Vocab 9

1. Atmosphere - the envelope of gases surrounding the earth. It is composed of 78% nitrogen, 21% oxygen, 0.9% argon, 0.03% carbon dioxide, and trace amounts of other gases.

2. Exosphere - the outermost region of a planet's atmosphere.

3. Thermosphere – the region of the upper atmosphere where the temperature increases with altitude, located above the mesosphere.

4. Mesosphere – the region between the stratosphere and the thermosphere extending about 32-80 km above the surface of the earth.

5. Stratosphere – the region of the upper atmosphere extending upward from the troposphere to about 50 km above the earth’s surface, very little temperature change.

6. Troposphere – the lowest layer of the atmosphere, about 10-20 km high. Steady drop in temperature with increase in altitude. Most all cloud formations and weather occur here.

7. Atmospheric Pressure - the pressure exerted by the weight of the atmosphere.

8. Ozone - a colorless unstable toxic gas, formed from oxygen by electrical discharges or ultraviolet light. It differs from normal oxygen (O2) in having three atoms in its molecule (O3).