

Name _____

Winter Solstice

Answer Key

Correction Marks

The Winter Solstice, which occurs around December 21st or 22nd in the Northern hemisphere, is a significant astronomical event marking the shortest day and the longest night of the year. It occurs when the Earth's axial tilt is farthest from the sun, resulting in the sun appearing at its lowest point in the sky at noon. Conversely, in the Southern Hemisphere, this date corresponds to the Summer solstice, when it experiences the longest day and shortest night.

The Winter Solstice has been celebrated and observed by various cultures throughout history, often associated with festivals, rituals, and traditions that acknowledge the changing of seasons and the rebirth of the sun's power. In many cultures, it symbolizes the triumph of light over darkness, and the days gradually lengthen as the world moves toward spring and warmer weather. It plays a vital role in many religious and spiritual traditions, and its symbolism varies widely, but it universally signifies the turning point in the annual cycle of the seasons.

Complete Passage

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