## NOTES- Natural Mechanisms of Climate Change

How do we know about past climates?

**Paleoclimatology**- the study of the _____ of the _____ climate

- Using: _____, tree rings, and _____ bottom sediment

**_____ Forces** – beyond earth

- _____ Energy- changes in 3 ways:
-
    1. _____of earth's orbit – sometimes circular, sometimes _____

    2. Changes in earth's_____ – currently at 23.5 degrees

    - Varies from 22-25 degrees over _____ yr cycle

    - Smaller the tilt means less _____ variation.
    - 3. Changes in earth's spin – it _____ sometimes.

Ocean, Atmosphere and Land Forces of Climate Change

_____ Causes Changes

- Change climates along the _____ where they flow
- Change in temp
- Change in the Great Ocean Conveyor

Volcanic Activity

- Releases _____ which forms sulfuric acid and _____ sunlight
- Releases huge amounts of _____ and dust

  -blocks the sun
- Short term
-

Atmospheric_____

- The _____ property of the atmosphere (amount of sunlight atmosphere reflects)
- An ↑ in _____ means an ↑ in _____

- A _____ in clouds means a ____ in reflection

- The more _____ that reaches Earth the temp ↑

_____Albedo

- _____ reflective capacity
- Includes land, snow, water, and ice
- Ice and snow _____, land _____
- As ice and snow melt, less sunlight is reflected, more is absorbed, temp _____

Asteroids and Meteoroids

- If huge ones _____Earth, large amounts of dust and debris in atmosphere
- May _____ out the sun
- Leading theory on what killed the _____

Plate Tectonics

- Changes where _____can form

- Changes the flow of _____
- Changes the climates on different continents
- _____ the areas of absorption of solar radiation