

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

The Celestial Sphere

- 1) What is the “celestial sphere”?
- 2) Are the positions of the stars on the celestial sphere fixed with respect to each other?
- 3) At night, how do stars appear to move, and why?
- 4) How long does it take the Earth to make a full rotation around this axis?
- 5) If the Earth’s rotation causes the Sun to set in the West, towards what direction must we be rotating?
- 6) When viewed from above the north pole, does the Earth rotate clockwise or counterclockwise? (Try to picture this on a globe.)
- 7) What makes Polaris unique?
- 8) Is Polaris special anywhere else besides on Earth? Why, or why not?
- 9) Do all stars set? Why?
- 10) Can any star visible from Earth be seen from the USA? Why?