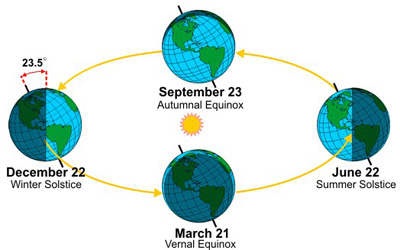
**Unit I: The World in Spatial Terms**

**Weather & Climate**

The reason for seasons:

What is the importance of the Tropic of Capricorn and the Tropic of Cancer (i.e. The Tropics)?

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| --- | --- |
| **Weather:** | **Climate:** |

**What causes weather?**

**Water Vapor**: this determines whether there will be precipitation.

* Precipitation: falling water droplets in the form of rain, sleet, snow, or hail.

**Cloud Cover**: clouds may hold water vapor.

**Landforms and Bodies of Water**: water heats slowly but also loses heat slowly. Land heats rapidly but also loses heat quickly.

**Elevation**: as elevation above sea level increases, the air becomes thinner and looses its ability to hold moisture.

**Air Movement**: winds move the air and the solar energy and moisture it holds. As a result, weather can change rapidly.

|  |  |  |
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| **Types of Precipitation** | | |
| **Convectional:**  convectional | **Orographic:**  **orographic** | **Frontal:**  **Frontal** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Weather Extremes** | Hurricane: |
| Tornado: | Blizzard: |
| Drought: | Flood: |
| **Factors Affecting Climate** | |
| **L**atitude: | |
| **A**ir Masses: | |
| **C**ontinentality: | |
| **E**levation: | |
| **M**ountain Barriers: | |
| **O**cean Currents: | |
| **P**ressure Cells: | |
| **S**torm Tracks: | |

