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## Total lunar eclipse this week

Melissa Ramsay with files from The Associated Press 2010/12/19

The moon is normally illuminated by the sun. During a total lunar eclipse, the full moon passes through the shadow created by the Earth blocking the sun's light.

Weather permitting, skygazers should be able to view the eclipse.

It's a rare event this year, because the lunar eclipse and winter solstice coincide for the first time in 456 years.

Neel Roberts tells 660News members of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada will have telescopes and binoculars set up for a special viewing in Vulcan.

The totality phase, when the moon is entirely inside Earth's shadow, will last a little over an hour.