

ASTRO™ QUIZ 2025

Duration: 30 minutes

Please answer your questions on this question paper. Each question is followed by possible answers marked A, B, C and D or just A and B. Only one answer is correct. Choose the most correct answer and **circle** it clearly.

1. **At the time the South African Astronomical Observatory was established, three of the then most modern telescopes, were moved to the Karoo in:**
 - A. Sutherland
 - B. Cape Town
 - C. Pretoria
 - D. Carnarvon
2. **Who was the first South African that was launched into space?**
 - A. Mike Mellville
 - B. Burt Rutan
 - C. Thebe Medupe
 - D. Mark Shuttleworth
3. **Which is the town that is nearest to the Hartbeeshoek Radio Astronomy Observatory?**
 - A. Carnarvon
 - B. Pretoria
 - C. Sutherland
 - D. Krugersdorp
4. **A NASA Satellite Laser Ranger is operated by the Space Geodesy Programme in South Africa. (NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration)**
 - A. True
 - B. False
5. **In which province is the SKA project based?**
 - A. Gauteng
 - B. Western Cape
 - C. Central Karoo
 - D. Northern Cape
6. **The Sun is made up from pieces of solid surface and asteroids.**
 - A. True
 - B. False
7. **The Sun orbits other planets and their moons.**
 - A. True
 - B. False
8. **Humans would be able to live on Mercury.**
 - A. True
 - B. False
9. **How many earth days are there in one year on Venus?**
 - A. 117
 - B. 59
 - C. 225
 - D. 365
10. **Venus is larger than the earth.**
 - A. True
 - B. False
11. **Mercury and Mars havedwarf planets.**
 - A. 2 and 61 respectively
 - B. 27 and 5 respectively
 - C. 0 and 1 respectively
 - D. None of the above
12. **What is an unmanned spacecraft called?**
 - A. Rover
 - B. Probe
 - C. Rocket
13. **Mars has a blueish colour and it is known as the blue planet.**
 - A. True
 - B. False
14. **Uranus was discovered by**
 - A. Urbain le Verrier
 - B. William Herschel
 - C. Nicolas Copernicus
 - D. Isaac Newton
15. **Which of the following statements about the Moon are true?**
 - A. The Moon is a planet.
 - B. The Moon is the largest object in the solar system.

- C. The Moon's gravity causes tides on Earth.
- 16. Which of the following statements about the Big Bang theory is false?**
- A. The Big Bang theory is the most widely accepted theory about the origin of the universe.
- B. The Big Bang theory suggests that the universe began as a hot, dense, and infinitely small point.
- C. The Big Bang theory suggests that the universe is contracting.
- 17. The Sun is a planet in our solar system.**
- A. True B. False
- 18. The Moon is a natural satellite of the Earth.**
- A. True B. False
- 19. What is the name of the layer of the Sun's atmosphere that is visible during a total solar eclipse?**
- A. Photosphere
- B. Chromosphere
- C. Corona
- D. Heliosphere
- 20. Which planet is known as the "Morning Star" or "Evening Star"?**
- A. Mercury
- B. Venus
- C. Mars
- D. Jupiter
- 21. What is the name of the phenomenon in which a full moon appears larger and brighter than usual?**
- A. Lunar eclipse
- B. Solar eclipse
- C. Harvest moon
- D. Supermoon
- 22. What is the name of the largest moon in our solar system?**
- A. Ganymede
- B. Io
- C. Europa
- D. Callisto
- 23. These are frozen gases and dust with a bright burning tail.**
- A. Meteors
- B. Asteroids
- C. Comets
- D. Sun bursts
- 24. Our solar system is located in which galaxy?**
- A. Orion's Belt
- B. Andromeda
- C. Milky Way
- D. Whirlpool
- 25. Copernicus's model of the solar system is ...**
- A. Geocentric
- B. Lunocentric
- C. Ethnocentric
- D. Heliocentric
- 26. Which of the following is evidence of Earth's revolution?**
- A. The Foucault pendulum
- B. The Coriolis effect
- C. Night and day
- D. Constellation movement
- 27. Which of the following statements about constellations is true?**
- A. Constellations are made up of planets and moons.
- B. Constellations are only visible from Earth's equator.
- C. Constellations are groups of stars that form recognizable patterns.
- 28. What is the name of the theory that explains the formation of the universe as a result of a massive explosion?**
- A. The Big Bang Theory
- B. The Steady State Theory
- C. The Ptolemaic Theory
- D. The Copernican Theory
- 29. If the Sun appears to be in the east, in which direction would your shadow lie on the ground?**
- A. north
- B. south
- C. east
- D. west
- 30. A telescope would be the best instrument to study which of the following? The ...**
- A. parts of a cell
- B. surface of other planets
- C. bottom of the ocean
- D. speed of an airplane

Thank you for participating.