - The tropics

. . . from this ↑ . . . to this ↓

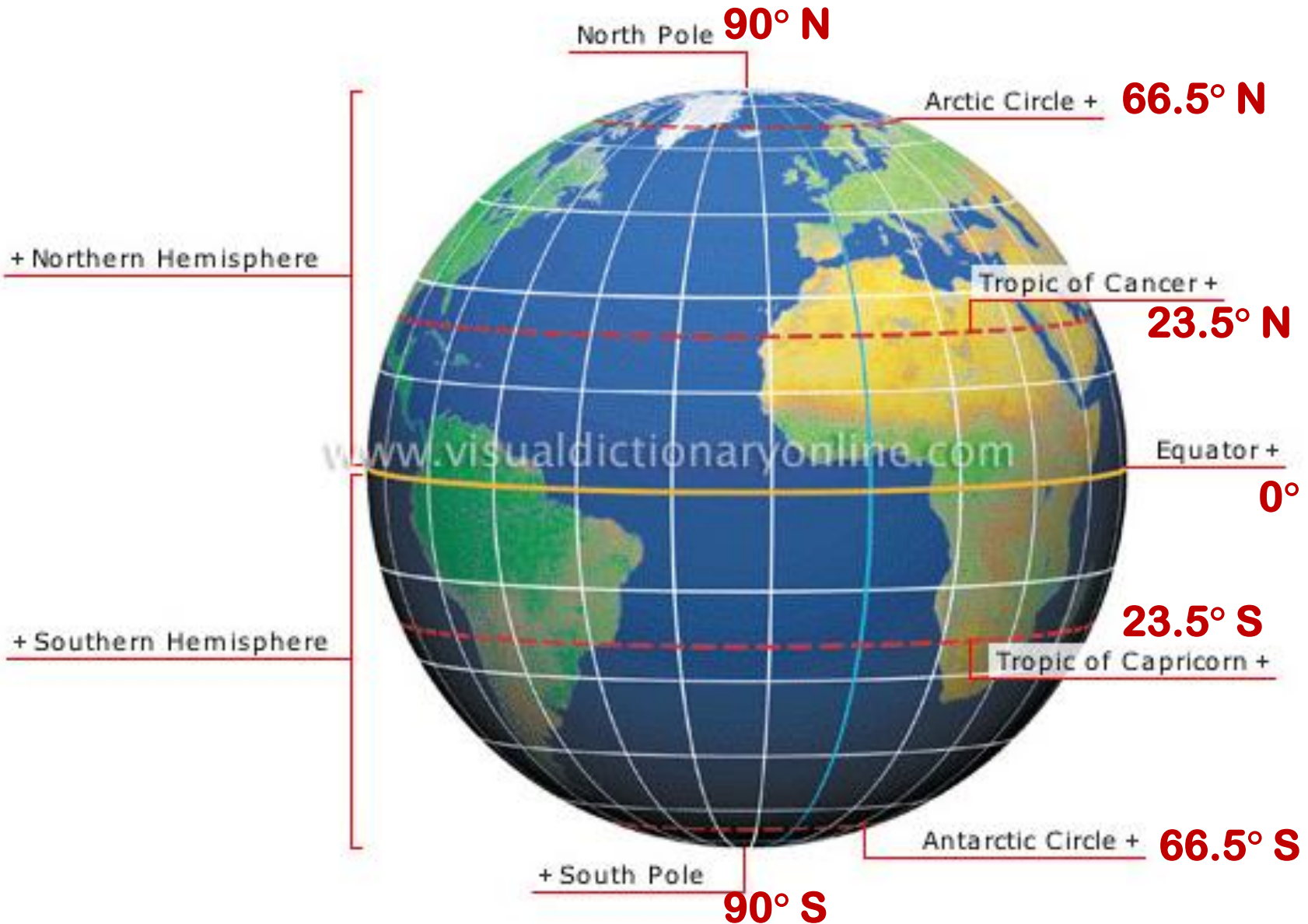


- | Climatic zones   |  |   |  |  | Ocean currents  |   |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: white; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Ice cap     | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #add8e6; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Tundra      | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #3cb371; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Temperate      | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #8b4513; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Mediterranean | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ff0000; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Arid      | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #006400; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Humid equatorial | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #d2b48c; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Warm |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4682b4; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Subarctic | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #9acd32; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Continental | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ffff00; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Warm temperate | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ffa500; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Semi-arid     | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #fffacd; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Hot humid | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #3cb371; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Tropical         | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #add8e6; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Cold |
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**READ: Dire Predictions pp 10-15**



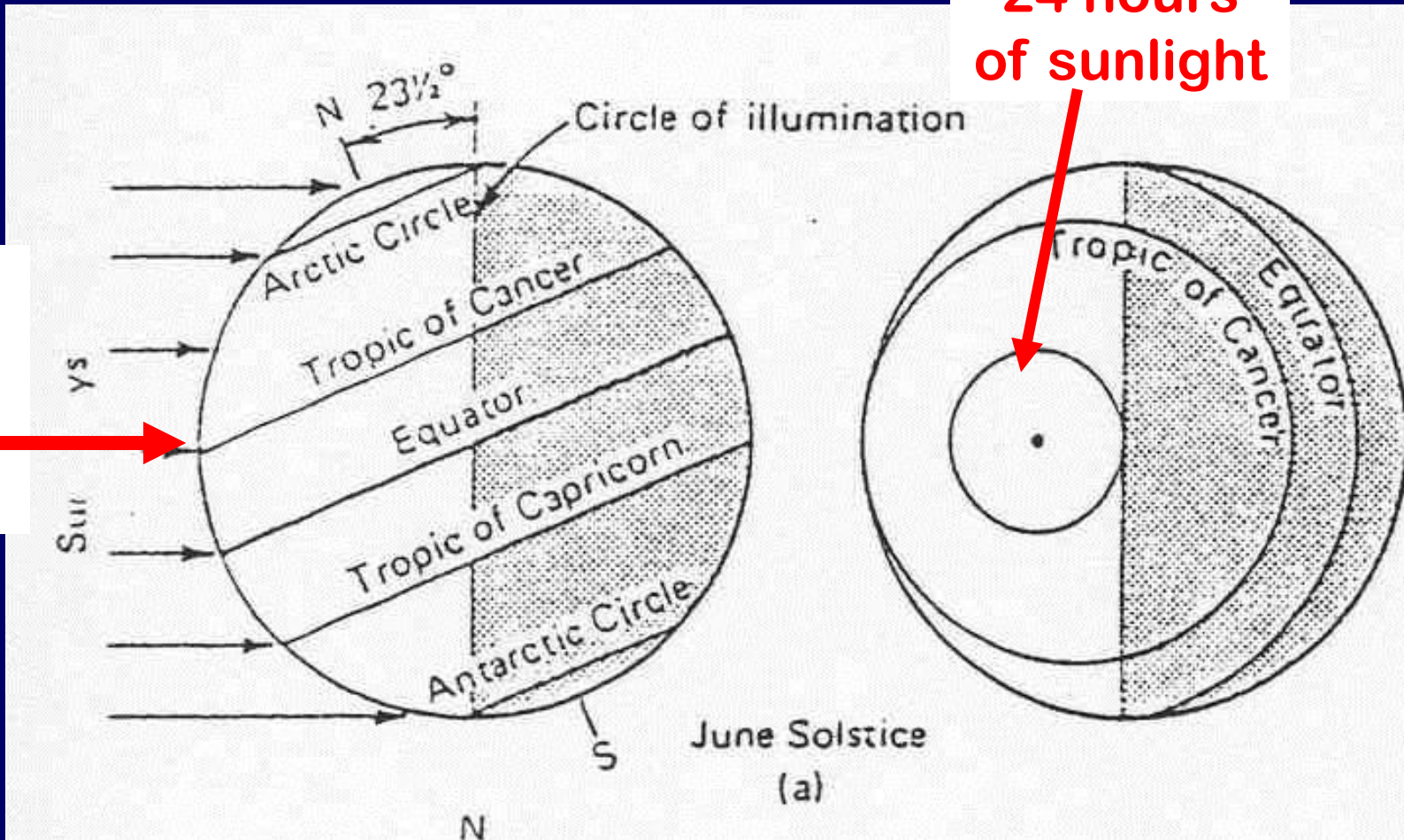
# QUICKIE LATITUDE REVIEW:



