

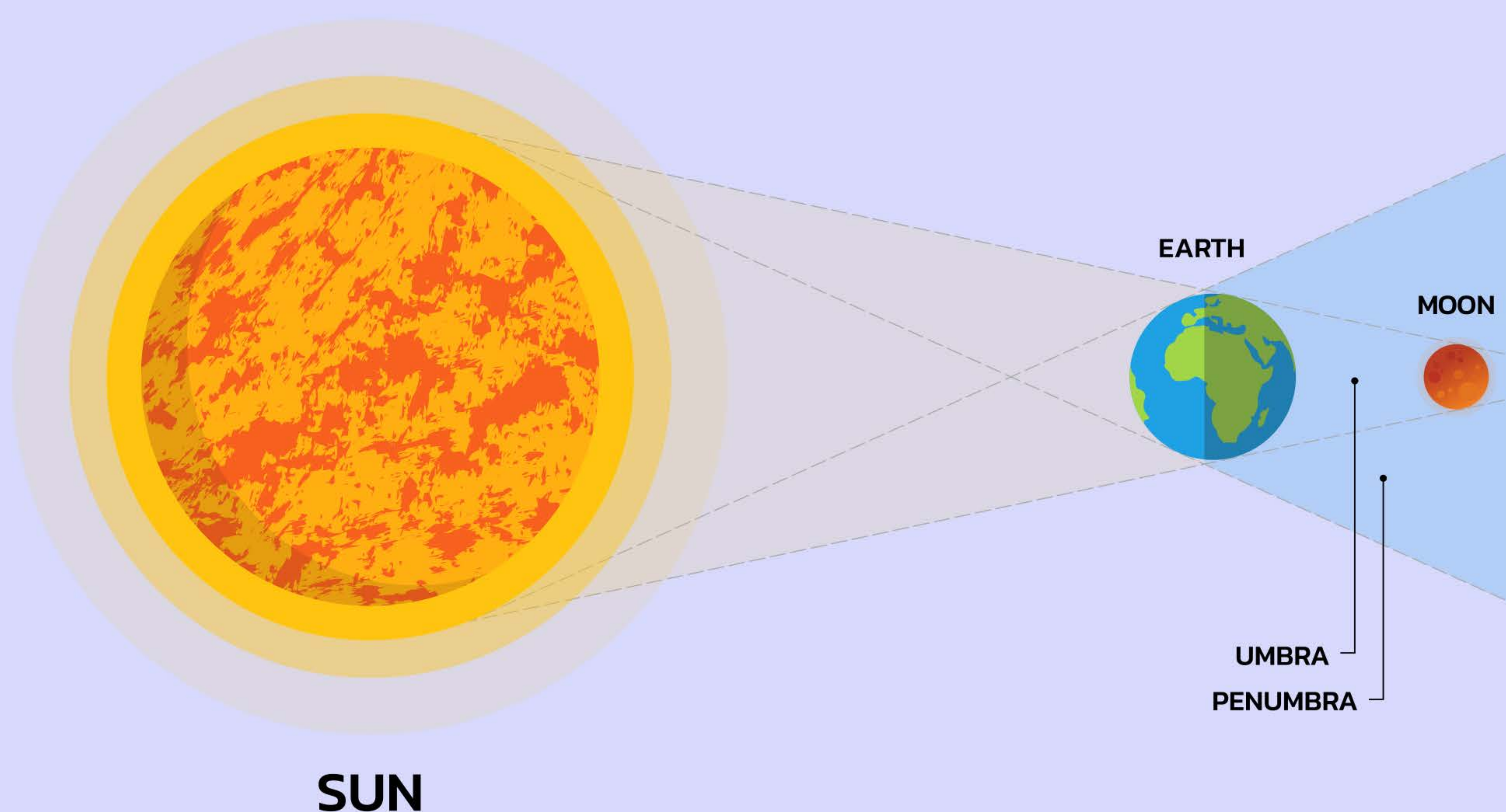
# Learning About Lunar Eclipse

The term lunar is used to refer to things related to the moon. The moon absorbs and reflects the light of the sun. During a lunar eclipse, the earth comes between the moon and the sun, thereby blocking the sunlight that is usually reflected by the moon.

A lunar eclipse occurs when the moon passes through the earth's shadow, and it can happen only during a full moon night. It generally occurs about twice a year and may last for a few hours.

The moon looks red-brown during a lunar eclipse. You might think that the moon looks totally black, but it looks reddish-brown because some of the sunlight bends through the earth's atmosphere and reflects on the moon. Lunar eclipses are observed over a much larger surface of the earth.

