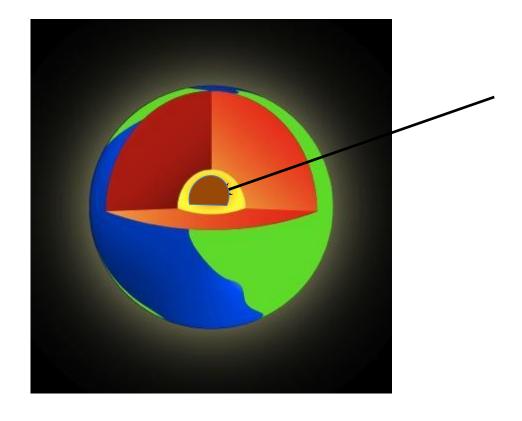
Layers of Earth Picture Vocabulary

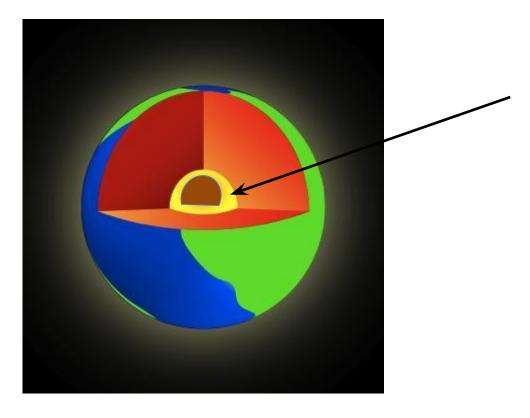
7.E 6.1 Layers of Earth

Inner Core



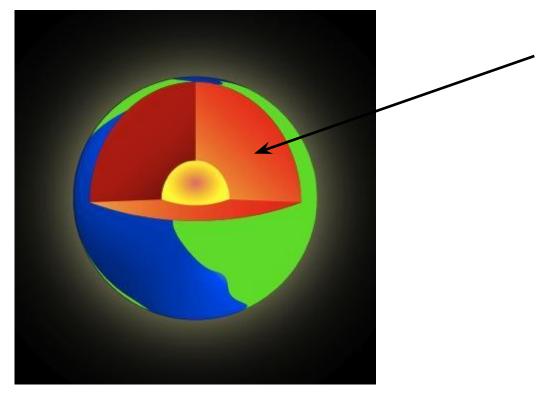
The sphere of solid nickel and iron at the center of Earth; surrounded by the liquid outer core

Outer Core



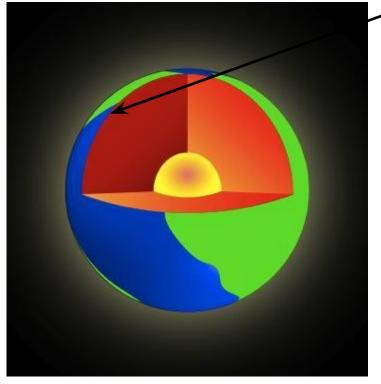
The outer layer of Earth's core; surrounds the inner core and is made of liquid nickel and iron

Mantle



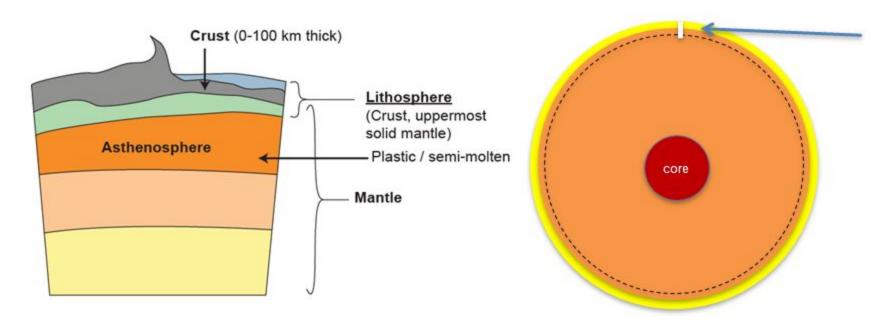
The solid layer of Earth between the crust and the core; made of dense silicates