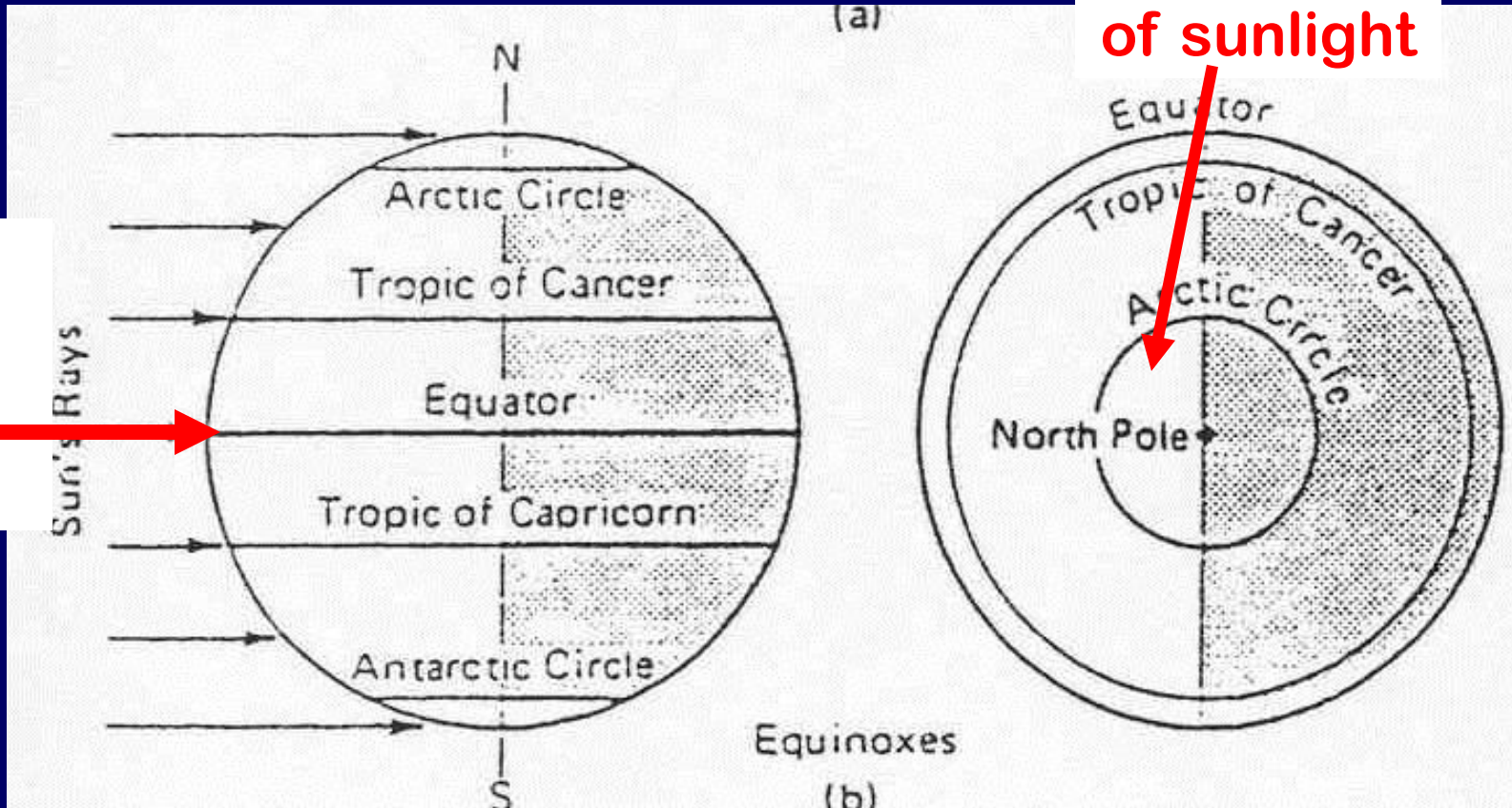
# JUNE SOLSTICE

24 hours  
of sunlight

Most  
intense  
solar  
radiation



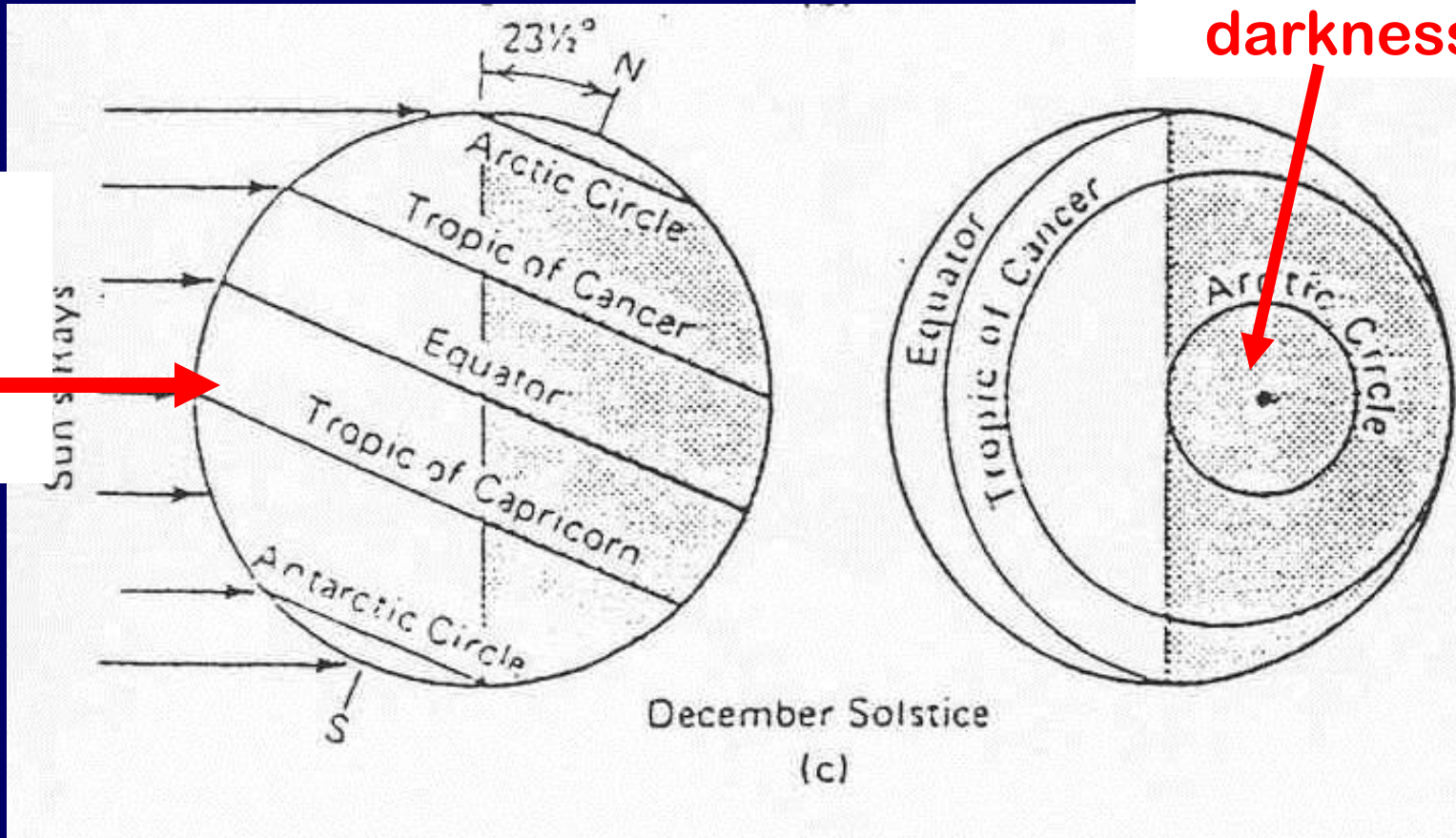
# MARCH & SEPTEMBER EQUINOXES



# DECEMBER SOLSTICE

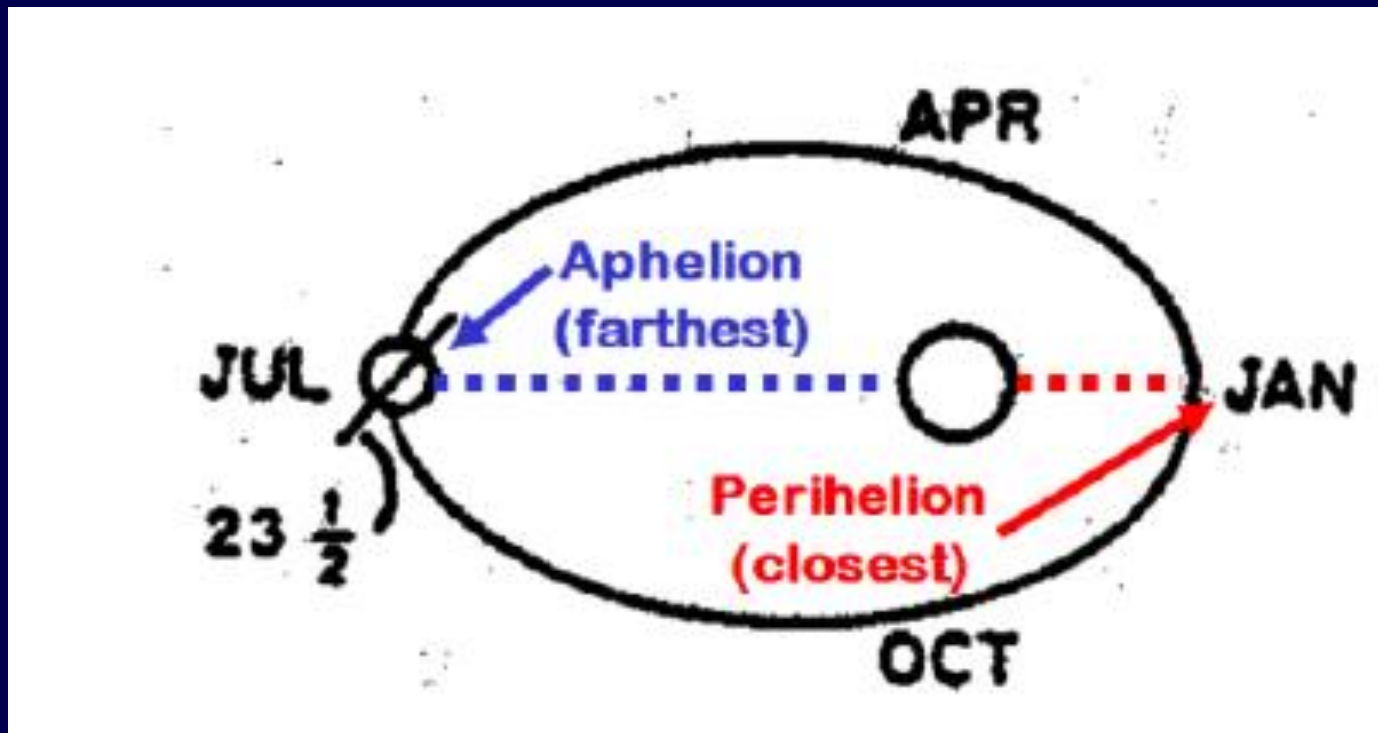
24 hours of darkness

Most intense solar radiation



