

**THIS IS A MULTIPLE CHOICE PAPER. PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS ON THE PROVIDED QUESTION PAPER. EACH QUESTION IS FOLLOWED BY ANSWERS MARKED A AND B, OR A, B, C AND D. ONLY ONE ANSWER IS CORRECT. CHOOSE THE MOST CORRECT ANSWER AND CIRCLE IT CLEARLY. THANK YOU & ALL OF THE BEST.**

- 1. The Sun is very much larger than any other planet in our Solar System.**
  - A. True
  - B. False
- 2. The time it takes the Earth to revolve once around the Sun is approximately a \_\_\_\_\_**
  - A. day
  - B. month
  - C. week
  - D. year
- 3. Which planet is the largest amongst the terrestrial/rocky planets?**
  - A. Pluto
  - B. Mercury
  - C. Mars
  - D. Earth
- 4. Which planet in our Solar System spins fastest?**
  - A. Saturn
  - B. Earth
  - C. Mercury
  - D. Jupiter
- 5. During what phase of the Moon can we observe a total solar eclipse?**
  - A. New Moon

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- B. Full Moon
- C. First Quarter
- D. Last Quarter

**6. Which of the following arrangement represent the phase mentioned in Question 5 above?**

- A. Earth, Sun, Moon
- B. Earth, Moon, Sun
- C. Sun, Earth, Moon
- D. Moon, Earth, Sun

**7. The Moon's faint outer shadow that falls upon the Earth is referred to as the \_\_\_\_\_**

- A. Full moon
- B. Umbra
- C. Penumbra
- D. New moon

**8. Which of the following is the best approximate shape of our Solar System?**

- A. Flat disk
- B. Helix
- C. Spiral
- D. Ball shaped

**9. An area that separates terrestrial planets from outer planets is referred to as the \_\_\_\_\_**

- A. Kuiper belt
- B. Oort belt
- C. Asteroid belt
- D. Terrestrial belt

**10. Approximately by what angle is the Earth's rotation axis tilted, to the plane of its orbit around the Sun?**

- A. 25.3 degrees

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B. 33.5 degrees

C. 23.5 degrees

D. 35.3 degrees

**11. The rotation of the Earth on its axis to the plane of its orbit around the Sun causes \_\_\_\_\_ to occur.**

A. Seasons

B. Day & Night

C. Days

D. Nights

**12. Which one of the following does not belong to the group below?**

A. Earth

B. Mars

C. Venus

D. Jupiter

**13. Which spacecraft, launched in 2006 has flown by Pluto in July 2015?**

A. Spirit

B. New Horizon

C. Space shuttle

D. Opportunity

**14. Which of the following stars are the coolest?**

A. Yellow

B. Red

C. Blue

D. White

**15. Which of the following planets in our Solar System has the least number of natural satellites?**

A. Earth

B. Saturn

C. Uranus

D. Mercury

**16. What does the unit “light year” measure:**

A. Volume

B. Distance

C. Mass

D. Brightness

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**17. Which two main gases can be found in the Sun?**

- A. Oxygen & Hydrogen
- B. Hydrogen & Helium
- C. Hydrogen & Lithium
- D. Oxygen & Lithium

**18. From which Observatory did astronomers discover the closest star to the Earth after the Sun?**

- A. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- B. South African Astronomical Observatory
- C. Johannesburg
- D. Boyden

**19. How many natural satellites does planet Earth have?**

- A. 2
- B. 64
- C. 31
- D. 1

**20. The scientific name for a shooting star is \_\_\_\_\_**

- A. Meteor
- B. Meteoroid
- C. Comet
- D. Satellite

**21. If the planets Venus, Earth and Mars are arranged according to increasing day lengths, the sequence will be**

- A. Venus, Earth, Mars
- B. Mars, Venus, Earth.
- C. Venus, Mars, Earth
- D. Earth, Mars, Venus.

**22. When the Earth orbits the Sun, the North Pole always points in the same direction.**

- A. True
- B. False

**23. When it rotates along its axis, the Earth rotates from \_\_\_\_\_**

- A. East to West
- B. West to East
- C. West to North
- D. East to North

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**24. Earth's orbit around the Sun takes much longer than its rotation on its axis.**

- A. True
- B. False

**25. Which of the following is the hottest planet in our Solar System?**

- A. Venus
- B. Mercury
- C. Mars
- D. Jupiter

**26. On one of the following planets the surface is extremely hot during the day and icy cold at night. Which one is that?**

- A. Earth
- B. Jupiter
- C. Mercury
- D. Uranus

**27. What are the rings of Saturn made up of?**

- A. Ice and dust
- B. Gas and dust
- C. Dust and water droplets
- D. Rocks and dust

**28. Mark Shuttleworth, a South African IT millionaire from Cape Town was launched into space on \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. 20 April 2001
- B. 25 April 2002
- C. 20 June 2004
- D. 25 June 2002

**29. During his time in space, Mark Shuttleworth spent time at the \_\_\_\_**

- A. Moon
- B. Baikour cosmodrome
- C. International Space Station
- D. Russian Space Station

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**30. Stars and planets are born from** \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Other stars
- B. Cloud of gas and dust
- C. Cloud of gas
- D. Rocks

## TIE BREAKERS (SUDDEN DEATH)

**1. Which of the following is not part of the listed planets?**

- A. Uranus
- B. Neptune
- C. Mars
- D. Saturn

**2. How many planets have rings around them?**

- A. Three
- B. Four
- C. Six
- D. All

**3. The year 2015 marks the celebration of the second closest star to Earth after the Sun. Which star is that?**

- A. Alpha Centauri
- B. Omega Centauri
- C. Proxima Centauri
- D. Eris

**4. The Sun rotates on its axis approximately once every**

- A. 1 year
- B. 25 days
- C. 25 weeks
- D. 1 month

**5. Dark spots on the surface of the Sun have lower temperatures than the rest of the Sun's surface.**

- A. True
- B. False