

Asia's Latest Scientific Frontiers: From Lunar Samples to AI Breakthroughs

Science · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. What significant achievement did China's Chang'e-6 mission accomplish regarding lunar samples?

- A) It returned the first-ever soil samples from the far side of the Moon.**
- B) It discovered evidence of water ice on the lunar surface.
- C) It detected active volcanic gases on the Moon's near side.
- D) It performed the first-ever live broadcast from the Moon's surface.

2. Which Asian country unveiled six significant archaeological discoveries from 2024, including the Dadong paleolithic site, the largest of its kind in Northeast Asia?

- A) Japan
- B) South Korea
- C) China**
- D) India

3. What is a key focus of the joint Japan-India lunar mission, LUPEX, slated for launch no earlier than 2025?

- A) To establish a permanent lunar base.
- B) To search for water ice near the lunar south pole.**
- C) To deploy the first lunar tourism module.
- D) To conduct experiments on lunar gravity's effect on plant growth.

4. Microsoft launched its first research lab in Southeast Asia in July 2025. What is a primary aim of this lab?

- A) To develop AI models for managing supply chain costs in local manufacturing.**
- B) To create AI for advanced robotics in agriculture.
- C) To design AI systems for space exploration in the region.
- D) To pioneer AI in underwater marine research.

5. In 2025, China's Tianwen-2 probe is scheduled for a mission that includes sample return from a near-Earth asteroid and orbit explorations of what other celestial body?

- A) A distant nebula
- B) A comet**
- C) Jupiter's moon Europa
- D) Saturn's rings

6. What notable achievement was made by Chinese geologists in June 2025, leading to the confirmation of a new mineral species?

- A) Discovery of a new type of superconductor.
- B) Identification of Jinxiuite, a nickel-cobalt sulfide mineral.**
- C) Confirmation of a large subterranean freshwater ocean.
- D) Finding the oldest fossil on Earth.

7. Singapore launched a new supercomputer named Aspire 2B in June 2026, equipped with over 1,500 Nvidia H200 GPUs. What is a primary application for this supercomputer?

- A) Predicting stock market fluctuations.
- B) Accelerating AI research in climate science and healthcare.**
- C) Designing new virtual reality gaming platforms.
- D) Simulating the effects of deep-sea pressure on materials.

8. The Dadong Site in Helong, Jilin province, discovered in 2024, is noted as the largest and most culturally rich site of what era in Northeast Asia?

- A) Neolithic Period
- B) Upper Paleolithic**
- C) Bronze Age
- D) Iron Age

9. Which Asian nation has seen significant investment in AI, with companies like Nvidia partnering to establish research and data centers, accelerating its digital transformation?

- A) Thailand
- B) Indonesia
- C) Vietnam**
- D) Malaysia

10. In 2025, researchers in China developed a new mineral species named Jinxiuite. What elements is this sulfide mineral primarily composed of?

- A) Iron, Carbon, and Oxygen
- B) Aluminum, Silicon, and Oxygen
- C) Nickel, Bismuth, Antimony, Arsenic, and Sulfur**
- D) Gold, Silver, and Platinum