

# ASTRONOMY 101 QUIZ 2+34 FORM A

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lab section number: \_\_\_\_\_

(In the format “M0\*\*”. See back page; if you get this wrong you may not get your quiz back!)

## Contents:

- Question 1: which form do you have?
- Questions 2-11: Quiz 2 retake (10 questions)
- Questions 12-21: Quiz 3+4 (10 questions)

## Instructions:

- Quiz time: 45 minutes
- Please put bags under your seats to allow proctors to move around the room.
- There is scratch paper and a blank seasons diagram on the back. You may tear these off.
- You may use notes that you handwrote yourself, or wrote with a stylus and printed, along with your exercises. No electronic devices or things written by others are allowed, with the exception of a photocopy of a lab prepared by your group together if we ran out of printouts.
- If you have a question, raise your hand, and a proctor will assist you.
- Do not attempt to communicate with anyone other than teaching staff during the quiz.
- **Circle your answers on this paper as well as completing the Scantron. Turn both in to us at the end of class.**
- **Put your name as “Last First” on your Scantron as well as your SUID.**

Good luck!

## LAB SCHEDULE

<b>Section</b>	<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Time</b>
M024	Sierra Thomas	Monday 8:00 AM-9:20 AM
M003	Sierra Thomas	Monday 9:30 AM-10:50 AM
M004	Kishan Sankharva	Monday 11:00 AM-12:20 PM
M005	Kishan Sankharva	Monday 12:45 PM-2:05 PM
M006	Chad Skerbec	Monday 2:15 PM-3:35 PM
M007	Chad Skerbec	Monday 3:45 PM-5:05 PM
M008	Tyler Hain	Monday 5:15 PM-6:35 PM
M009	Tyler Hain	Monday 6:45 PM-8:05 PM
M010	Vidyesh Rao	Monday 8:15 PM-9:35 PM
M027	Tyler Hain	Tuesday 3:30 PM-4:50 PM
M028	Tyler Hain	Tuesday 5:00 PM-6:20 PM
M029	Vidyesh Rao	Tuesday 6:30 PM-7:50 PM
M030	Vidyesh Rao	Tuesday 8:00 PM-9:20 PM
M025	Sierra Thomas	Wednesday 8:00 AM-9:20 AM
M011	Sierra Thomas	Wednesday 9:30 AM-10:50 AM
M012	Chad Skerbec	Wednesday 11:00 AM-12:20 PM
M013	Chad Skerbec	Wednesday 12:45 PM-2:05 PM
M014	Byron Sleight	Wednesday 2:15 PM-3:35 PM
M015	Byron Sleight	Wednesday 3:45 PM-5:05 PM
M016	Byron Sleight	Wednesday 5:15 PM-6:35 PM
M017	Patrick Adams	Wednesday 6:45 PM-8:05 PM
M018	Patrick Adams	Wednesday 8:15 PM-9:35 PM
M019	Byron Sleight	Thursday 5:00 PM-6:20 PM
M020	Patrick Adams	Thursday 6:30 PM-7:50 PM
M031	Vincent Musso	Thursday 8:00 PM-9:20 PM
M026	Vidyesh Rao	Friday 8:00 AM-9:20 AM
M021	Kishan Sankharva	Friday 9:30 AM-10:50 AM
M022	Vincent Musso	Friday 11:00 AM-12:20 PM
M023	Vincent Musso	Friday 12:45 PM-2:05 PM

1. What form is your exam? (Your exam is form A.)
  - (A) Form A
  - (B) Form B
  - (C) Form C
  - (D) Form D
  - (E) Form E
  
2. Suppose that the axial tilt of Earth were to increase from its current value of  $23^\circ$  to  $30^\circ$ . Which of the following would happen?
  - (A) The South Pole would get more hours of sunlight in December
  - (B) Syracuse, NY would get more hours of sunlight in June
  - (C) The size of the Antarctic Circle would decrease
  - (D) Pretoria, South Africa (latitude  $26^\circ$  S) would get more hours of sunlight in June
  - (E) None of the above would happen
  
3. “Here we don’t tell time by the rising and setting of the Sun. Instead we tell time by its direction. See that mountain straight ahead of us? When the Sun is over that mountain, we call that 12:00 AM. Look to your right, now; when the Sun is that way, over the the building there, that’s 6:00 AM. Now look directly behind us, opposite the mountain; when the Sun is there, it’s 12:00 PM.  
  
Finally, look to your left. When the Sun is over there, to the left of the mountain, it’s 6:00 PM.”  
  
