

Cosmic Perspectives in Anthropology

Anthropology Of Space · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which human-made object, currently in interstellar space, carries a golden record containing sounds and images of Earth intended to communicate with extraterrestrial civilizations?

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

2. What is the primary focus of 'Astroanthropology'?

- A) The study of distant star formations
- B) The study of human adaptation to space environments**
- C) The chemical composition of meteorites
- D) The mapping of dark matter in the universe

3. In which decade did the first human enter space, initiating the transition of anthropology to consider human behavior in microgravity?

- A) 1940s
- B) 1950s
- C) 1960s**
- D) 1970s

4. Which space-based observation tool, launched in 1990, has fundamentally changed human cultural understanding of our place in the cosmic timeline?

- A) James Webb Space Telescope
- B) Hubble Space Telescope**
- C) Kepler Space Telescope
- D) Chandra X-ray Observatory

5. What is the term for the branch of science that studies the possibility of extraterrestrial life and its potential cultural impact on humanity?

- A) Astrobiology**
- B) Cosmology
- C) Exo-anthropology
- D) Astrophysics

6. Which planet, named after the Roman god of war, has been a primary focus of robotic anthropological site surveys by NASA's rovers?

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

7. The study of how long-term space mission crews form unique subcultures is often categorized under which anthropological subfield?

- A) Linguistic Anthropology
- B) Organizational Anthropology**
- C) Biological Anthropology
- D) Archaeology

8. What is the 'Kessler Syndrome' regarding human presence in Earth orbit?

- A) A psychological condition of astronauts
- B) A theory about alien visitation
- C) A cascade of space debris collisions**
- D) A method of mapping planetary orbits

9. Which celestial event was historically used by various early human civilizations to create calendar systems and track agricultural cycles?

- A) Solar eclipses**
- B) Supernova explosions
- C) Formation of black holes
- D) The movement of the Milky Way

10. What defines 'Space Archaeology' within the broader field of anthropology?

- A) Studying ancient stone circles
- B) The preservation of human artifacts left on the Moon and in orbit**
- C) The search for ancient alien ruins on Earth
- D) The study of star charts in ancient manuscripts

11. Which planet in our solar system has been visited by more human-made probes than any other, impacting our understanding of planetary geology?

- A) Mercury
- B) Neptune
- C) Mars**
- D) Uranus

12. What is the name of the international treaty that dictates that no nation can claim sovereignty over celestial bodies like the Moon?

- A) The Space Sovereignty Act
- B) The Outer Space Treaty of 1967**
- C) The Galactic Law of 1999
- D) The Lunar Property Rights Protocol

13. Which type of radiation poses a significant biological challenge for long-term human habitation in space, a key factor in human adaptation studies?

- A) Cosmic rays**
- B) Infrared light
- C) Radio waves
- D) Microwaves

14. What do anthropologists study when analyzing the 'International Space Station' (ISS) as a social system?

- A) Stellar evolution
- B) Cross-cultural communication and social organization**
- C) Atmospheric entry physics
- D) Rocket propulsion systems

15. Which mission series provided the first human samples from another celestial body, allowing anthropologists to study human interaction with extraterrestrial materials?

- A) Apollo**
- B) Gemini
- C) Mercury
- D) Skylab