## Earth's Axis Tilt & Elliptical Orbit →

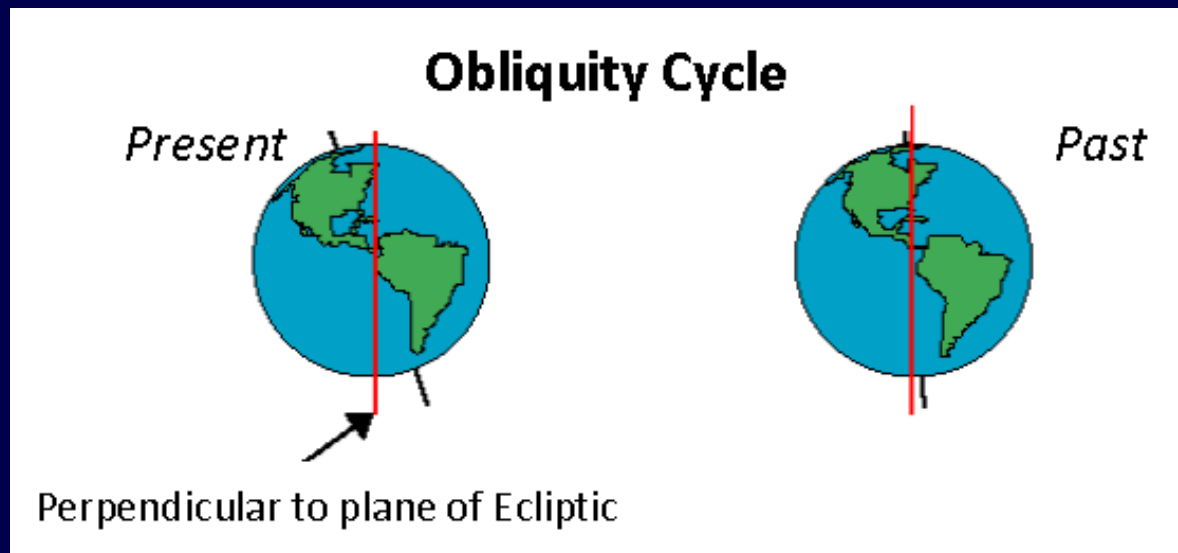
Contrast in Northern vs. Southern Hemisphere:



# NATURAL CLIMATIC FORCING: Milankovitch Cycles: (Lesson 2 tutorial)

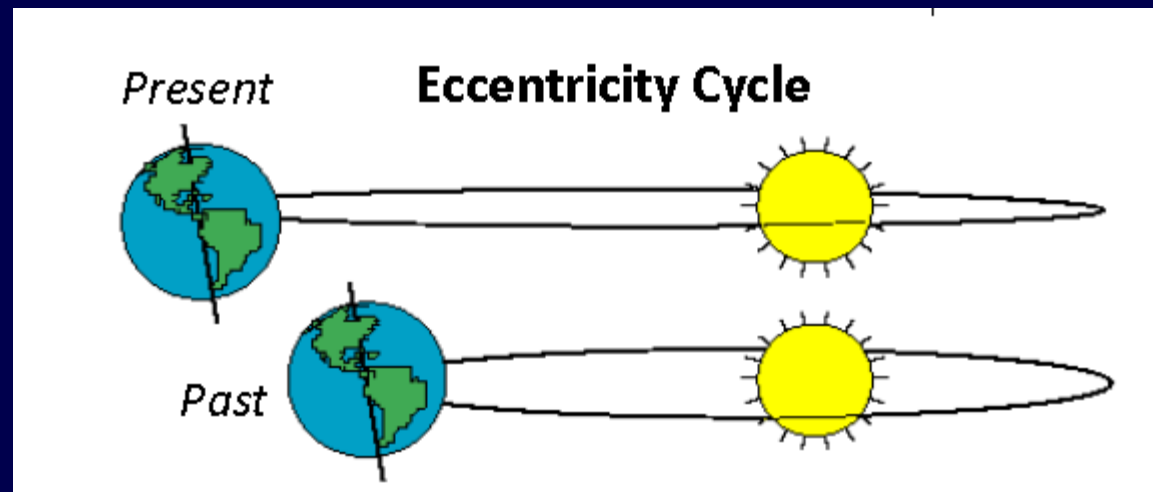
## 1. OBLIQUITY OF EARTH'S AXIS

*Axis "tilts" 23.5 degrees from plane of ecliptic;  
causes the seasons; tilt angle varies over time*