Where might these people be?
  - (A) This method of telling time could work anywhere on Earth; we just don’t do it
  - (B) They are on the Tropic of Cancer
  - (C) They are in Antarctica
  - (D) They are on the Equator
  - (E) This method of telling time won’t work anywhere on Earth
  
4. What fraction of the Moon’s surface is *facing toward Earth* at any given time?
  - (A) It depends on the phase of the Moon
  - (B) Half of it
  - (C) All of it
  - (D) More than half of it
  - (E) Less than half of it

5. On the March equinox, where on Earth would get the most hours of sunlight?

- (A) Havana, Cuba (latitude  $23^{\circ}$  N, near the Tropic of Cancer)
- (B) Murmansk, Russia (latitude  $69^{\circ}$  N, near the Arctic Circle)
- (C) Christchurch, New Zealand (latitude  $44^{\circ}$  S)
- (D) Accra, Ghana (latitude  $6^{\circ}$  N, near the Equator)
- (E) All of these places would get the same amount of sunlight

6. Beijing is located at about the same latitude as Syracuse, but is at nearly the opposite longitude. (That is, Beijing is close to on the “opposite side” of the globe to Syracuse.)

Suppose that you look out your window in Syracuse on a clear summer morning and you see a beautiful crescent moon just on the eastern horizon as it rises. It is a lovely sight, so you take a picture and send it to your friend who lives near Beijing.

Thanks to the Internet, they get your picture and take a picture of the Moon from their home and send it back to you. What would their picture of the Moon look like?

- (A) A crescent moon just setting on the western horizon
- (B) A gibbous moon just rising on the eastern horizon
- (C) A crescent moon just rising on the eastern horizon
- (D) A gibbous moon high in their sky
- (E) A gibbous moon just setting on the western horizon

7. Which animal could see sunlight for the most total hours during the year?

- (A) An arctic tern (a small bird) that spends June in England, spends December in Antarctica, and flies back and forth during the other months
- (B) A Canada goose (a large bird common in Syracuse) that spends May through August in northern Canada, December through February in the southern USA, and flies back and forth during the other months
- (C) A rattlesnake living in Mexico City, near the Tropic of Cancer
- (D) An emperor penguin (a large flightless bird) that spends its life within the Antarctic Circle
- (E) An African elephant living near the equator in Africa

8. You look at the sky and see the Moon and the Sun close to each other in the sky. What is the phase of the Moon?
- (A) Full
  - (B) Crescent
  - (C) Half
  - (D) Gibbous
  - (E) New
9. Which place on Earth experiences the least changes in the amount of sunlight they get each day during the year?
- (A) Christchurch, New Zealand (latitude  $44^{\circ}$  S)
  - (B) Havana, Cuba (latitude  $23^{\circ}$  N, near the Tropic of Cancer)
  - (C) Accra, Ghana (latitude  $6^{\circ}$  N, near the Equator)
  - (D) Murmansk, Russia (latitude  $69^{\circ}$  N, near the Arctic Circle)
  - (E) The North Pole
10. If you are standing exactly on the Antarctic Circle, you will experience exactly one day of polar night each year – a day when the Sun does not rise above the horizon at all. This day is:
- (A) The September equinox
  - (B) The March equinox
  - (C) The June solstice
  - (D) The December solstice
  - (E) None of the above
11. The Sun has just set; you see the Moon at its highest point in the sky, halfway between rising and setting.

What is the phase of the Moon?

- (A) Full moon
- (B) Waning crescent
- (C) Waning gibbous
- (D) Waning half
- (E) Waxing half

12. How many of the following depict possible orbits of a planet around a star?

- (A) One of them
- (B) Two of them
- (C) Three of them
- (D) Four of them
- (E) All five of them

13. Of the four moons of Jupiter that Galileo saw through his telescope, the nearest two are Io and Europa. They orbit Jupiter in nearly circular orbits.

Europa takes exactly twice as long as Io to orbit Jupiter.

From this, what can you conclude about the size of their orbits?

- (A) Europa's orbit is exactly twice the size of Io's orbit
- (B) Europa's orbit is more than twice the size of Io's orbit
- (C) Europa's orbit is larger than Io's orbit, but less than twice the size of Io's orbit
- (D) Europa's orbit is smaller than Io's orbit, but greater than half the size of Io's orbit
- (E) You can't conclude anything about the size of its orbit, since Kepler's laws of orbital motion do not apply here.