Crust



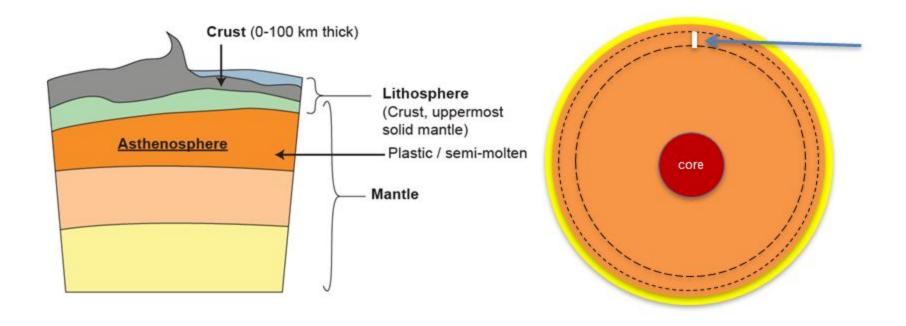
The thin, solid, outermost layer of Earth; made of less dense silicates and is either continental (landmasses) or oceanic (ocean floors)

Lithosphere



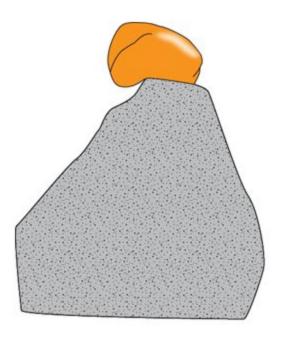
The cool, rigid, outermost layer of Earth that consists of the crust and the uppermost part of the mantle; broken into pieces or segments called plates

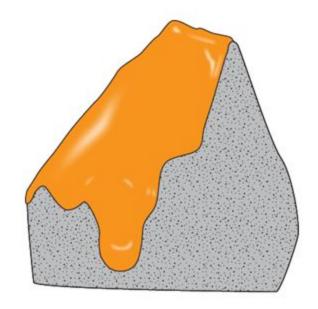
Asthenosphere



The solid layer with plasticity in the upper mantle that is located just below the lithosphere; lithospheric plates "float" and move on this layer

Plasticity

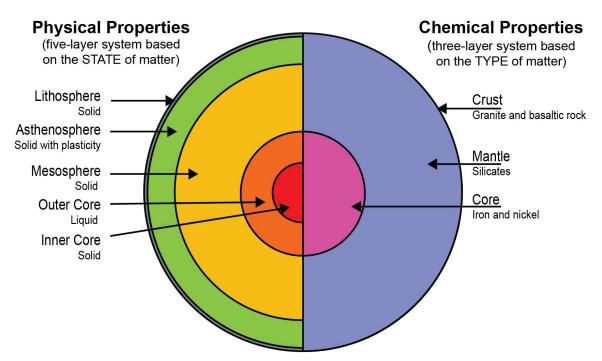




A characteristic of the material in the asthenosphere; existing in a solid state yet having the ability to flow without being a liquid

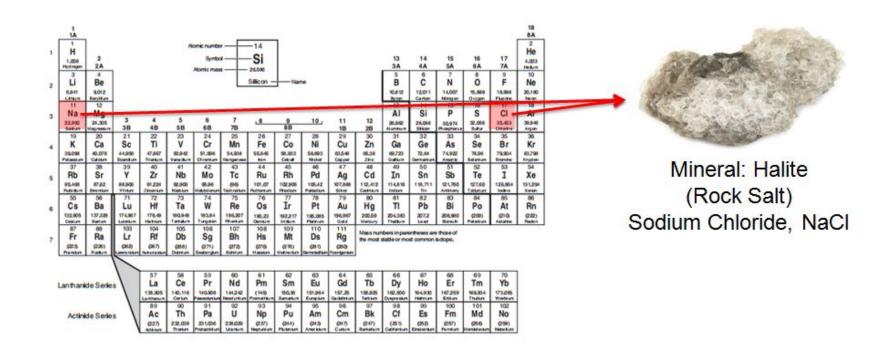
Earth's Layers

Earth Cross Section Showing Two Systems for Categorizing



The divisions of the composition of Earth determined by either chemical composition or by the physical state of matter

