



Tracing the Route of Totality in the 2024 Solar Eclipse: A Guide From NPR

Description

As people across North America eagerly awaited the total solar eclipse, myth-busters stepped in to calm fears and debunk a number of misconceptions. For example, some questioned whether the celestial event could impact unborn babies or contaminate food, while others believed it might instantly cause blindness.

In response, NASA made clear that a solar eclipse actually leads to a temporary, sharp drop in solar radiation rather than an increase. They also assured that expecting mothers and their babies were in no danger. Similarly, food remains safe during an eclipse, debunking the myth that food prepared during this time can cause harm.

The space agency also tackled other interesting myths such as the belief that the moon turns black during an eclipse and the idea that the Earth's poles never experience eclipses. These, among others, are wrong, said NASA. Finally, the myth that the eclipse could cause impending bad health if it falls six months after your birthday, or on your birthday, was debunked as pure astrological forecasting and confirmation bias.

Despite these myths, eclipses hold deep spiritual and traditional meaning for many cultures. The Ojibwe and other Indigenous cultures, for example, tell tales of magical animals or gods trying to eat the sun during an eclipse.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Eclipse** // (noun): The total or partial obscuring of one celestial body by another.
2. **Debunk** // (verb): Expose the falseness or hollowness of a myth or belief.
3. **Celestial** // (adjective): Relating to the sky or the heavens divine.
4. **Contaminate** // (verb): Make something impure or unsuitable by contact with something unclean.
5. **Myth** // (noun): A traditional story especially one concerning the early history of a people explaining some natural or social phenomenon.
6. **Astrological** // (adjective): Relating to astrology the study of the movements and positions of celestial bodies.

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What celestial event occurs when the moon blocks the sun?



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- Option: Solar Eclipse
Option: Lunar Eclipse
Option: Meteor Shower
Option: Constellation
2. What is a response to a given stimulus known as?
- Option: Action
Option: Journey
Option: Reaction
Option: Decision
3. Which term refers to the action of making something more modern or up to date?
- Option: Refresh
Option: Update
Option: Undo
Option: Delay
4. What technology involves creating intelligent machines?
- Option: Virtual Reality
Option: Artificial Intelligence
Option: Augmented Reality
Option: Machine Learning
5. Which technology allows for remote storage and processing of data?
- Option: Cloud Computing
Option: Database Management
Option: Local Storage
Option: Networking
6. Which term refers to objects in space such as stars and planets?
- Option: Terrestrial
Option: Aquatic
Option: Aerial
Option: Celestial
7. What is a flaw or error in software called?
- Option: Feature
Option: Bug
Option: Enhancement
Option: Patch
8. Which term means the power to influence or direct people's behavior or the course of events?
- Option: Command



- Option: Control
- Option: Guidance
- Option: Supervision

9. What does a collaboration between two or more parties form?

- Option: Groups
- Option: Partnerships
- Option: Oppositions
- Option: Isolations

10. What term refers to combining one thing with another to make a whole?

- Option: Separate
- Option: Converge
- Option: Integrate
- Option: Divide

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. A photograph is a _____ of a specific moment in time.
12. Many people read their horoscope for _____ insights and predictions.
13. The _____ of a star depends on its temperature and distance from Earth.
14. The unique _____ of a product set it apart from its competitors.
15. Legends and _____ often explain natural phenomena in ancient cultures.
16. The system has a security _____ that hackers could exploit.
17. Technical support is available to help users solve _____ on their devices.
18. Scientists worked to _____ the false claims made by the pseudo-experts.
19. The factory implemented _____ machinery to increase efficiency.
20. The AI program uses a _____ algorithm to create new music compositions.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Every snowflake is with no two being exactly alike.



22. The company announced the of its new product at the upcoming conference.
23. The rocket's stage helps propel it into orbit before separating.
24. The network of global positioning helps track locations accurately.
25. SpaceX's reusable rocket the has revolutionized space exploration.
26. The system is set to perform backups of important data.
27. Careless disposal of chemicals can the local water supply.
28. The new system will seamlessly with existing software applications.
29. has contracts with NASA to resupply the International Space Station.
30. The chemical produced colorful changes in the solution.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Solar Eclipse 2. Reaction 3. Update 4. Artificial Intelligence 5. Cloud Computing 6. Celestial 7. Bug 8. Control 9. Partnerships 10. Integrate

Gap-Fill: 11. Capture 12. Astrological 13. Brightness 14. Characteristics 15. Myth 16. Vulnerability 17. Software problems 18. Debunk 19. Automatic 20. Generative

Matching sentence: 1. Unique 2. Launch 3. Booster 4. Satellites 5. Falcon 9 6. Automatic 7. Contaminate 8. Integrate 9. SpaceX 10. Reaction

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL2

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