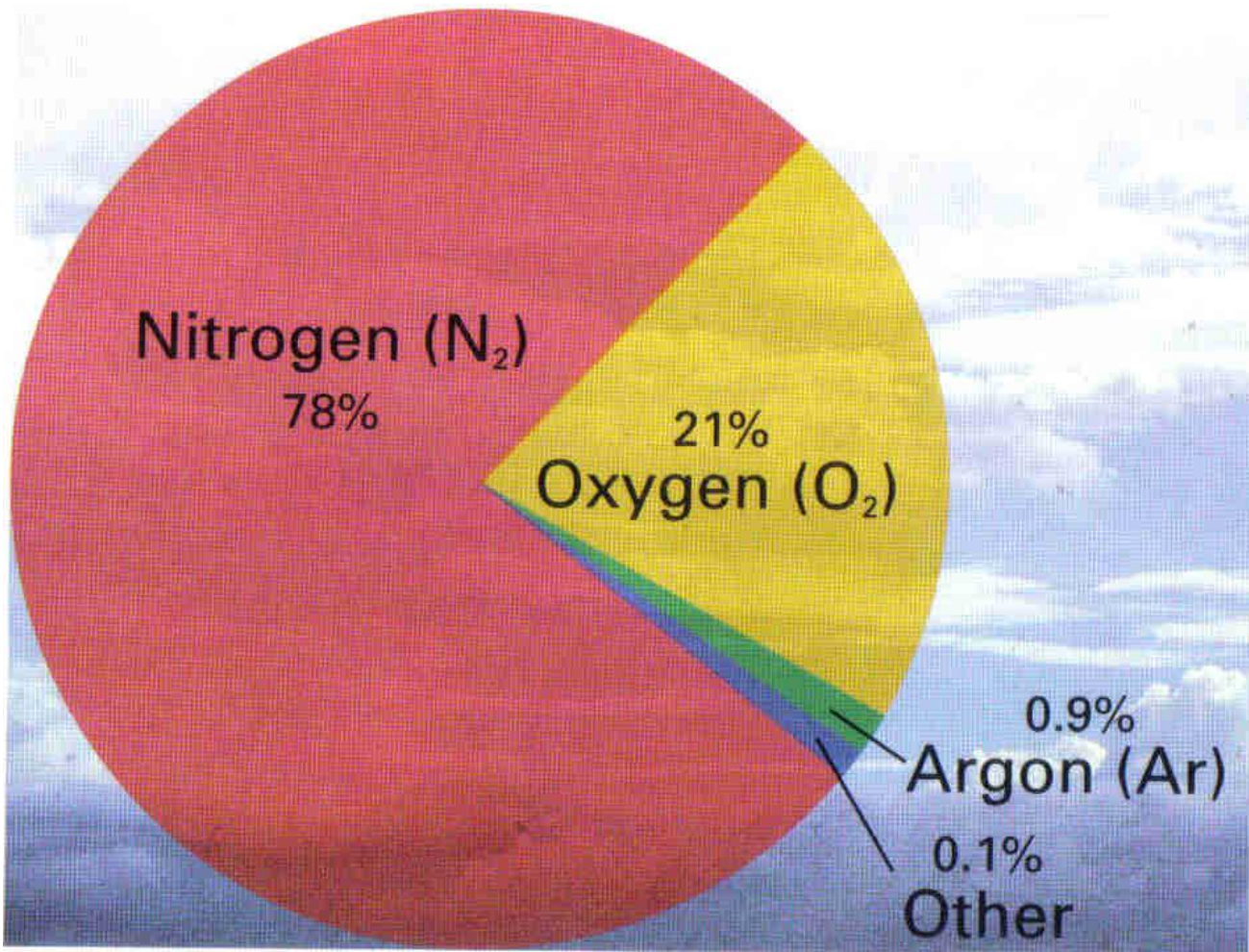


Composition of the Atmosphere

Use the diagram on the other side to answer the following questions.

1. List the *three most abundant* gases in the atmosphere *from most abundant to least abundant*.
2. Why do you think water vapor is not included in the pie graph?
3. List examples of gases that would be included in the pie graph's "Other" category.
4. Why is ozone gas important to the earth's living things even though it is not listed in the graph?
5. Helium and neon are nonreactive gases and thus could not have been produced by chemical reactions. Where might they have come from?

Composition of the Atmosphere



Nitrogen (78.08%)

Oxygen (20.95%)

Other elements called (**Trace elements**) are:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Argon (Ar) | 0.93% |
| Neon (Ne) | 0.00182% |
| Helium (He) | 0.00053% |
| Krypton (Kr) | 0.00012% |
| Xenon (Xe) | 0.00009% |
| Hydrogen (H ₂) | 0.00005% |
| Methane (CH ₄) | 0.00005% |
| Nitrous Oxide | 0.000268% |

Ammonia (NH₃)

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) 0.038%

H₂O_{vapor} varies depending on the season from 0.0% to 4.0%