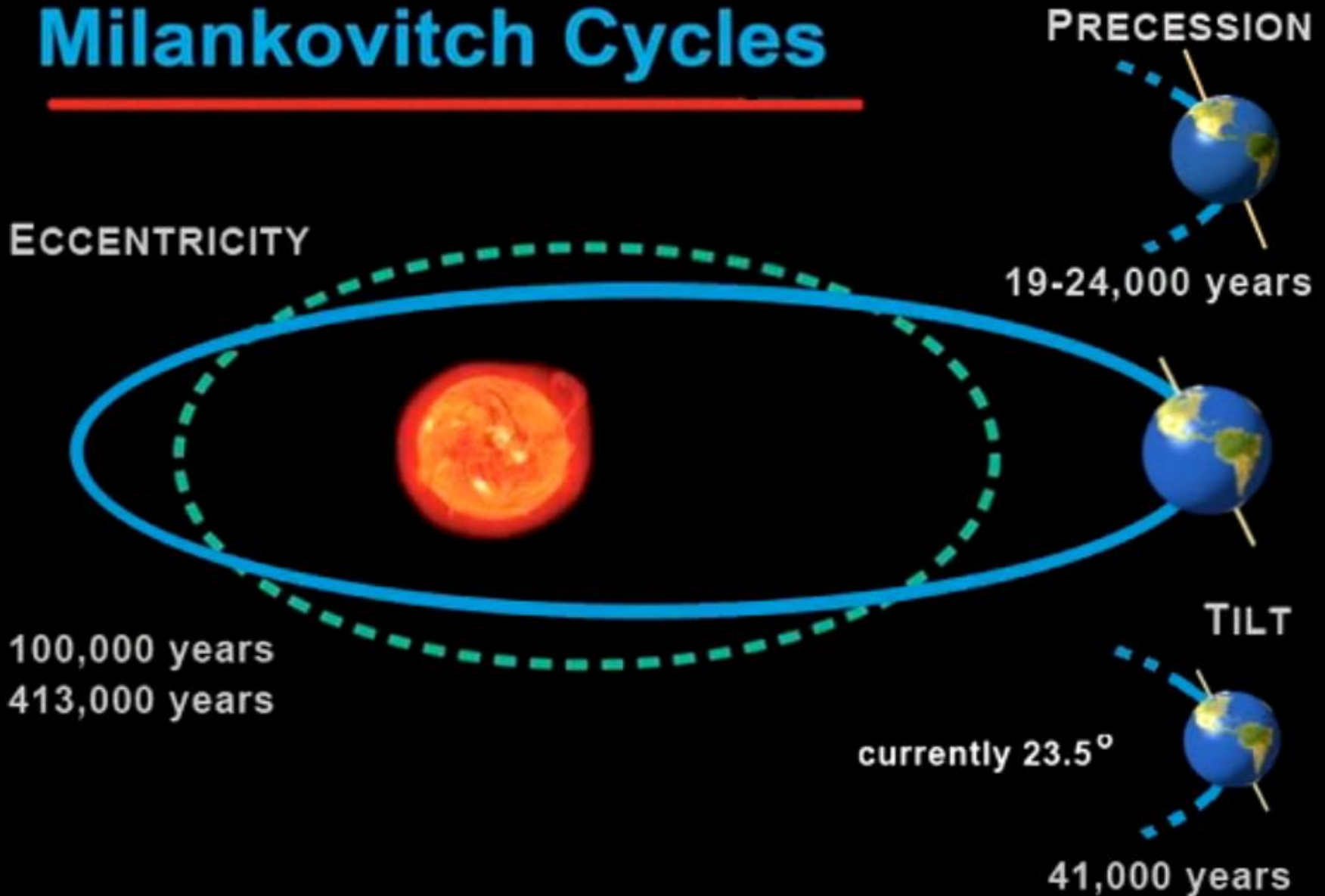
## 2. ECCENTRICITY OF ORBIT

*Earth's orbit around sun is not symmetrical;  
varies from elliptical => circular shape over time*



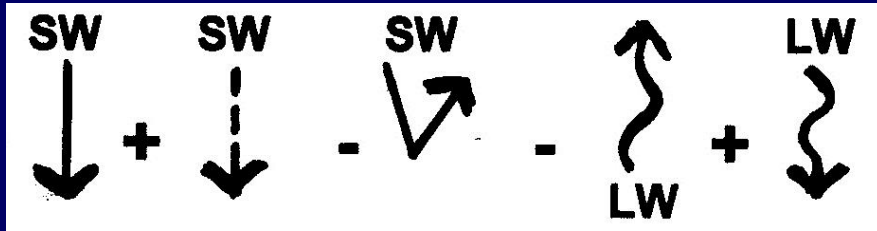
# Assignment 1-2 Tutorial : **DUE SUNDAY NIGHT!**

## Milankovitch Cycles





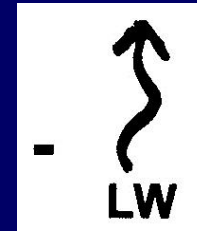
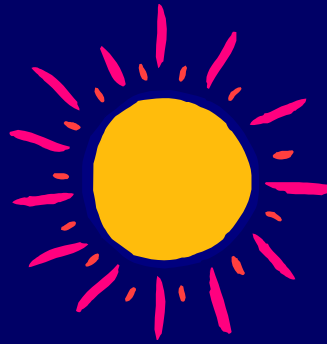
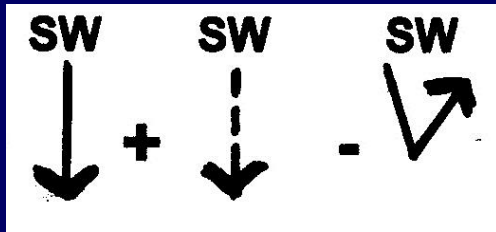
# THE RADIATION BALANCE



**& THE GENERAL  
CIRCULATION OF THE  
ATMOSPHERE**



# HOW IT ALL FITS TOGETHER:



Over the course of a year . . .

The amount of **INCOMING SW** (Insolation) absorbed by EARTH **varies by LATITUDE**

(**MORE** comes in near the Equator, less near the Poles)

→ **LOW LATITUDES** absorb **MORE** energy than **HIGH LATITUDES**

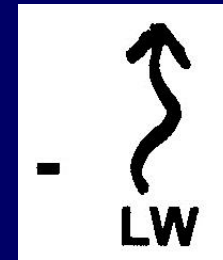
The amount of outgoing **TERRESTRIAL LW / IR** varies by latitude too --

**MORE** **LW / IR** is emitted at warmer **LOW LATITUDES**, **LESS** in cooler **HIGH LATITUDES**

**HOWEVER** . . .

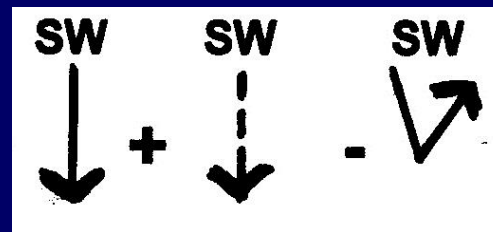
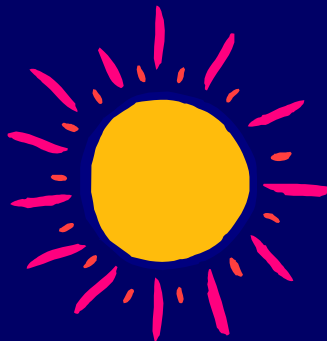
Box on p 61