Chemical Composition



The elements that make up a substance

Physical Properties



Characteristics that can be observed or measured; for example, color, melting point, and conductivity

Temperature



Temperature is a variable that affects the state of matter of Earth's layers. Layers of rock at greater depths from Earth's surface have more thermal energy

States of Matter



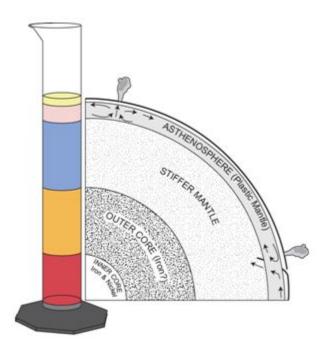
Distinct forms of matter known in everyday experience (solid, liquid, and gas); also referred to as phases of matter

Pressure



Pressure is a variable that affects the state of matter of Earth's layers. Thick layers of rock apply great force to those layers buried below them, affecting the melting points of the buried rock

Density



Column of liquids
with different
densities models the
layers of Earth's
rocks that vary in
density.

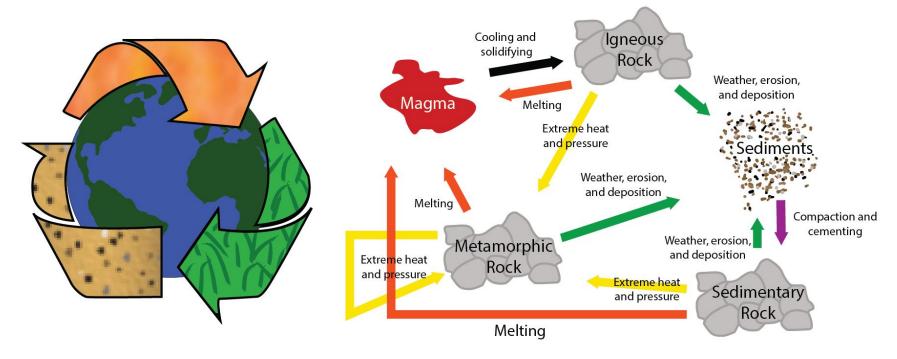
Density is the amount of matter in a given space or volume; it is a relationship between mass and volume. Less dense matter will form layers above denser matter

Plate Tectonic Theory



Theory that the lithosphere is divided into tectonic plates that slowly move on top of the asthenosphere

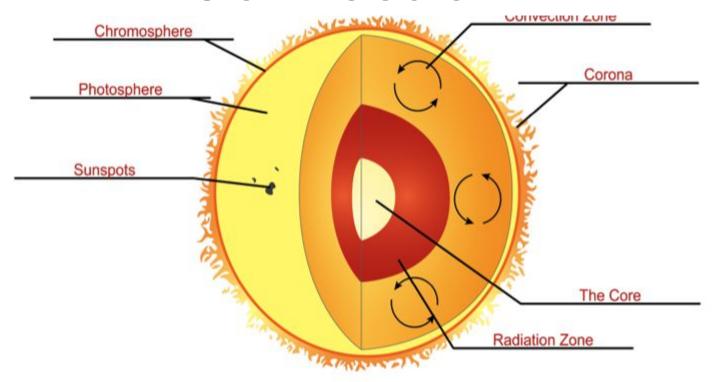
Rock Cycle



Earth's rocks change from one type into another over time due to various Earth processes.

Changes occur in mineral compositions and physical structures

Convection



Heat transfer caused by the rising of hotter, less dense fluids and the falling of cooler, more dense fluids