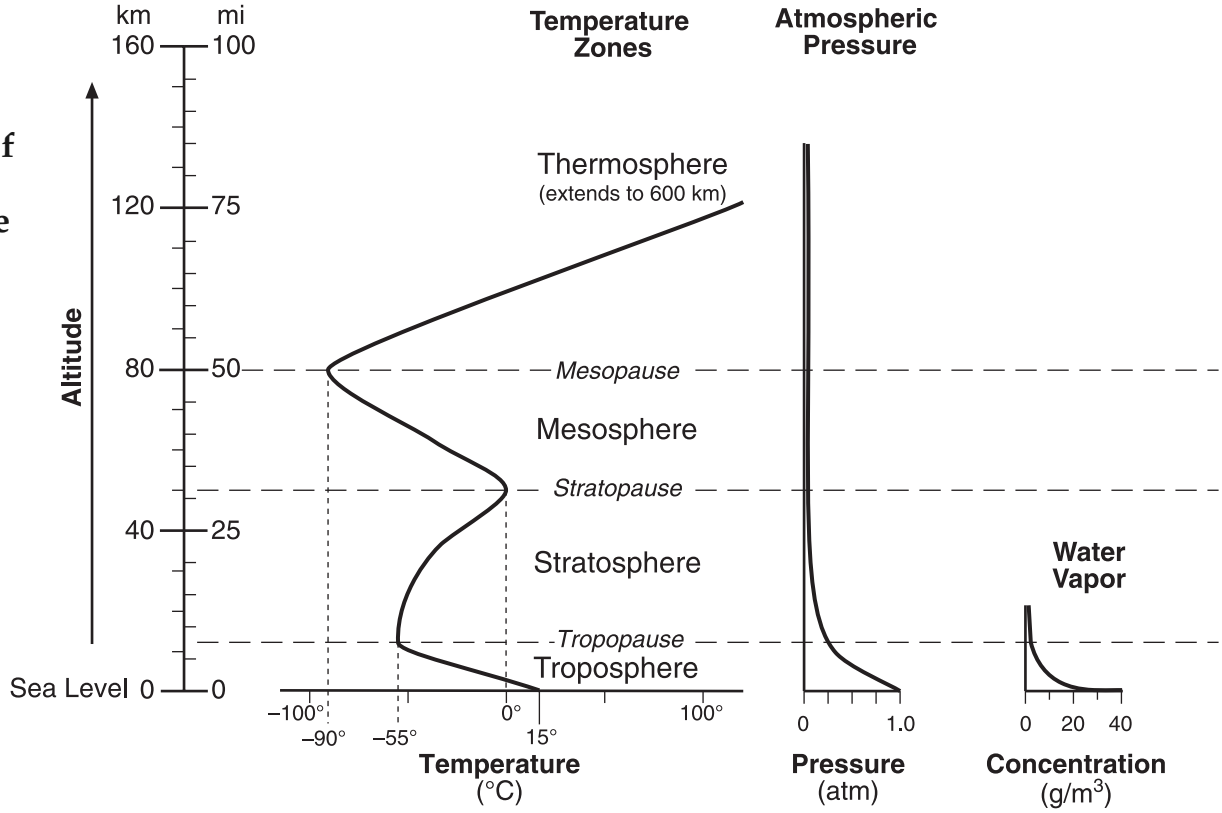Selected Properties of Earth's Atmosphere