The EQUATOR-POLE  
DIFFERENCES of what  
goes OUT from the  
EARTH

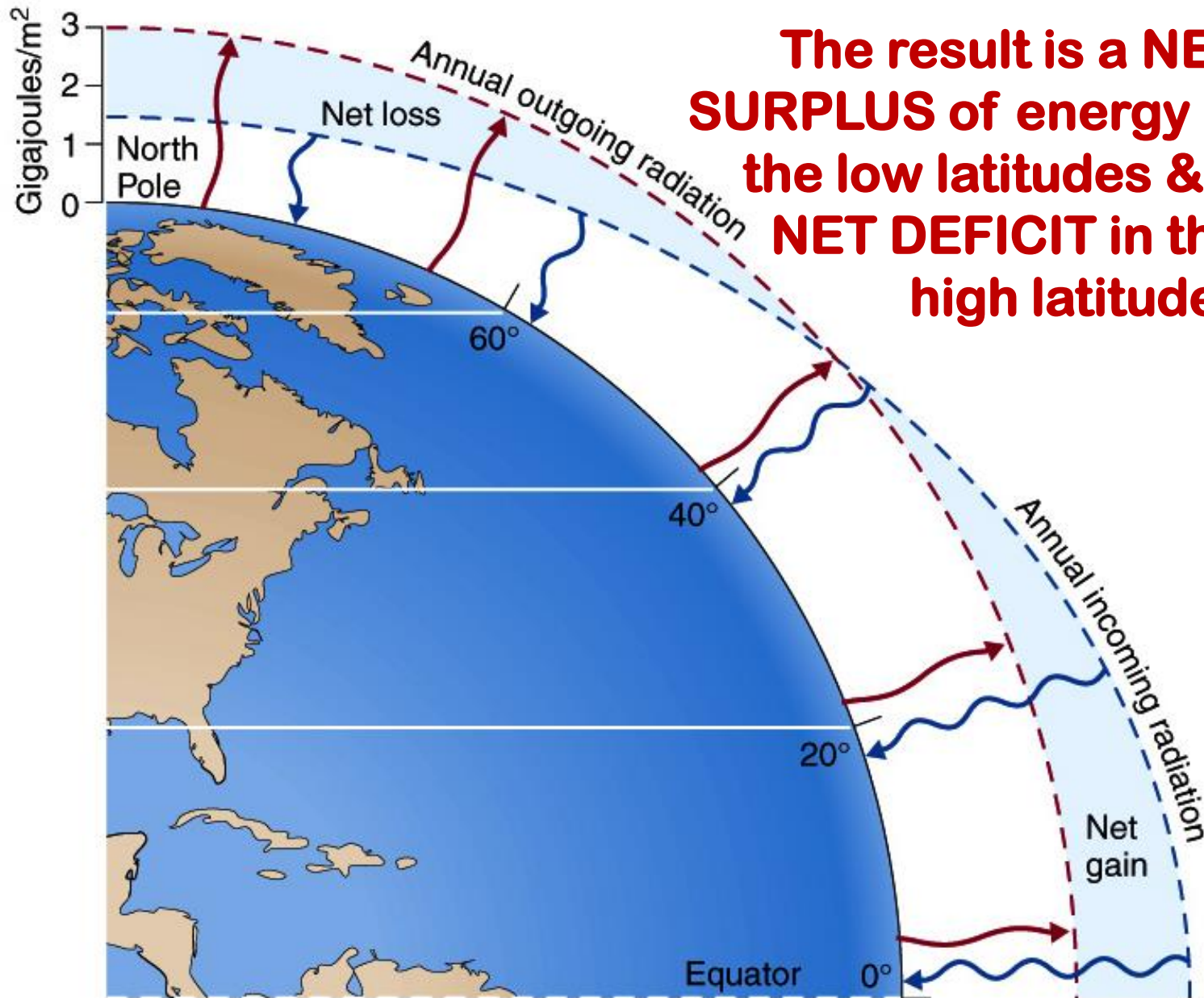


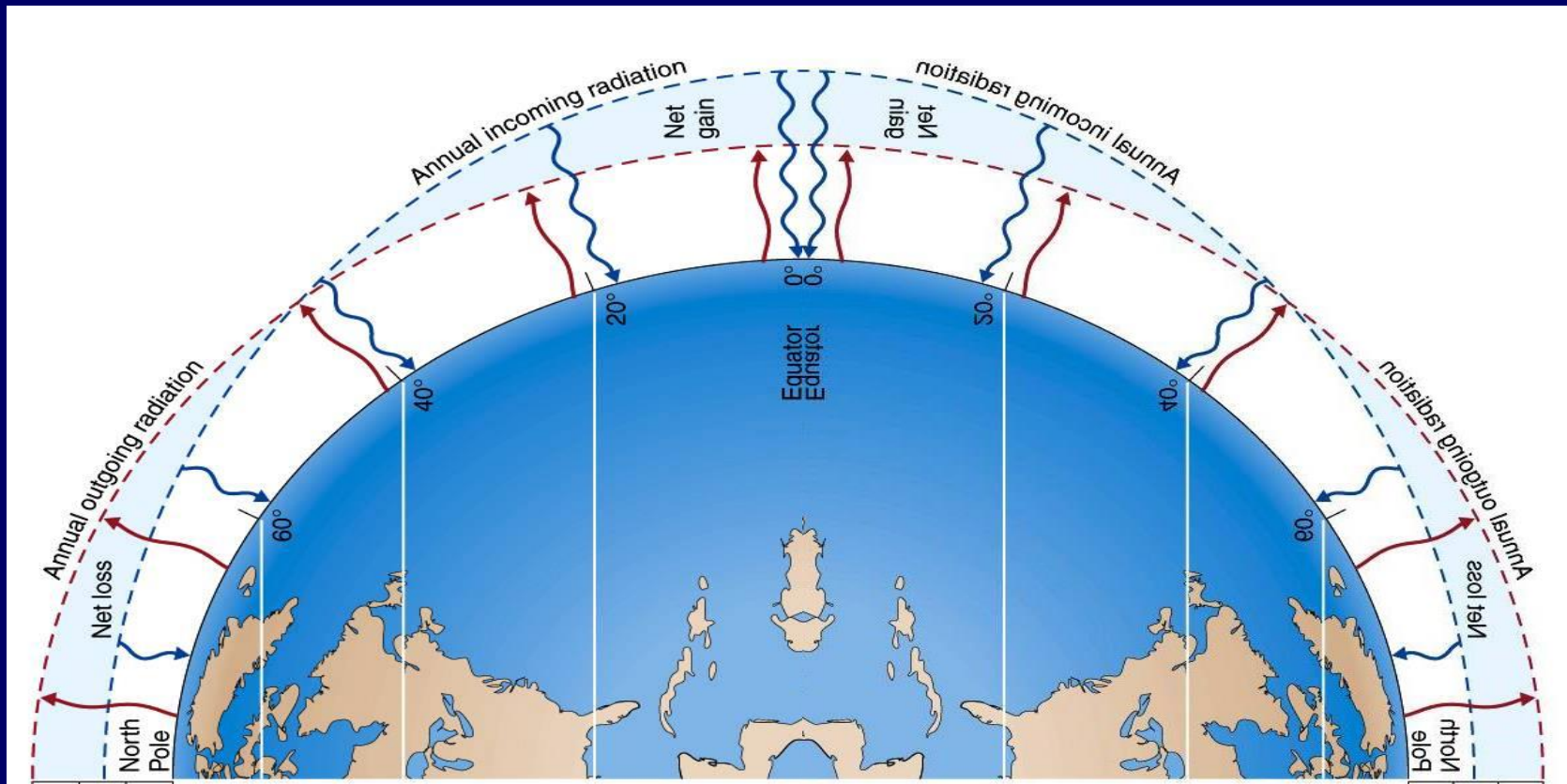
*are less than the*

EQUATOR-POLE  
DIFFERENCES of what  
comes IN from the SUN



The result is a **NET SURPLUS** of energy in the low latitudes & a **NET DEFICIT** in the high latitudes



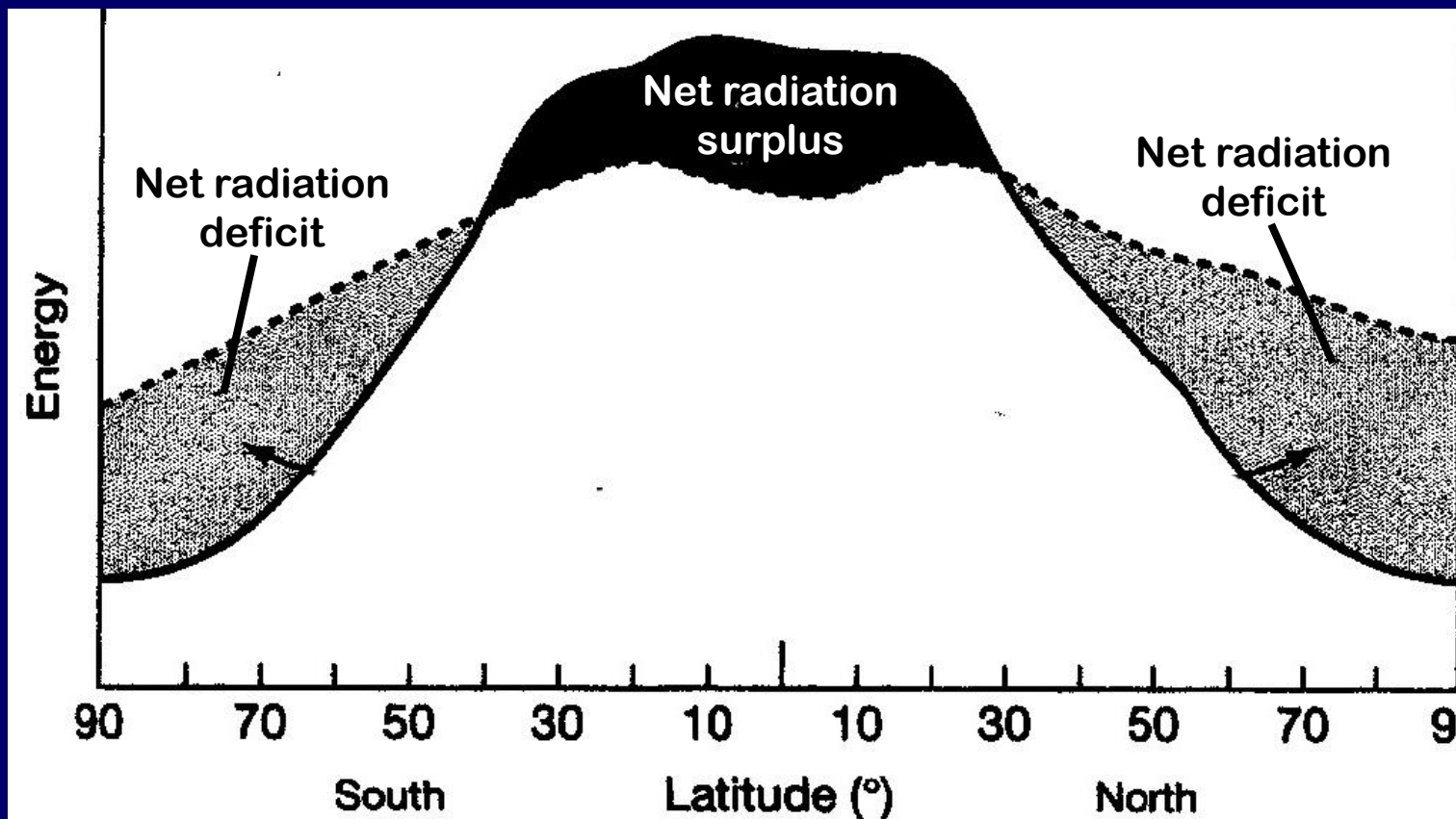


**POLE**

**EQUATOR**

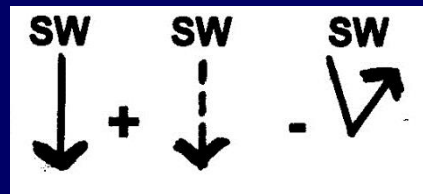
**POLE**

**Now lets look at a Pole to Pole Transect**

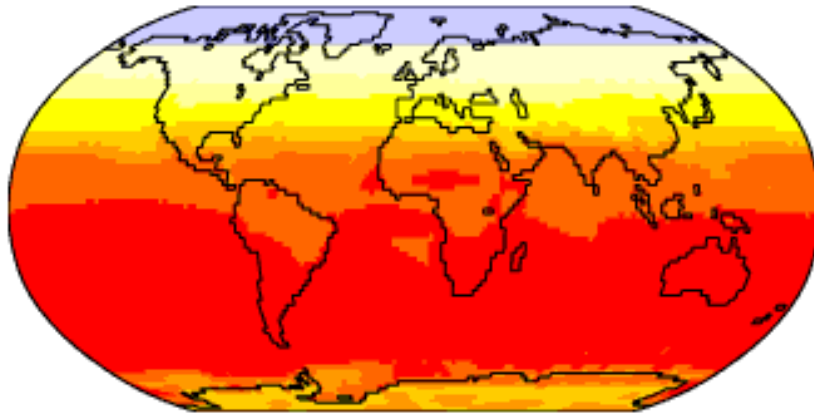


———— Absorbed solar energy

----- Emitted infrared energy  
(at top of atmosphere)