It is safe to look at a lunar eclipse with the naked eye as it does not cause any harm to your vision, unlike a solar eclipse





**The earth's shadow can be divided into two different types.**

### **The umbra**

Umbra is the central region of the shadow.

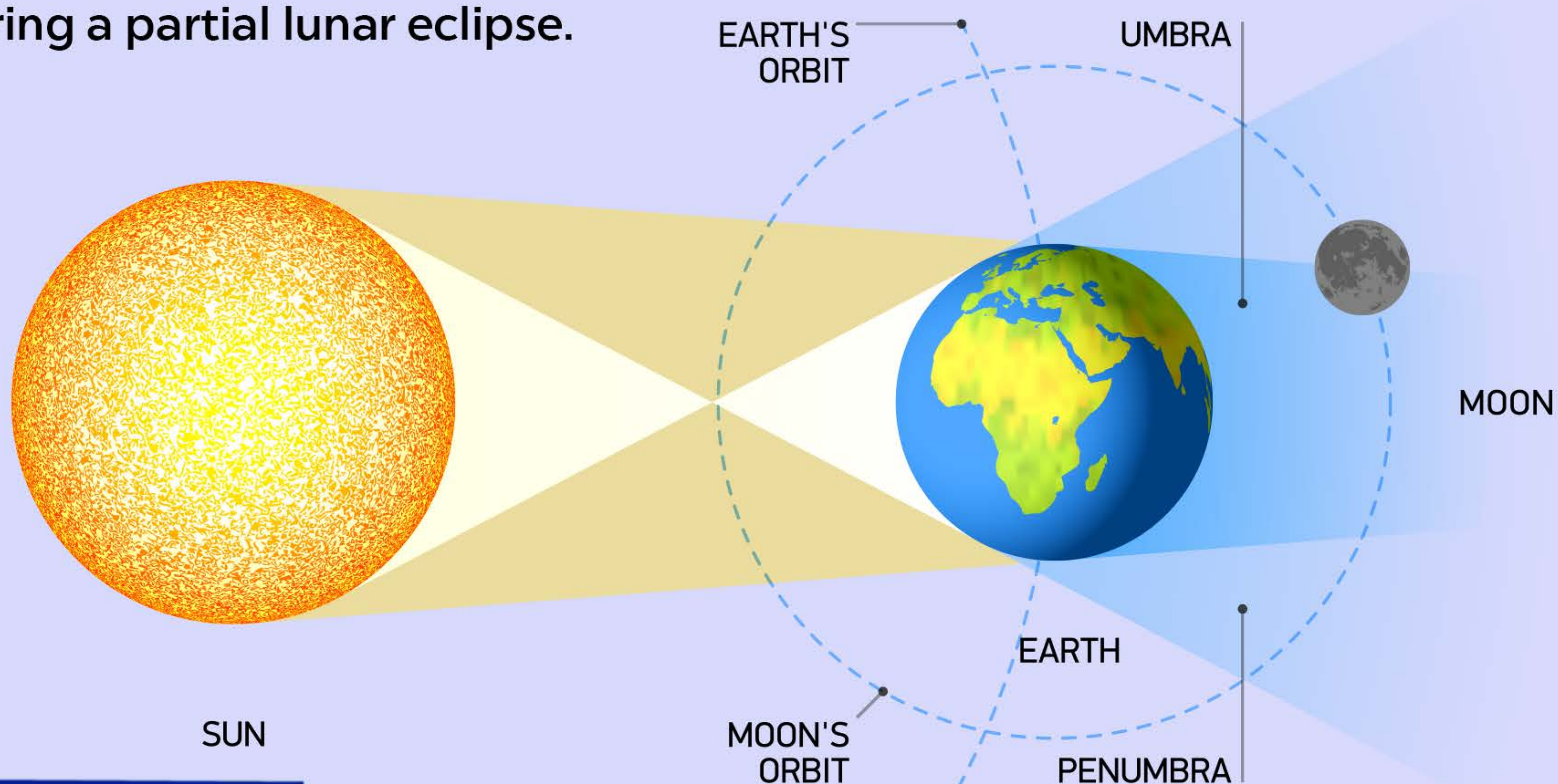
### **The penumbra**

Penumbra is the outer part of the shadow.

