10 A student used a Geiger-Müller (GM) tube to determine a value for the background count. He recorded the count for 2 minutes, every 15 minutes, as shown in the table.

Time/min	Count for 2 min
0	34
15	39
30	28

Which of the following is the reason for this?

The counts are not the same.

■ A The background count rate is random.

A The background count rate is random.

**B** The counter is incorrectly calibrated.

C The temperature has not stayed constant.

**D** There is a systematic error in the measurement.

(Total for Question 10 = 1 mark)