SNC2D Task – Climate Intro Name:

1. Match each key term in the left column with its definition in the right column.

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| Term | Letter | Definition |
| **A.** atmosphere |  | the collective mass of water found on, under, and over the surface of Earth in the form of liquid water, ice, and water vapour |
| **B.** climate |  | relating to or resulting from the influence of humans |
| **C.** greenhouse effect |  | the largest division of the biosphere that includes large regions that have similar biotic components (such as plants and animals) and similar abiotic components (such as temperature and amount of rainfall) |
| **D.** hydrosphere |  | the fraction of incident light or electromagnetic radiation that is reflected by the surface of an object, such as from Earth back into space; an object’s ability to reflect sunlight |
| **E.** albedo |  | a subdivision of an ecozone that is characterized by local landforms such as plains, lakes, mountains, and rivers |
| **F.** tectonic plate |  | an increase in global average temperature |
| **G.** anthropogenic |  | the characteristic pattern of weather conditions within a region, including temperature, wind velocity, precipitation, and other features, averaged over a long period of time |
| **H.** climatograph |  | the process by which land slowly dries out until little or no vegetation can survive and the land becomes a desert |
| **I.** Köppen climate classification system |  | a piece of Earth’s outer shell (the lithosphere) that moves around on the slowly flowing, underlying rock layer (the asthenosphere) |
| **J.** biome |  | a layer of gases that surrounds a planet or moon |
| K. ecozone |  | the destruction of the world’s forests through direct human activity, such as logging or slash-and-burn clearing, for agriculture and grazing, and through the indirect effects of climate change, pollution, and acid rain |
| L. ecoregion |  | a method of identifying and describing climates based on observable features such as temperature ranges and rates of precipitation |
| M. global warming |  | a division of Earth’s surface that has developed over a long period of time and is separated from neighbouring ecozones by a geological feature such as an ocean, desert, or mountain range |
| N. desertification |  | the natural warming caused when gases in Earth’s atmosphere absorb thermal energy that is radiated by the Sun and Earth |
| O. deforestation |  | a graph of climate data for a specific region; the data are usually obtained over 30 years from observations made at local weather stations |

1. Write True (**T**) or False (**F**) beside each statement.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Earth rotates (spins) once every 365 days around its axis.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ While continuously rotating on its axis, Earth makes a year-long journey around the Sun.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Earth’s axis is tilted at about 32.5° from a line perpendicular to the orbital plane.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ The combination of Earth’s annual orbit around the Sun and its tilted axis produces our seasons.

1. Complete the following statement with the given words below.

greenhouse effect colder Sun natural thermal surface space temperature

*Earth’s atmosphere absorbs \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ energy emitted by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Earth’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This process is called the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This process is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ part of Earth’s climate system. The process keeps Earth’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_within a certain range. Without this process, most of the solar energy reaching Earth would radiate back into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and the average temperature at the planet’s surface would be about 34°C \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than it is today.*