

WORDS TO KNOW

CLICK TO REVEAL THE DEFINITIONS

EQUATOR

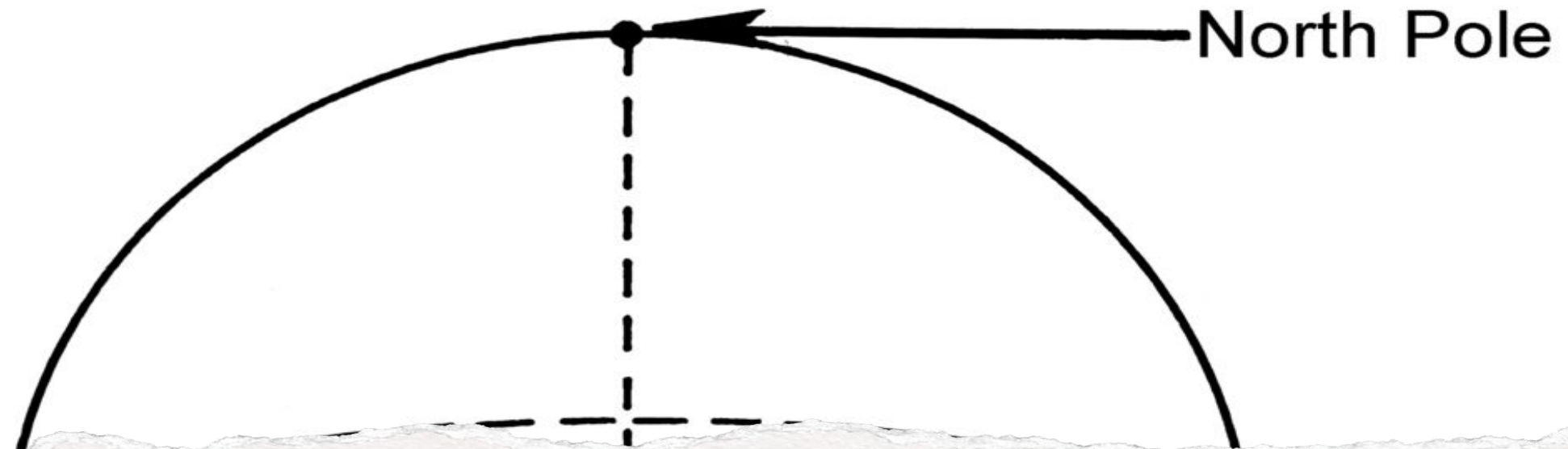
AXIS

VERNAL

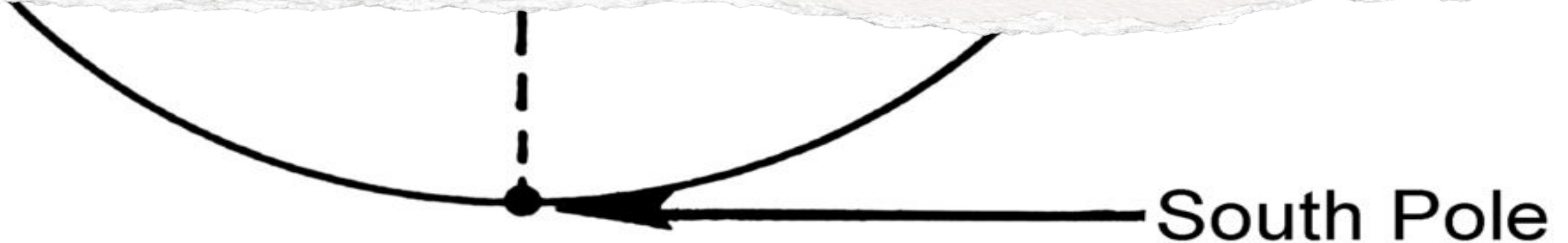
AUTUMNAL

ORBIT

CELESTIAL



Astronomers define the equinox as the moment the Earth's equator on its axis passes the same plane of the Sun's equator. The word equinox comes from the Latin words aequus (equal) and nox (night). The two hemispheres receive equal sun at the equinox. Equinoxes take place twice a year.



