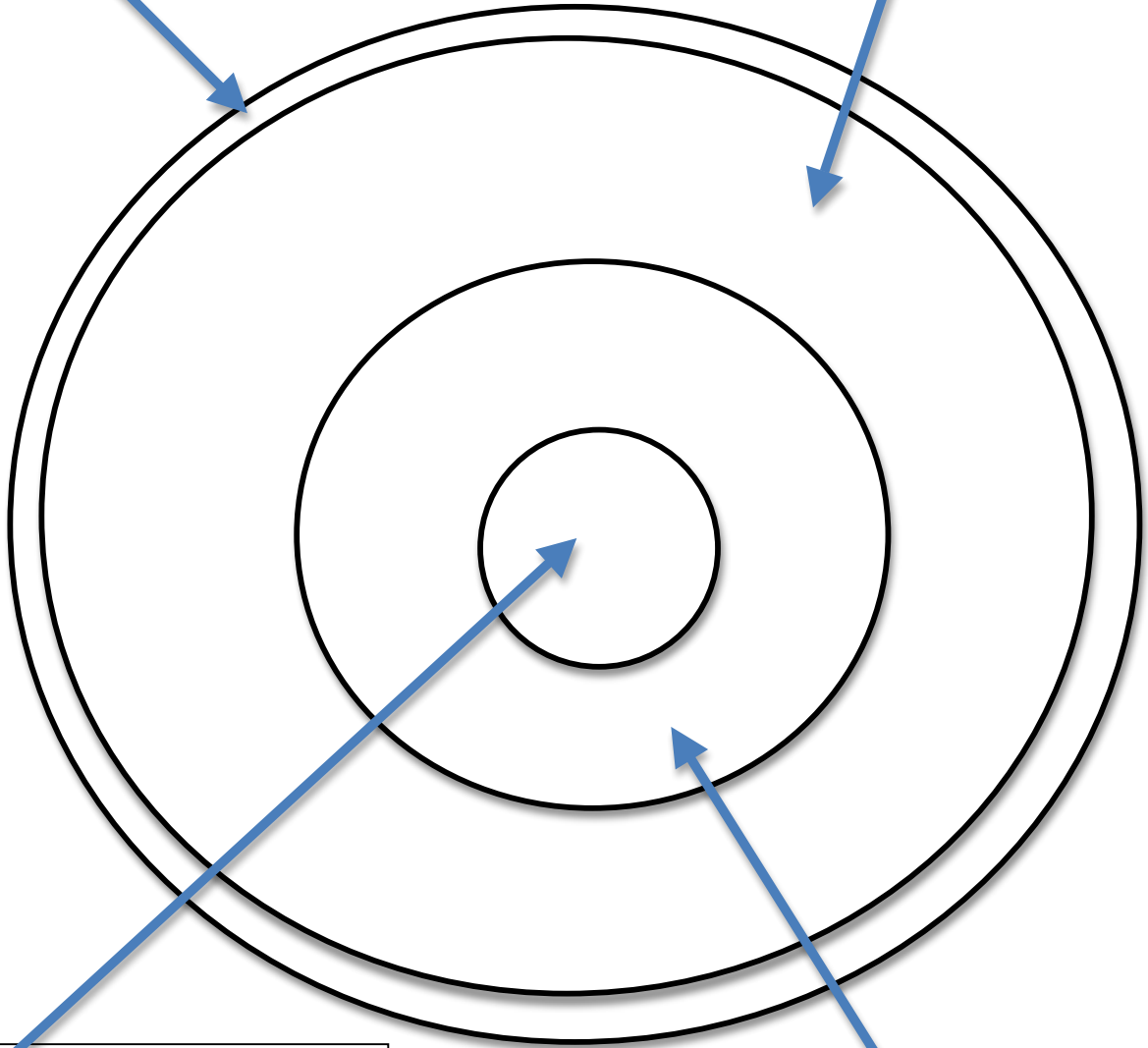


# The Earth's Layers

The Crust — The earth's crust is made up of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks. The thickness of the crust varies from about 8 to 32 km. Most of the crust's surface is covered by water.

The Mantle — The mantle is a layer of solid rock. Many scientists think it also contains partly melted rock. The mantle is about 2900 km thick. It is very hot and under great pressure.



The Inner Core — The inner core is shaped like a ball. Scientists think it is a solid metal and that its temperature reaches 9000°F. The distance from the edge of the inner core to its centre is about 1300 km.

The Outer Core — The outer core is made up of melted metals. It is hotter than the mantle. This layer is about 2200 km thick.