

Space Junk and Cosmic Waste

Space Debris · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. What is the common term for human-made waste orbiting the Earth?

- A) Space junk**
- B) Star dust
- C) Meteoroids
- D) Moon rocks

2. Which planet in our solar system is known for having a ring system made of ice and rock particles?

- A) Venus
- B) Mars
- C) Saturn**
- D) Mercury

3. Where do most defunct satellites and rocket parts eventually fall when they re-enter the Earth's atmosphere?

- A) The Sahara Desert
- B) The Pacific Ocean**
- C) The Amazon Rainforest
- D) The Arctic Tundra

4. What is the primary material used to build satellites that becomes space debris once the mission ends?

- A) Wood
- B) Organic fabric
- C) Metal**
- D) Cardboard

5. How is most space debris currently tracked by space agencies?

- A) With household magnets
- B) Using ground-based radar and telescopes**
- C) By sending drones to collect it
- D) Using fishing nets

6. Approximately how many pieces of debris larger than 10cm are estimated to be in Earth's orbit?

- A) Less than 10
- B) Hundreds
- C) Tens of thousands**
- D) Millions

7. Which international agency monitors orbital debris to ensure the safety of the International Space Station?

A) NASA

- B) The World Health Organization
- C) The United Nations Educational Program
- D) The Red Cross

8. What is the main reason scientists want to limit the amount of junk left in space?

A) It creates bad luck

B) It interferes with satellite signals and mission safety

- C) It changes the color of the Moon
- D) It makes the stars look dimmer

9. Which celestial body has had human waste left on its surface by Apollo missions?

A) The Sun

B) The Moon

- C) Jupiter
- D) Pluto

10. What occurs when two pieces of space debris collide in orbit?

A) They merge into one large planet

B) They create even more smaller pieces of debris

- C) They vanish into a black hole
- D) They turn into liquid fuel