

Philippine Science This Week: Space Debris, Ancient Mariners, and New Spec

Science · Practice Test · 12 Questions

1. What event did the Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA) issue an advisory about concerning potential debris falling within the country's exclusive economic zone in late May 2026?

- A) The launch of China's Long March 7A rocket
- B) A meteor sighting over Mayon Volcano
- C) A 'space jellyfish' phenomenon
- D) The re-entry of a defunct satellite

2. Recent archaeological findings suggest that ancient Filipinos were actively engaged in what activity thousands of years ago, challenging the notion of isolated islands?

- A) Building vast island networks through sea travel
- B) Developing advanced agricultural techniques
- C) Establishing trade routes with distant continents
- D) Migrating to mainland Asia

3. A study on sea cucumber biodiversity in the Philippines, which won the 2026 NAST Environmental Science Award, was conducted by a researcher from which institution?

- A) University of the Philippines-Diliman
- B) Ateneo de Manila University
- C) De La Salle University
- D) University of Santo Tomas

4. In May 2026, the Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA) confirmed that a bright light captured over Mayon Volcano was caused by what celestial phenomenon?

- A) A meteor entering the atmosphere
- B) A rare aurora borealis display
- C) A satellite re-entry
- D) An unusual atmospheric ice crystal formation

5. What is the common name given to the phenomenon observed on May 12, 2026, caused by a rocket's exhaust plume illuminated by sunlight at high altitudes?

- A) Space jellyfish
- B) Celestial ribbon
- C) Atmospheric aurora
- D) Rocket's tail

6. The National Museum of Natural History recently described six new species of ants and recorded one new species in the Philippines. In which genus do these newly described ants belong?

- A) Vombisidris
- B) Formica
- C) Camponotus
- D) Solenopsis

7. Which institution launched a new webpage in May 2026 highlighting marine biodiversity and scientific research in Pag-asa Island and the West Philippine Sea?

- A) University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute (UP MSI)
- B) Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS)
- C) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
- D) National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI)

8. Archaeological evidence from Mindoro suggests that ancient Filipinos used shell tools and fished in deep waters, indicating skill in what area?

- A) Maritime navigation and resource utilization
- B) Subsistence farming techniques
- C) Stone tool construction
- D) Early metallurgy

9. A new species of flowering plant, *Begonia occidentalis*, was described in March 2026. In which region of the Philippines was it discovered?

- A) Western Mindanao
- B) Northern Luzon
- C) Bicol Region
- D) Central Visayas

10. The Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA) advisory regarding the Long March 7A rocket launch in May 2026 highlighted potential debris drop zones in areas approximately how far from Burgos, Ilocos Norte?

- A) 41 nautical miles
- B) 10 nautical miles
- C) 75 nautical miles
- D) 100 nautical miles

11. What is the provisional conservation status assigned to the newly discovered plant species, *Begonia occidentalis*?

- A) Critically Endangered
- B) Endangered
- C) Vulnerable
- D) Near Threatened

12. A Filipino students' experiment, designed by students from Rizal Technological University (RTU), was successfully conducted onboard the International Space Station (ISS) as part of which program?

- A) 2025 Asian Try Zero-G (ATZG 2025)
- B) 2026 Philippine Space Challenge
- C) NASA's Student Launch Initiative
- D) ESA's Young Scientists Program