

The Sun is about	it times wider than the moon and it's about		aboutt	times farther away than the	
moon. The	_ size of an object in	the sky depends on ho	owit·is	and how	
away. This means the S	un and the moon app	ear to be about the	size in the	e sky.	
An is a wl	nen one object passes	into the	of another object d	arkening it or blocking it.	
Aeclipse	is when the	blocks the	casting a sha	dow on the earth.	
The moon orbits the ea	rth once per	and the Earth orb	its the Sun once per		
The moon's orbit is tilte	ed with respect to the	Earth's by about	degrees. A	t new moon, the moon can	
pass or	the Sun in	the sky and we will n	ot see an eclipse.		
There are	shadows from the mo	oon one inside the other	er. If you are anywl	nere physically inside this	
cone the moon appears	big enough to compl	etely block the Sun ar	nd we call it the	, which is Latin	
for Outside	de of this deep umbra	l shadow is a wider co	onical region. If you	r're in it the Sun is only	
partially blocked. This	region is called the _	Pen is La	tin meaning	or	
The is the	sun's atmosphere. W	hen the moon blocks	the Sun's face the co	orona becomes	
The longest a solar ecli	pse can last is only at	oout seven or eight	·		
Asolar e	clipse is a local event	t. If you're too far nor	th or south you don	t get a total solar eclipse	
you only get a	solar eclipse.			,	
The moon's orbit aroun	d the Earth is an	Sometimes	it is closer to the ea	orth and sometimes it is	
farther. If a solar eclips	e happens when the n	noon is at the far end	of its orbit it can ac	tually be smaller than the	
Sun in the sky. It doesn	't block the entire fac	e of the Sun and it lea	ves a ring of light a	round the black circle of	
the moon. The technica	l name for this shape	is so thi	s event is called in	eclipses.	
Aeclipse	is when the	blocks the	casting a shad	dow on the moon.	
Sometimes during a	eclipse the	moon changes color.	When you look at t	he red eclipsed moon you	
are seeing the light from	n all the	_ and in	n the world hitting t	he moon and reflecting	
back to us.					
A total lunar eclipse ca	n last nearly two	·			
Ancient u	sedto ca	alculate the relative size	zes of the Earth and	moon by observing lunar	
eclipses. They also kne	w the shape of the Ea	rth's shadow was alw	ays a	If the earth were flat it	
would sometimes cast	a thin shadow, but it r	ever does.	۰		