11 EES 2 Planet Earth and Its Environment - Part 1

1.	**absorption spectrum**	the set of absorption lines that results when radiant energy from a source, such as the sun, passes through a cooler medium where some of the light is absorbed
2.	**accretion**	a process in which a star gathers molecules of interstellar gas to itself by gravitational attraction
3.	**aerobic respiration**	a biological process that needs the presence of oxygen to produce energy
4.	**amino acid**	a nitrogen-containing chemical that makes up proteins; can be made by living cells or obtained in the diet
5.	**anaerobic respiration**	respiration that occurs in the absence of oxygen
6.	**big bang theory**	the theory that the universe began at some particular instant and has been expanding ever since
7.	**blue shift**	the lines in the spectra of galaxies move to shorter wavelengths than they found when spectra are produced here on Earth
8.	**catastrophism**	the theory that past geological processes were much more rapid than those seen today
9.	**climate**	the normal weather conditions in an area
10.	**cosmologist**	a scientist who investigates the origin and evolution of the universe
11.	**Doppler effect**	the change in frequency that occurs with light or sound when its source moves towards or away from us
12.	**electromagnetic radiation**	electromagnetic waves that travel at the speed of light but differ in wavelength
13.	**emission**	the giving out or release of energy by means of electromagnetic waves, such as light from a lamp or star
14.	**fermentation**	the action of yeast cells on the sugar in fruit juices, like grape, to produce alcohol
15.	**Fraunhofer lines**	the dark absorption lines crossing a continuous spectrum, such as those from the sun
16.	**frequency**	the number of times an event takes place per unit of time
17.	**geocentric**	the idea that the Earth was at the centre of the solar system and all planets and stars orbited it
18.	**geological time scale**	the method of dividing the history of the Earth into ages based on fossil and other geological evidence