**The two hemispheres receive equal
sun at the equinox.**

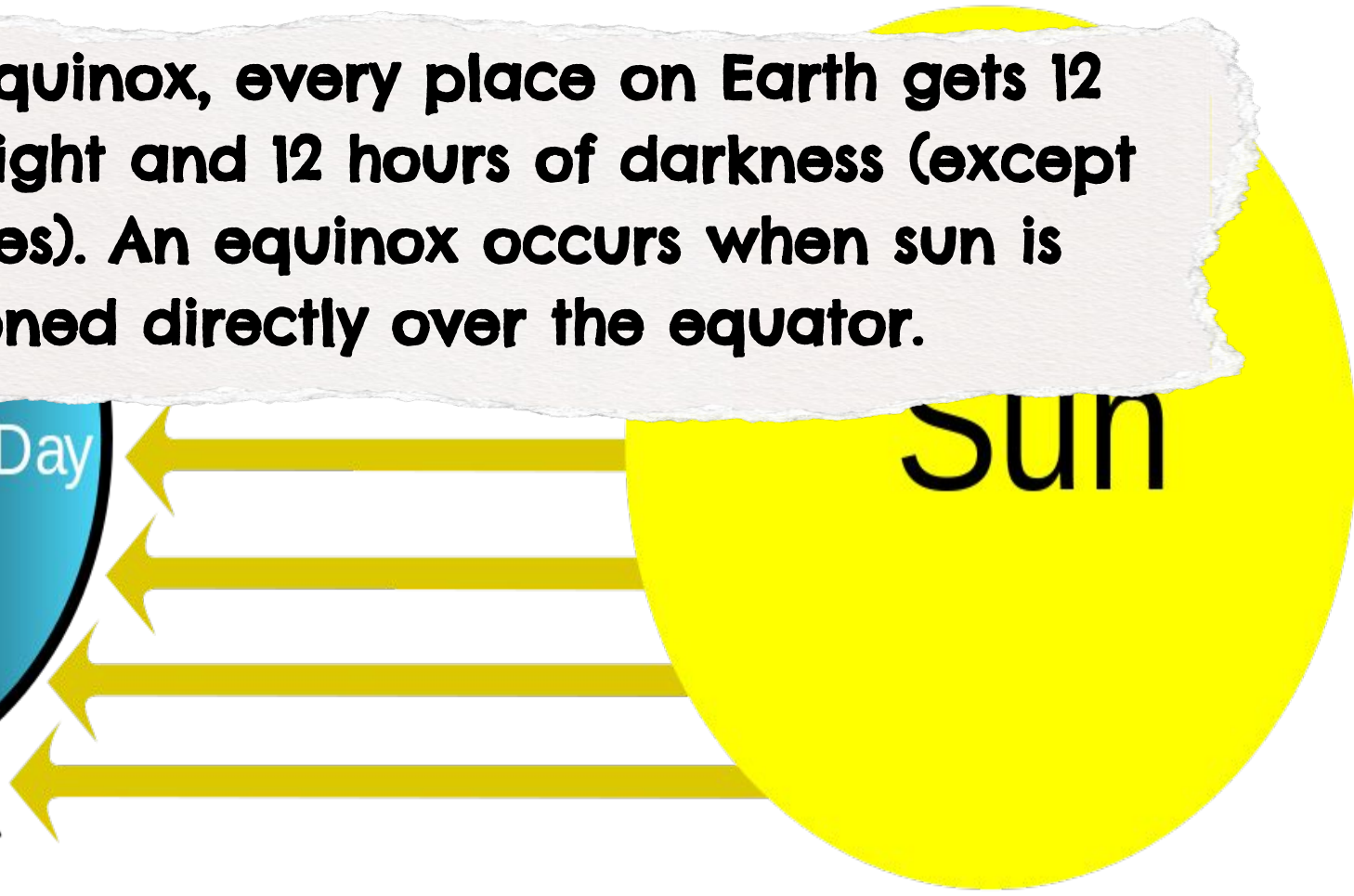
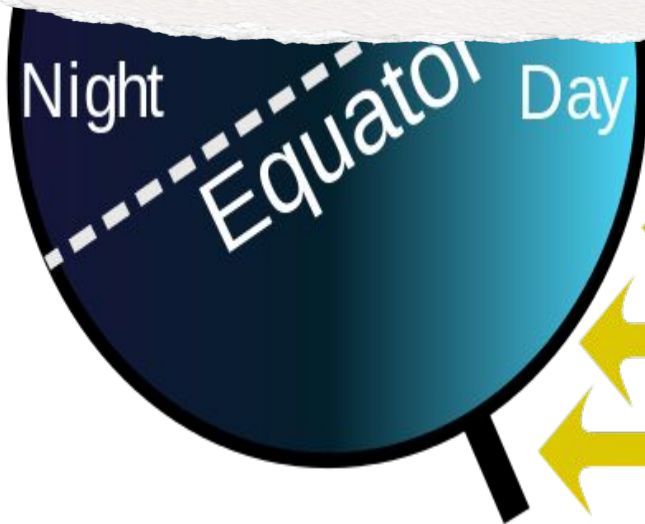
TRUE

FALSE

Low density of
incident rays
(northern winter)

Ear

During an equinox, every place on Earth gets 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness (except for the poles). An equinox occurs when sun is positioned directly over the equator.



