Solar and Lunar Eclipses

Draw and label the two kinds of eclipse, then answer the questions.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Word bank: Sun · Moon · Earth · shadow

1. Draw a solar eclipse (Sun, Moon and Earth in a line) and label it

Solar eclipse: the _____ is in the middle.

2. Draw a lunar eclipse and label it

Lunar eclipse: the _____ is in the middle.

1. At which Moon phase does a solar eclipse happen? And a lunar eclipse?

2. Why must you never look at the Sun during an eclipse?

3. Why does the Moon look red during a total lunar eclipse?

(T) (F) We can safely watch a lunar eclipse with our eyes.

(T) (F) There is an eclipse every month.

Answer key

Solar and Lunar Eclipses · for parents and teachers

1. **Part 1:** order Sun – Moon – Earth, the Moon in the middle casting a shadow on Earth. **Part 2:** order Sun – Earth – Moon, Earth in the middle with its shadow on the Moon.
2. **Q1:** Solar: New Moon. Lunar: Full Moon. **Q2:** The Sun's light can permanently damage your eyes. **Q3:** Some sunlight bends through Earth's atmosphere and the red light reaches the Moon.
3. **True/False:** first is True; second is False (the Moon's orbit is tilted, so the shadows usually miss).

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