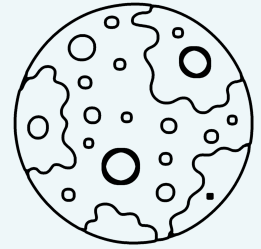


Phases of the moon

Read about the Moon. Then name the phases, find them on the orbit and answer.

The Moon does not make its own light: it reflects sunlight. The Sun always lights half of the Moon. As the Moon orbits Earth, we see different amounts of that lit half. These shapes are the phases.

Waxing means the lit part is growing. Waning means it is shrinking.



1 Name each phase, in order. Use the word bank.

PHASES

waxing crescent

first quarter

waxing gibbous

full moon

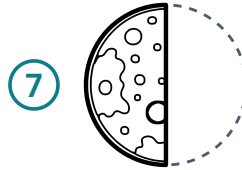
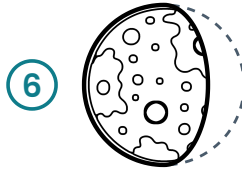
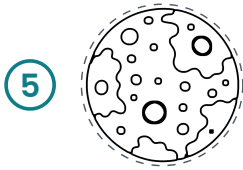
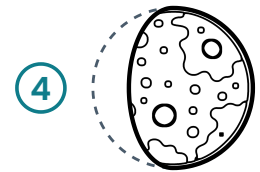
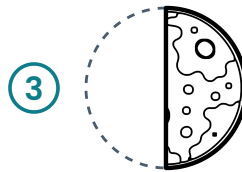
waning gibbous

third quarter

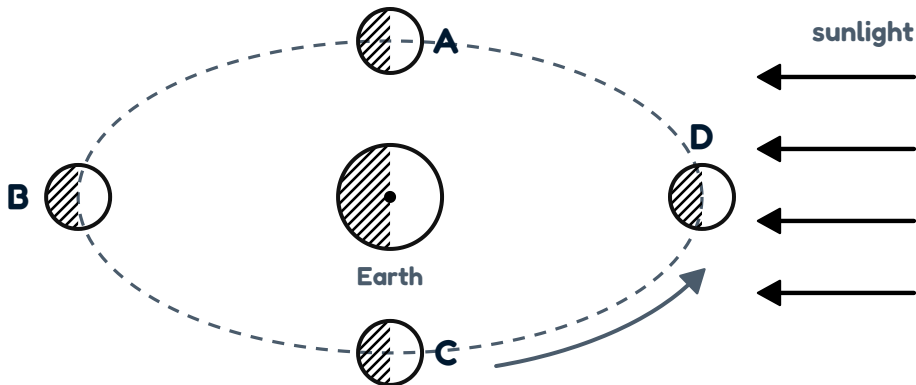
waning crescent



new moon



2 This is the Moon's orbit seen from above. Where is the Moon at each phase?



new moon

first quarter

full moon

third quarter

3 Answer.

1. Tonight the Moon is at first quarter. The whole cycle of phases takes about 29.5 days. About how many days until the full moon? Why?