

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## How Communication Signals Use the Ionosphere

### Short Answer Key

1. The ionosphere is a layer of the atmosphere starting about 30 miles up that contains charged particles.
2. Ions are formed when sunlight hits gases and knocks off electrons.
3. It bounces radio signals back to Earth, letting them travel far distances.
4. At night, the ionosphere is calmer and doesn't scatter the signals as much.
5. Solar storms can disturb the ionosphere and mess up signals and GPS.

