Directions: After reading the article “What’s in the Air?” answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What is the atmosphere?

2. What is the sun’s atmosphere made of?

3. What planet in our solar system has almost no atmosphere?

4. Create a pie chart that represents the composition of air. Include the names of the gases and the percentage of each.

5. Which is most abundant in our atmosphere?

6. Why does oxygen for 23% of the air’s mass if it only accounts for 21% of its composition?

7. What does “permanent gases” mean?

8. What is the most abundant “variable gas”? 
9. What does “variable gas” mean? __________________________________________________________
                                                                  __________________________________
                                                                  __________________________________
10. During what process is carbon dioxide removed from the air? ________________________________
                                                                 ________________________________
11. What important job does ozone do for organisms of Earth? ________________________________
                                                                 ________________________________
12. What is ozone considered in Earth’s lower atmosphere? ________________________________
                                                                 ________________________________
13. If methane absorbs heat, what “current condition” is it contributing to? _________________
                                                                 ________________________________
14. If you rise higher in the atmosphere does the ratio of gases change? ______________________
15. Where are gases like hydrogen and helium most abundant? ________________________________
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16. During the daylight hours, plants and algae take in carbon dioxide and release oxygen. If humans continue to destroy rain forests, what might happen to the balance between gases? ________
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