Eclipses

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What is the author's purpose?

Ⓐ to entertain

Ⓑ to inform

Ⓒ to explain a process

Ⓓ to persuade

2. When Earth's shadow falls across the Moon, it is called a _____ eclipse.

Ⓐ solar

Ⓑ global

Ⓒ lunar

Ⓓ milky

3. How did a solar eclipse cause the Lydians and Medes to end their war?

Ⓐ The eclipse made the armies too scared to fight anymore.

Ⓑ The eclipse made it too dark to fight anymore.

Ⓒ The eclipse made it too cold to fight anymore.

Ⓓ All of the above

4. Earth's atmosphere _____.

Ⓐ can cause the Moon to appear red during a lunar eclipse

Ⓑ absorbs blue light

Ⓒ scatters red light

Ⓓ all of the above

5. **Astronomers** are _____.

Ⓐ people who believe in signs from the stars

Ⓑ space travelers

Ⓒ scientists who study planets, stars, and other objects in space

Ⓓ scientific instruments

6. During a solar eclipse, _____.

Ⓐ the Moon passes between the Sun and the Earth

Ⓑ the Sun passes between the Moon and the Earth

Ⓒ the Earth passes between the Moon and the Sun

Ⓓ none of the above

Quick Check continued on following page

Name _____ Date _____

7. The safest way to view a solar eclipse is _____.

Ⓐ by wearing two pairs of sunglasses

Ⓑ through a telescope

Ⓒ to look only at the corona

Ⓓ by using a pinhole projector

8. What is the main idea of this book?

Ⓐ Lunar eclipses occur more frequently than solar eclipses.

Ⓑ Ancient civilizations feared eclipses.

Ⓒ Eclipses are impressive cosmic events that we now understand and can predict very well.

Ⓓ Both lunar and solar eclipses are fascinating to observe and have been occurring throughout history.

9. Why do people often travel long distances to see total solar eclipses?

Ⓐ Total solar eclipses can only be seen once every 370 years.

Ⓑ Total solar eclipses can only be seen in the polar regions.

Ⓒ Total solar eclipses can only be seen from the oceans.

Ⓓ Total solar eclipses can only be seen in a relatively narrow path across Earth's surface.

10. **Cosmic** events occur _____.

Ⓐ only in fantasy books

Ⓑ in the space beyond Earth

Ⓒ when scientists agree on facts

Ⓓ as planets crash together

11. **Extended Response:** Draw a picture illustrating the positions of the Sun, Moon, and Earth during a solar eclipse. Use information from the text to describe how a solar eclipse works.

12. **Extended Response:** How are the solar and lunar eclipses alike and different?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

Eclipses

Main Comprehension Skill: Main Idea and Details

1. Ⓑ *Author's Purpose*
2. Ⓒ *Main Idea and Details*
3. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
4. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
5. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
6. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
7. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
8. Ⓒ *Main Idea and Details*
9. Ⓓ *Cause and Effect*
10. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
11. Answers should include the following: *during a solar eclipse, the Moon travels in between the Earth and Sun and blocks out the Sun. Only the Sun's outer part, the corona, becomes visible. During a solar eclipse, the Moon casts a double shadow on Earth. People inside the dark center shadow see a total eclipse, in which the entire disk of the Sun is blocked for a short time. Inside the lighter outer shadow, part of the Sun's disk is still visible during a partial eclipse. Beyond the lighter shadow, people see no eclipse at all.*
12. Answers should include the following: *Differences: in a lunar eclipse the Earth comes between the Sun and Moon and in a solar eclipse the Moon comes between the Sun and the Earth; lunar eclipses are seen more frequently than solar eclipses; lunar eclipses do not damage your eyes, but solar eclipses can if you don't use a safe way to view the eclipse,* and so on. *Similarities: both eclipses include the Earth, Sun, and Moon; eclipses are just really bid shadows; what you see in an eclipse depends on where you are standing on the Earth;* and so on.