**There are two types of lunar eclipses.**

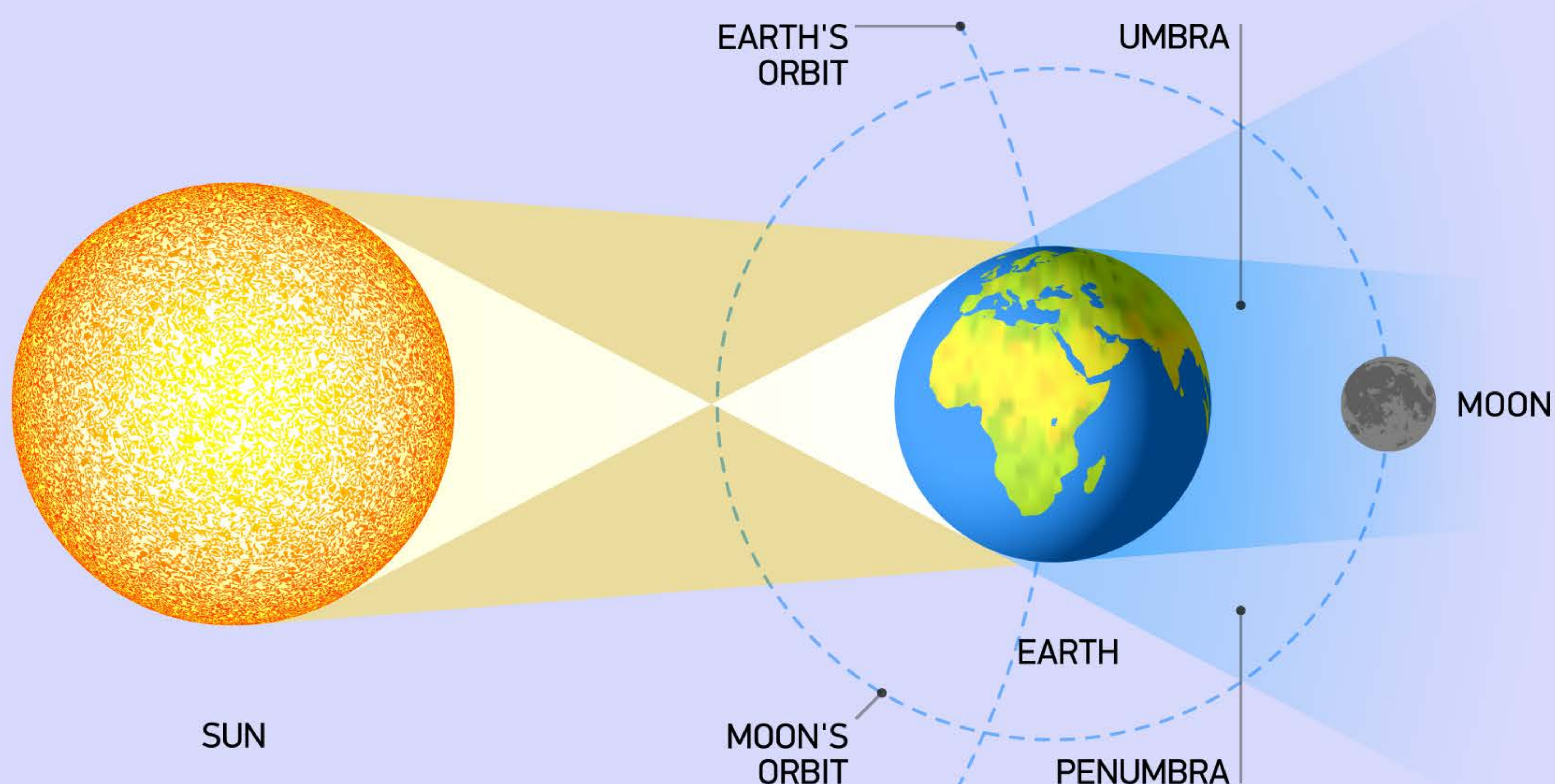
### **Partial lunar eclipse**

A partial eclipse occurs when only a portion of the moon is covered by the earth's shadow. During a partial eclipse, the shadow caused by the earth looks dark on the side of the moon that is facing the earth. Only a part of the moon enters the earth's umbra during a partial lunar eclipse.



### **Total lunar eclipse**

This happens when the sun and the moon are positioned directly on opposite sides of the earth. However, a little bit of sunlight does hit the moon and makes the moon appear red, also known as the “blood moon.” The entire moon enters the earth's umbra in a total eclipse.





## Answer the following questions based on your understanding of lunar eclipses

1 What does the word 'lunar' refer to?

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2 What is the position of the earth during a lunar eclipse?

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3 A lunar eclipse occurs during a full moon. True/False

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4 How many times a year does a lunar eclipse generally occur?

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5 Why does the moon appear red-brown during a lunar eclipse?

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6 What is umbra?

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7 What is penumbra?

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8 What is a partial lunar eclipse?

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9 What is a total lunar eclipse?

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10 When does a blood moon occur?

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