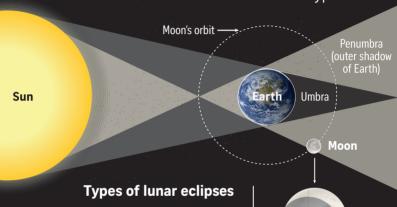
Coming up next week: Lunar eclipse

During a lunar eclipse, the Moon moves directly behind the Earth, and is covered by Earth's shadow. The Moon's location within the shadow will determine its type.





Total

Inner part of the Earth's shadow (umbra) falls on the Moon's surface. When the entire Moon is in shadow, it may appear red. This is due to the Earth's atmosphere refracting indirect sunlight on the Moon's surface.



Partial

The umbra takes a bite out of the moon. The bite grows larger and then recedes without ever reaching full coverage.



Penumbral

The more diffused outer shadow of the Earth falls on the Moon's surface. It is subtle and difficult to observe. People here can watch out for a penumbral lunar eclipse on Wednesday (March 23). It will be visible from 6pm to 10pm.