Name: Hour: Date:

**Lesson SIX Vocabulary**

***All the words in this lesson are used in the earth sciences.***

**Atmospheric:**  ADJ. having to do with the mass of air that surrounds the earth *(One way to predict the weather is to measure the atmospheric pressure.)*

**Bleak:** ADJ. barren; desolate *(Northern Siberia is a very bleak territory.)*

**Countless:** ADJ. unlimited; infinite *(On a clear night, you can see countless stars in the sky.)*

**Crescent:** ADJ. characterized by a curved, semi-circular shape *(What is the difference between a crescent moon and a full moon?)*

**Dismal:** ADJ. dreary; gloomy *(The heavy clouds made the day seem dismal.)*

**Equinox:** N. one of two times each year when day and night are of equal length *(The vernal equinox is called the beginning of spring.)*

**Expanse:** N. a wide and open area *(Buffalo used to inhabit the wide expanse of the plains.)*

**Fragment:** n. a broken or disconnected part *(This fragment of rock contains a prehistoric fossil.)*

**Gravity:** N. the force of attraction toward the center of a celestial body *(Astronauts experience a loss of gravity when they leave the earth’s atmosphere.)*

**Hazy:** ADJ. misty; foggy *(In hazy weather, it is difficult to see the other side of the river.)*

**Humid:** ADJ. moist; damp *(A humid environment is recommended for some plants.)*

**Illumination:** N. a lighting up *(The moon is visible because of the illumination from the sun.)*

**Luminous:** ADJ. bright; giving off light *(Stars are luminous and appear to twinkle.)*

**Luminescent:** ADJ. capable of emitting light *(Not all celestial bodies are luminescent.)*

**Meteorology:** N. science dealing with weather and weather forecasting *(You can learn about tornadoes in a class on meteorology.)*

**Phenomenon:** N. an unusual or significant occurrence *(The return of Hailey’s comet every seventy-six years is a phenomenon of nature.)*

**Refraction:** N. bending or deflection of a ray of light *(Because of the refraction of light, the sun is still visible after it has set.)*

**Solstice:** N. time of year when the sun is farthest from the equator *(The summer solstice usually occurs on June 22.)*

**Sultry:** ADJ. hot and moist; sweltering *(The region around the equator is known for its sultry climate.)*

**Turbulence:** N. violent motion or agitation *(The bumpy airplane ride was due to the air turbulence at the high altitude.)*

**Directions:** Choose the letter of the word that best completes the sentence.

1. Objects in water are not where they appear to be because of the \_\_\_\_\_of light.
   1. Equinox b. refraction c solstice d. expanse
2. The autumnal\_\_\_\_\_marks the beginning of autumn.
   1. Turbulence b. gravity c. equinox d. expanse
3. If not for \_\_\_\_\_, we would float off into space.
   1. Gravity b. solstice c. fragment d. expanse
4. Student of \_\_\_\_\_ frequently study cloud formations.
   1. Equinox b. turbulence c. gravity d. meteorology
5. The moon is not \_\_\_\_\_; it reflects light from the sun.
   1. Sultry b. humid c. dismal d. luminescent
6. We named the pond in our backyard Moon Lake because it is shaped like a \_\_\_\_\_moon.
   1. Bleak b. hazy c. atmospheric d. crescent
7. The winter \_\_\_\_\_ usually occurs on December 22.
   1. Astronomy b. solstice c. expanse d. fragment
8. Scientists are studying the effects of air pollution on \_\_\_\_\_ conditions.
   1. Luminous b. humid c. atmospheric d. dismal
9. An earthquake is an unpredictable \_\_\_\_\_.
   1. Solstice b. fragment c. expanse d. phenomenon
10. \_\_\_\_\_ grains of sand are washed ashore by the ocean.
    1. Countless b. bleak c. sultry d. crescent

**DIRECTIONS: Choose the letter of the word that most nearly has the OPPOSITE meaning as that in capital letters.**

1. TURBULENCE 16. BLEAK
   1. Life c . rumbling a. hard b. cold
   2. Change d. tranquility b. lush d. empty
2. FRAGMENT 17. LUMINOUS
   1. Portion c. spot a. brave c. loud
   2. Material d. whole b. crisp d. dark
3. EXPANSE 18. ILLUMINATION
   1. Odor c. enclosure a. pastel c. giant
   2. Accident d. large b. candle d. shadow
4. SULTRY 19. HAZY
   1. Frigid c. bright a. clear c. silent
   2. Humid d. curved b. happy d. cloudy
5. HUMID 20. DISMAL
   1. Hot c. dry a. great c. lazy
   2. Breezy d. rainy b. cheerful d. cheap