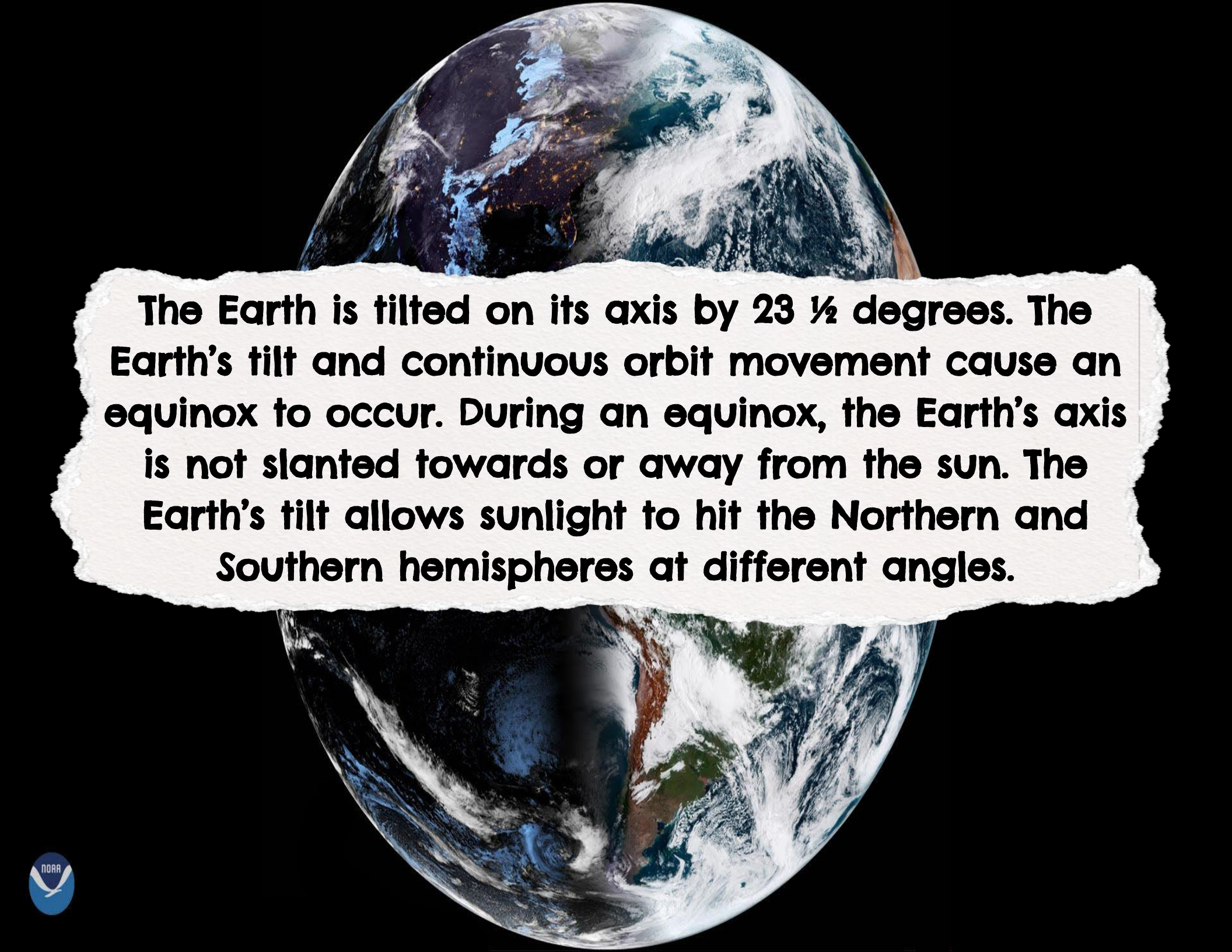
High density of
incident rays
(southern summer)

An equinox occurs when sun is positioned directly over the ____.

A. Prime Meridian

B. Equator

C. North Pole



The Earth is tilted on its axis by 23 ½ degrees. The Earth's tilt and continuous orbit movement cause an equinox to occur. During an equinox, the Earth's axis is not slanted towards or away from the sun. The Earth's tilt allows sunlight to hit the Northern and Southern hemispheres at different angles.

**The Earth is tilted on its axis by
29 ½ degrees.**

TRUE

FALSE