

Eccentricity

Precession

Axial tilt

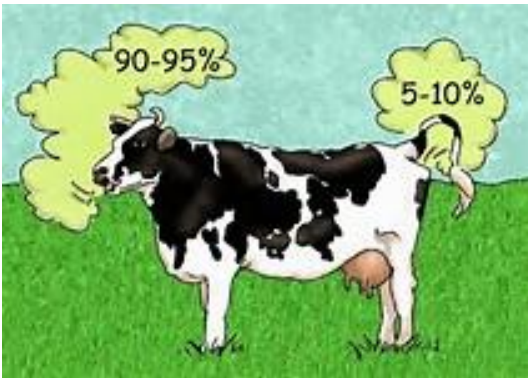
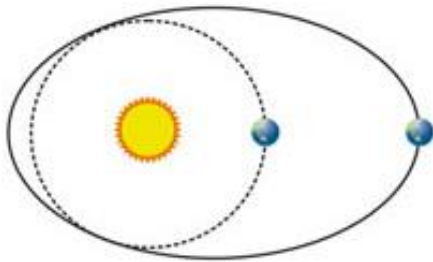
Sun spots / solar output

Volcanic eruptions

Agriculture

Fossil fuels

Deforestation



Earth's orbit is sometimes **circular**, sometimes **oval (Eccentric)**.

When the earth is **further away** from the sun it becomes **cooler**.

The **tilt** of the Earth's **axis** changes between **22.5** degrees and **24.5** degrees.

This causes the earth to move closer and further away from the sun.

The **axis** of the earth can **wobble** like a **spinning top**.

This is called **precession**, and it causes the earth to move slightly closer or slightly further away from the sun.

**Sunspots** are **black** areas on the surface of the sun.

Lots of spots means the sun is **more active** and firing out **more solar energy**.

**Powerful eruptions** release ash and gas high into the atmosphere.

This forms a **blanket** around Earth and **stops sunlight** getting through. This causes the planet to get **cooler**.

The farming of animals or plants.

It releases **greenhouse gases** into the air due to deforestation and cows.

This creates a **warming effect** as the greenhouse gases **trap** the sun's energy.

Examples are **coal, oil and natural gas**.

They are burned in **power** stations and by **vehicles** and planes.

Gases such as **CO<sub>2</sub>** enter the atmosphere.

This sun's energy is **trapped** in the earth's atmosphere (greenhouse effect).

The permanent destruction of forests.

Trees are cut down for **timber** and to make room for **housing** and **farming**.

Trees store **carbon** which is released when they are cut down.

This adds to the **greenhouse** effect where the planet is getting warmer.