

# Earth and the Solar System

## Multiple-Choice Assessment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Read each question carefully. Fill in the correct answer circle.

1. What is at the center of our solar system?

- Ⓐ the Earth
  - Ⓑ the sun
  - Ⓒ the moon
  - Ⓓ the Milky Way
- 

2. Earth travels in a(n)

- Ⓐ round orbit.
  - Ⓑ circular orbit.
  - Ⓒ spherical orbit.
  - Ⓓ elliptical orbit.
- 

3. One complete Earth orbit of the sun is called

- Ⓐ a completion.
  - Ⓑ an evolution.
  - Ⓒ a rotation.
  - Ⓓ a revolution.
- 

4. How long does it take for the Earth to orbit the sun?

- Ⓐ about one month
  - Ⓑ about 24 hours
  - Ⓒ about 365 days
  - Ⓓ none of these
- 

5. The Earth rotates on its

- Ⓐ poles.
- Ⓑ axis.
- Ⓒ magnetic field.
- Ⓓ equator.



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## Multiple-Choice Assessment *(cont.)*

6. How long does it take for the Earth to make one complete rotation?

- Ⓐ 24 hours
  - Ⓑ 365 days
  - Ⓒ 27 days
  - Ⓓ 1 year
- 

7. How far is the moon from Earth?

- Ⓐ 93 million miles
  - Ⓑ 100 miles
  - Ⓒ no one really knows for sure
  - Ⓓ 238,000 miles
- 

8. What is the moon?

- Ⓐ a large asteroid
  - Ⓑ a small planet
  - Ⓒ a natural satellite
  - Ⓓ a comet
- 

9. What are moon phases?

- Ⓐ the parts of the moon that we can see from Earth
  - Ⓑ the parts of the moon that effect the tides
  - Ⓒ the evolution of the moon
  - Ⓓ all of these
- 

10. What does the moon look like during the new-moon phase?

- Ⓐ crescent-shaped
- Ⓑ barely visible
- Ⓒ half-moon
- Ⓓ full moon



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## Multiple-Choice Assessment *(cont.)*

11. What happens during high tide?

- Ⓐ ocean water gets saltier
  - Ⓑ ocean water gets warmer
  - Ⓒ ocean water rises
  - Ⓓ ocean water falls
- 

12. Which force causes tides?

- Ⓐ lunar force
  - Ⓑ gravitational force
  - Ⓒ solar force
  - Ⓓ friction force
- 

13. In what year did people first land on the moon?

- Ⓐ 1969
  - Ⓑ 1999
  - Ⓒ 1949
  - Ⓓ 1989
- 

14. How many planets are in our solar system?

- Ⓐ ten
  - Ⓑ five
  - Ⓒ nine
  - Ⓓ eight
- 

15. Which of the following is not considered to be a planet in our solar system?

- Ⓐ Neptune
- Ⓑ Mars
- Ⓒ Pluto
- Ⓓ Uranus



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## Multiple-Choice Assessment *(cont.)*

16. What is one AU?

- Ⓐ 238,000 miles
  - Ⓑ 1 light-year
  - Ⓒ 1 miles
  - Ⓓ 93 million miles
- 

17. Which planet is the farthest from the sun?

- Ⓐ Neptune
  - Ⓑ Uranus
  - Ⓒ Mercury
  - Ⓓ none of these
- 

18. What is Pluto called?

- Ⓐ a meteorite
  - Ⓑ a dwarf planet
  - Ⓒ a planet
  - Ⓓ an asteroid
- 

19. A small chunk of rock that orbits the sun is called

- Ⓐ a comet.
  - Ⓑ a meteorite.
  - Ⓒ a meteor.
  - Ⓓ an asteroid.
- 

20. Where is the asteroid belt located?

- Ⓐ between Mercury and Venus
- Ⓑ between Earth and Mars
- Ⓒ between Mars and Jupiter
- Ⓓ around the planet Saturn



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## Multiple-Choice Assessment *(cont.)*

21. What is one difference between a comet and an asteroid?

- Ⓐ an asteroid is made of ice; a comet is made of rock
  - Ⓑ an asteroid orbits the sun; a comet orbits the moon
  - Ⓒ an asteroid is made of rock; a comet is made of ice
  - Ⓓ none of these
- 

22. What is the center of a comet called?

- Ⓐ the nucleus
  - Ⓑ the tail
  - Ⓒ the coma
  - Ⓓ the core
- 

23. What is the coma of a comet made of?

- Ⓐ ice
  - Ⓑ iron
  - Ⓒ evaporated dust and gas
  - Ⓓ nickel
- 

24. A small asteroid is called

- Ⓐ a comet.
  - Ⓑ a meteor.
  - Ⓒ a meteorite.
  - Ⓓ a meteoroid.
- 

25. A meteor that falls to Earth is called a

- Ⓐ meteoroid.
- Ⓑ meteorite.
- Ⓒ crater.
- Ⓓ meteor shower.