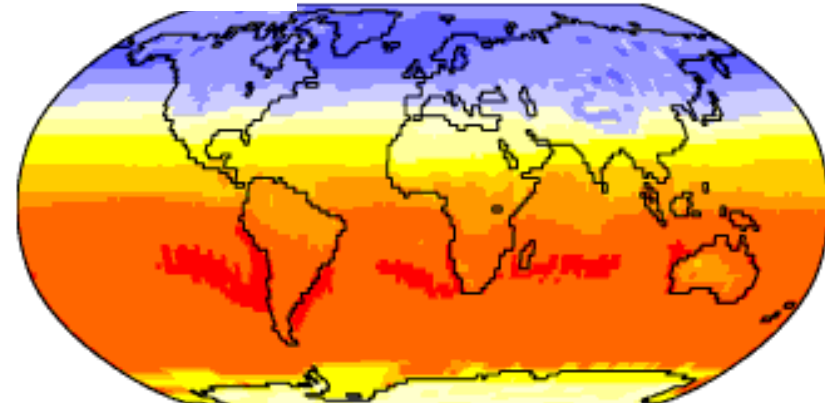
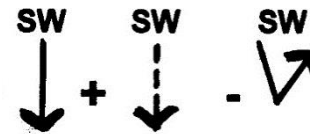


Short-Wave Radiation



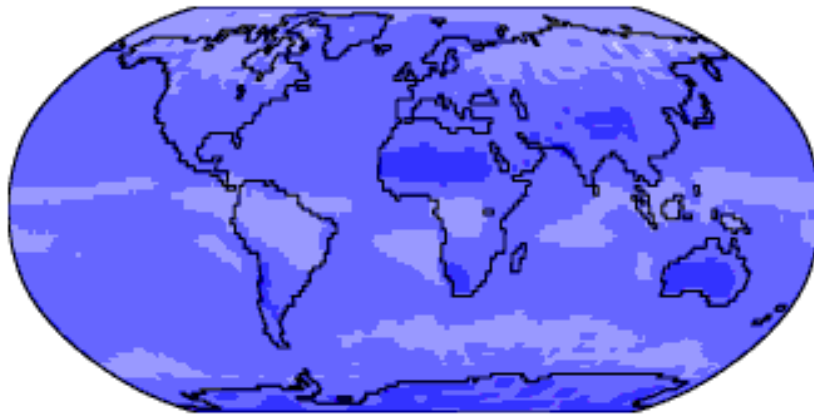
Dec

Absorbed solar energy

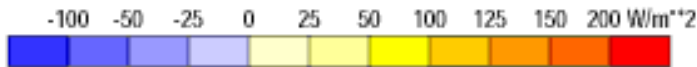


Net Radiation  $R_{NET}$

Long-Wave Radiation



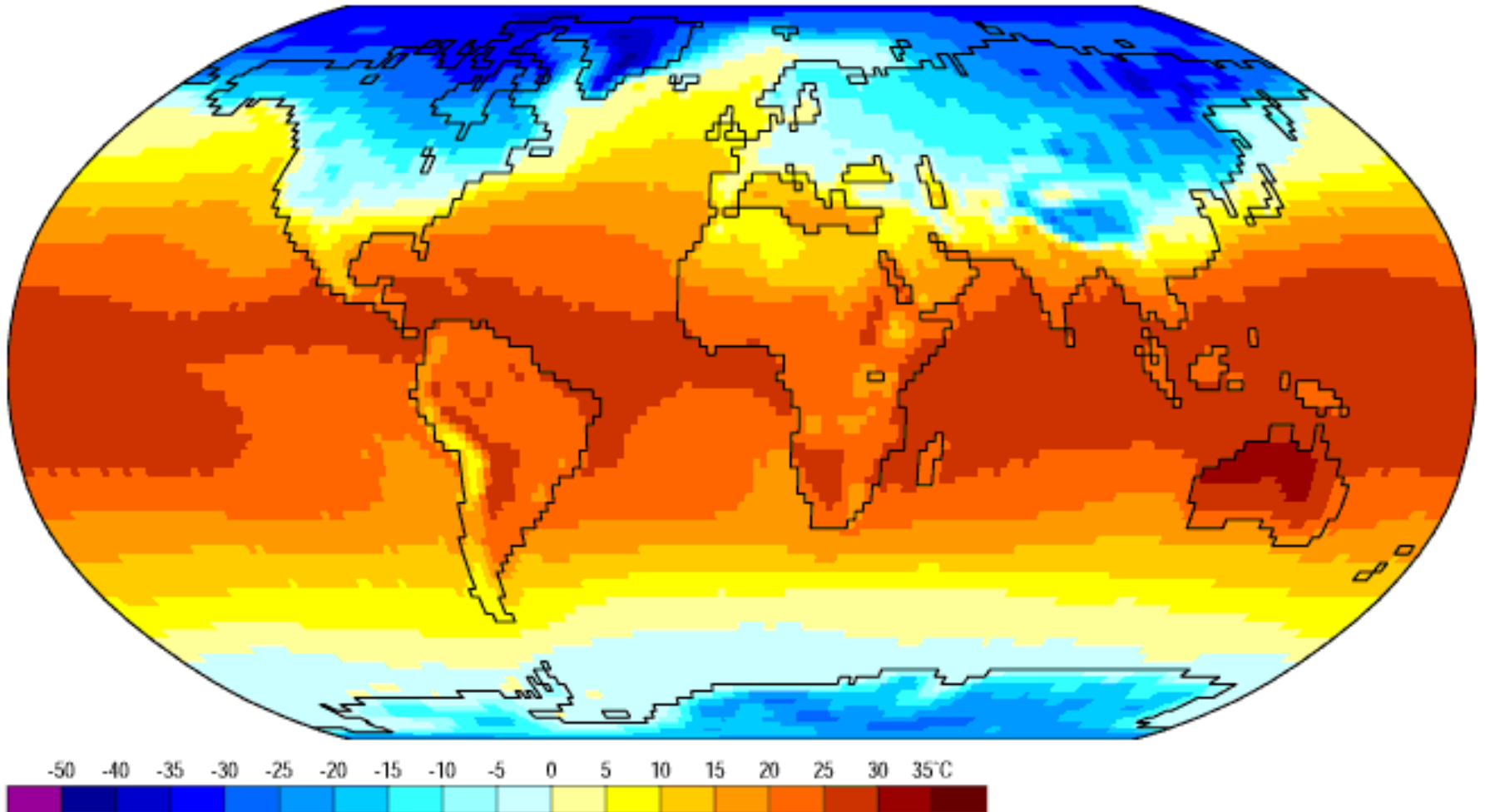
Emitted infrared energy



Data: NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis Project, 1959-1997 Climatologies  
 Animation: Department of Geography, University of Oregon, March 2000

# Surface Air Temperature

Dec



Data: NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis Project, 1959-1997 Climatologies  
Animation: Department of Geography, University of Oregon, March 2000



# The General Circulation of the Atmosphere

Let's draw it!



