

Astronomy Milestones and Measurements

Astronomy · Practice Test · 12 Questions

1. In what year did the International Astronomical Union redefine 'planet', resulting in Pluto being reclassified as a dwarf planet?

- A) 2006
- B) 2003
- C) 2008
- D) 2001

2. How many moons does the planet Mars officially possess?

- A) 0
- B) 1
- C) 2
- D) 4

3. What is the approximate orbital period of Halley's Comet in years?

- A) 50
- B) 76
- C) 102
- D) 125

4. Who was the first person to use a telescope to systematically observe the night sky in 1609?

- A) Johannes Kepler
- B) Isaac Newton
- C) Galileo Galilei
- D) Tycho Brahe

5. What is the average distance from the Earth to the Sun, known as one Astronomical Unit (AU), in kilometers?

- A) 100 million
- B) 150 million
- C) 200 million
- D) 250 million

6. Which space probe, launched in 1977, became the first human-made object to enter interstellar space?

- A) Voyager 1
- B) Voyager 2
- C) Pioneer 10
- D) New Horizons

7. How many Earth days does it take for Venus to complete one full rotation on its axis?

- A) 243
- B) 116
- C) 225
- D) 365

8. The 'Great Red Spot' on Jupiter is a persistent high-pressure storm. Approximately how many Earths could fit across its width?

- A) 0.5
- B) 1.3
- C) 3.5
- D) 5.2

9. What is the name of the largest moon in the Solar System, which orbits Jupiter?

- A) Titan
- B) Europa
- C) Ganymede
- D) Callisto

10. In 1990, which space telescope was launched into low Earth orbit, revolutionizing our view of the universe?

- A) Hubble
- B) James Webb
- C) Spitzer
- D) Kepler

11. What is the temperature at the surface of the Sun, measured in degrees Celsius?

- A) approx 5,500
- B) approx 10,000
- C) approx 2,700
- D) approx 15,000

12. How many years does it take for light from the nearest star system, Alpha Centauri, to reach Earth?

- A) 2.4 years
- B) 4.2 years
- C) 8.6 years
- D) 12.1 years