90° N

60° N

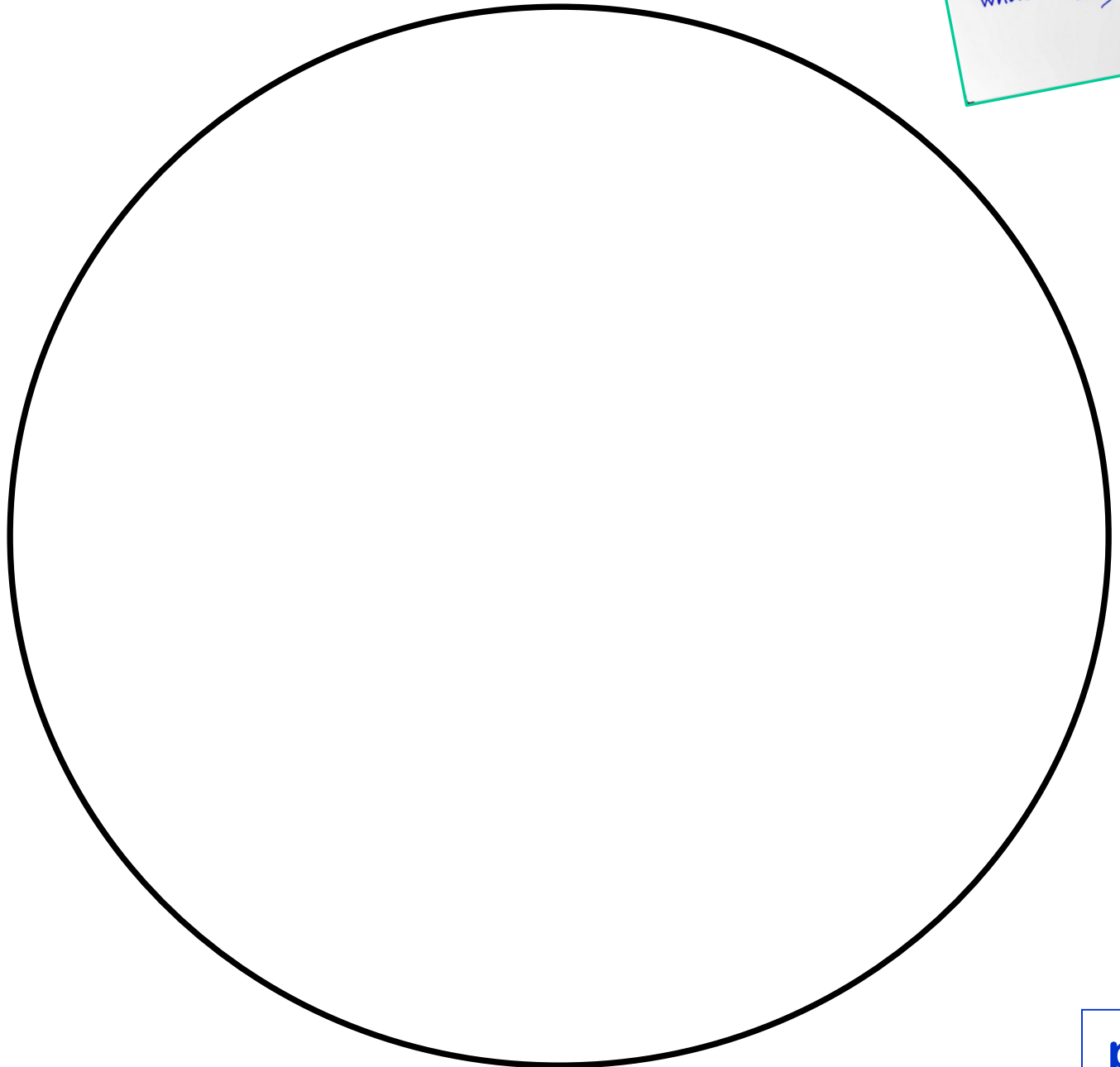
30° N

Equator

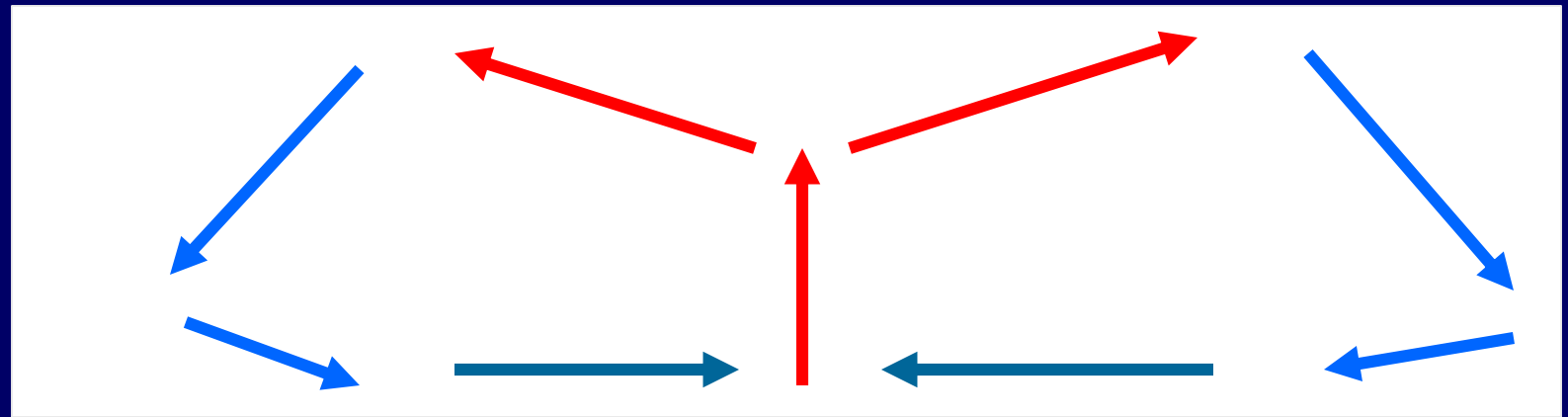
30° S

60° S

90° S



# GIANT CONVECTION CELLS driven by thermal differences:



90

60

30

0

30

60

90

Northern Hemisphere

EQUATOR

Southern Hemisphere

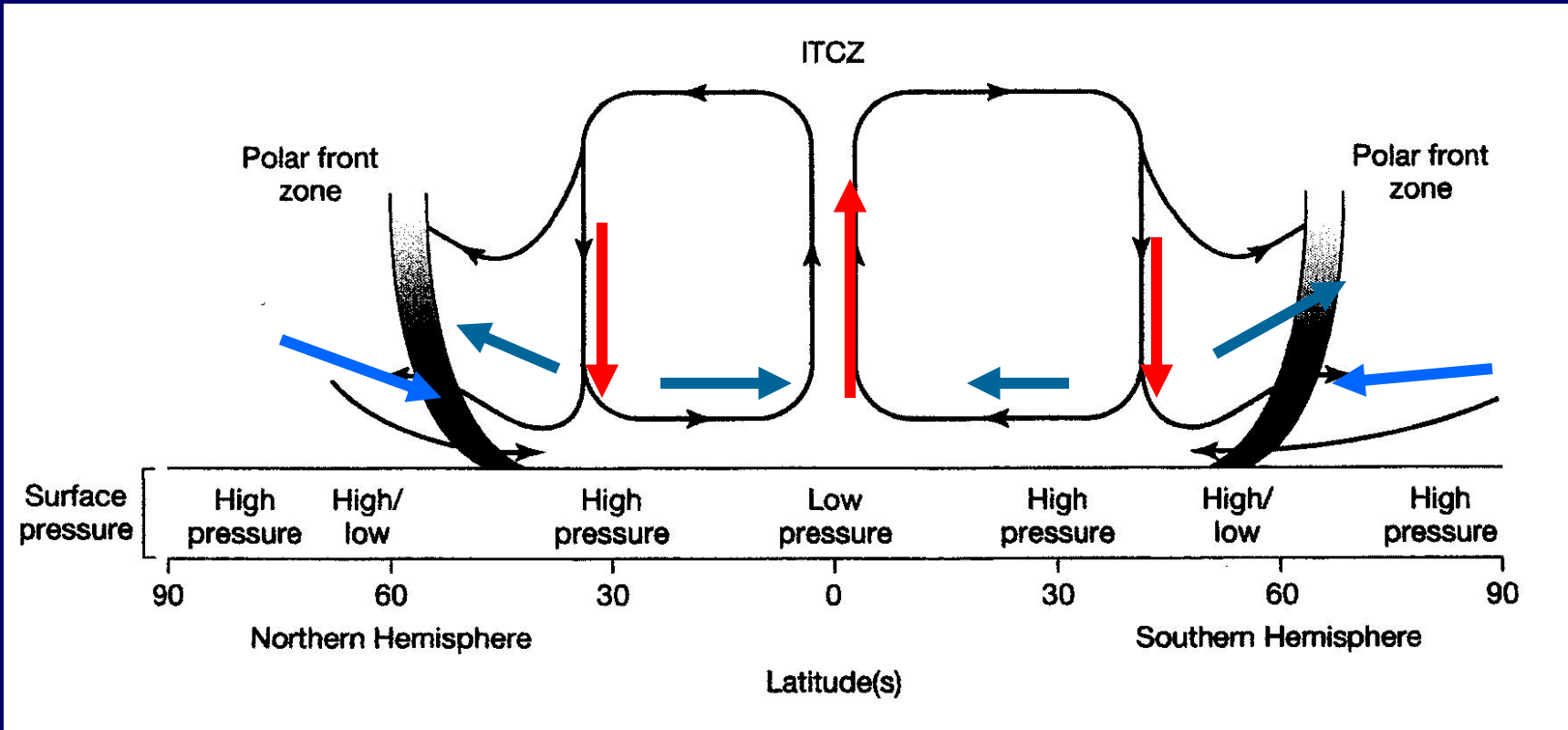
COLD POLAR  
REGIONS

HOT TROPICS

COLD POLAR  
REGIONS

“HADLEY CELL”  
← TRANSPORT →





**COLD POLAR  
REGIONS**

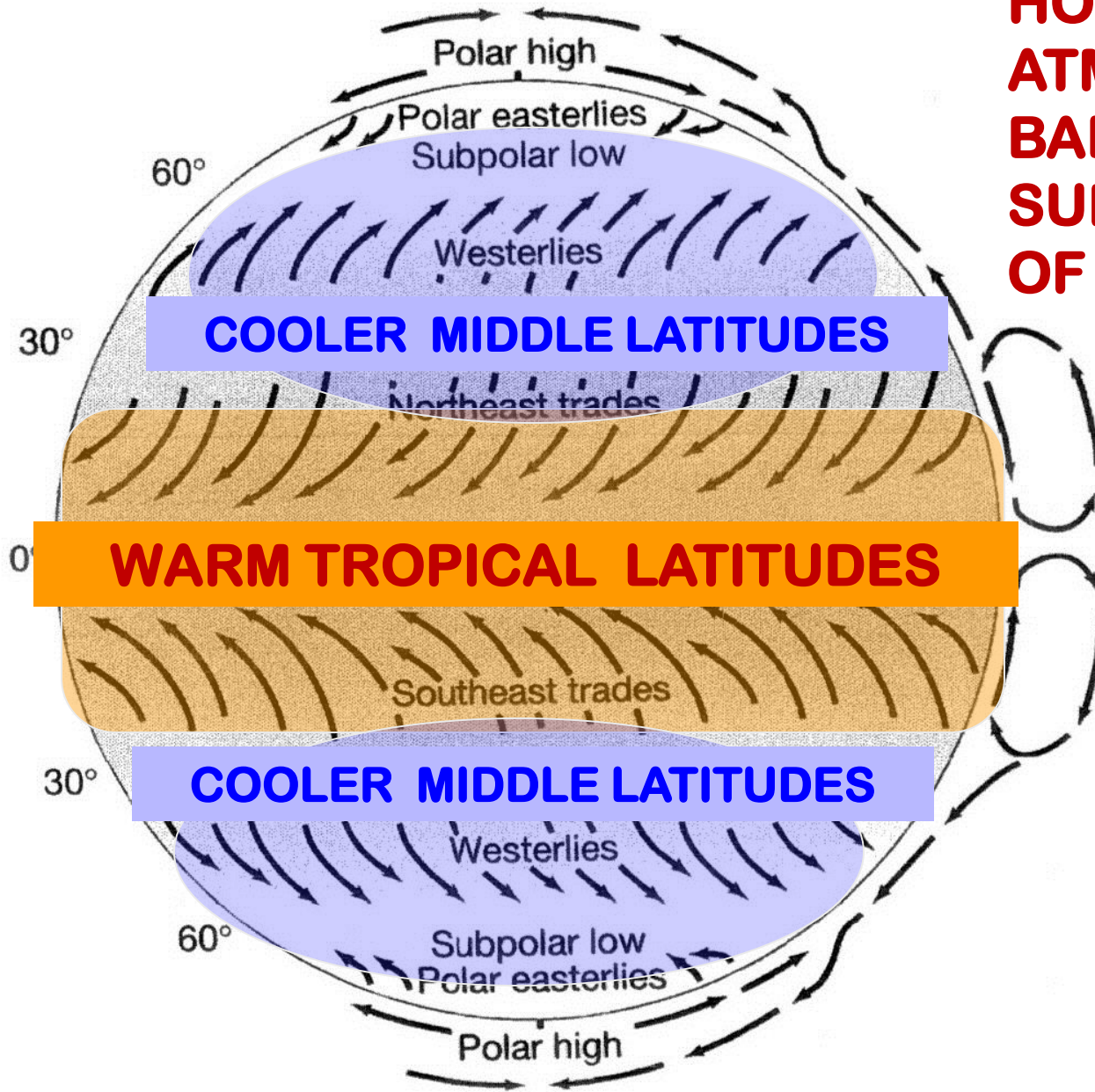
**HOT TROPICS**

**COLD POLAR  
REGIONS**

**“HADLEY CELL”  
← TRANSPORT →**

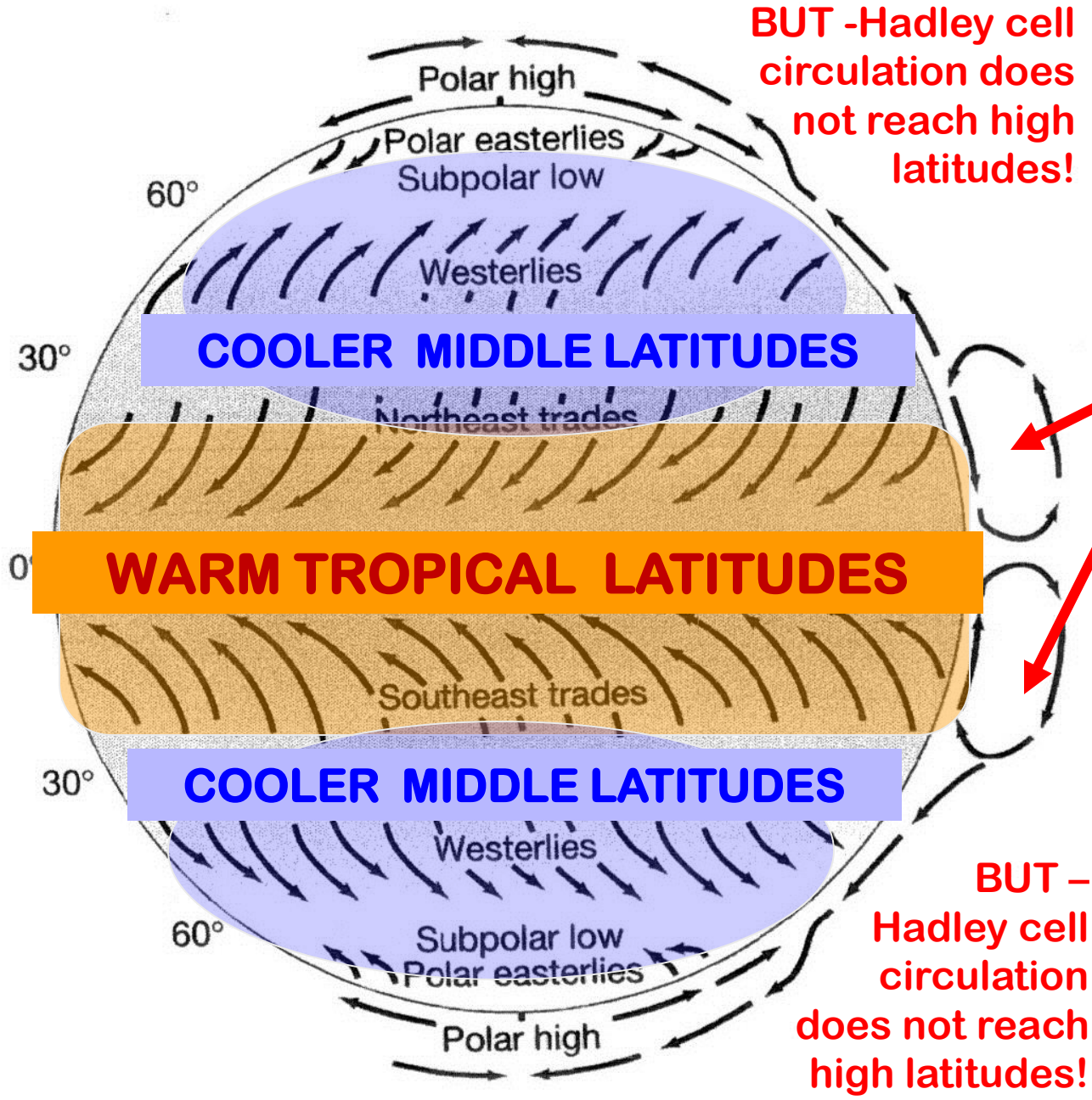
From SGC Chapter 4

# HOW DOES THE ATMOSPHERE BALANCE OUT THE SURPLUS & DEFICIT OF ENERGY??



**Energy Transfer via Convection Cells**

Figure from SGC E-text Chapter 4



**BUT - Hadley cell circulation does not reach high latitudes!**

Hadley Cells transport warm air poleward as SENSIBLE HEAT

**HADLEY CELLS = key drivers!**

Convection cell transfer of thermal energy from low latitude area of energy **SURPLUS** to higher latitude area of energy **DEFICIT**

**BUT - Hadley cell circulation does not reach high latitudes!**

**ENERGY TRANSFER BY CONVECTION**

**To be continued . . .**