14. Consider the Moon orbiting the Earth. (The Moon's mass is about 1/100 of the Earth's mass.)

Thinking about their gravitational pull on each other, consider the following statements:

- I. The Moon's gravity pulls on the Earth with the same force that the Earth's gravity pulls on the Moon.
- II. The Moon's gravity causes the Earth to accelerate at the same rate that the Earth's gravity causes the Moon to accelerate.
- III. The Earth's gravitational pull causes the Moon to accelerate, but the Moon's gravity does not cause the Earth to accelerate.

Which of these are true?

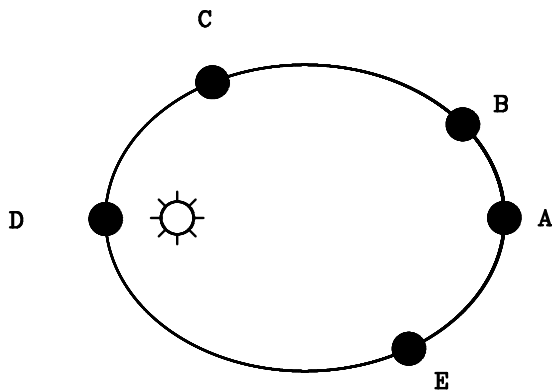
- (A) III only
- (B) I and II
- (C) I and III
- (D) I only
- (E) II only

15. Why were “epicycles” (loop-the-loop motions) a necessary part of Ptolemy’s geocentric model of the solar system?
- (A) They were needed to explain the difference between the solar and sidereal day
  - (B) They were needed to explain the rising and setting of the planets
  - (C) They were needed to explain the retrograde motion of the planets
  - (D) They were needed to explain the motion of the Sun through the Zodiac
  - (E) They were needed to explain the precession of the equinoxes
16. Which statement is true about Kepler’s laws of orbits and Newton’s laws of gravity and of motion?
- (A) Kepler discovered the laws of orbital motion after applying the new mathematics of calculus to Newton’s laws of motion and of gravity
  - (B) Kepler’s laws of orbits only apply to planets orbiting the Sun, while Newton’s laws of motion only apply to objects moving near the Earth
  - (C) Newton’s laws of gravity and motion explain why Kepler’s laws of orbits are true for planets orbiting the Sun
  - (D) Kepler’s laws of orbits do not apply to planets in nearly circular orbits, while Newton’s laws of motion do not apply to planets in highly elliptical orbits
  - (E) None of the above are true.
17. You carry two rocks – one with mass 10 kg and one with mass 5 kg – to Mars, where there is very little air. Then you drop both rocks from one meter off of the ground.

Which is true?

- (A) Mars’ gravity pulls on the big rock with twice the force that it pulls on the little rock, so the big rock will strike the ground first.
- (B) Mars’ gravity pulls on the big rock with twice the force that it pulls on the little rock, but both of them take the same amount of time to fall.
- (C) Mars’ gravity pulls on the big rock with the same force that it pulls on the little rock, and both of them take the same amount of time to fall.
- (D) Mars’ gravity pulls on the big rock with the same force that it pulls on the little rock, but the little rock will strike the ground first
- (E) Mars’ gravity pulls on the big rock with the same force that it pulls on the little rock, but the big rock will strike the ground first.

18. Which of the following was a significant *problem* with the heliocentric model proposed by Copernicus, in which all of the planets orbited the Sun in circular orbits and the Moon orbited the Earth?
- (A) It could not explain the phases of Venus that Galileo observed using a telescope
  - (B) It could not account for the phases of the Moon as seen from Earth
  - (C) It did not make very accurate predictions about how the planets appeared to move in the sky
  - (D) It could not explain retrograde motion in a simple way
  - (E) It could not explain the difference between the length of the solar and sidereal day
19. This graph shows the orbit of a highly eccentric planet. You will refer to it in the next two questions.



At what point is the planet *slowing down*?

- (A) Point A
  - (B) Point B
  - (C) Point C
  - (D) Point D
  - (E) Point E
20. In the graph of the planet's orbit in the previous question, at what point does the planet have the *highest potential energy*?
- (A) Point A
  - (B) Point B
  - (C) Point C
  - (D) Point D
  - (E) Point E

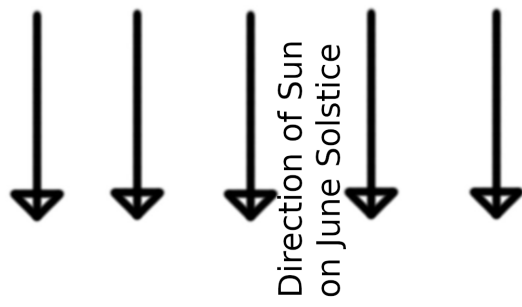
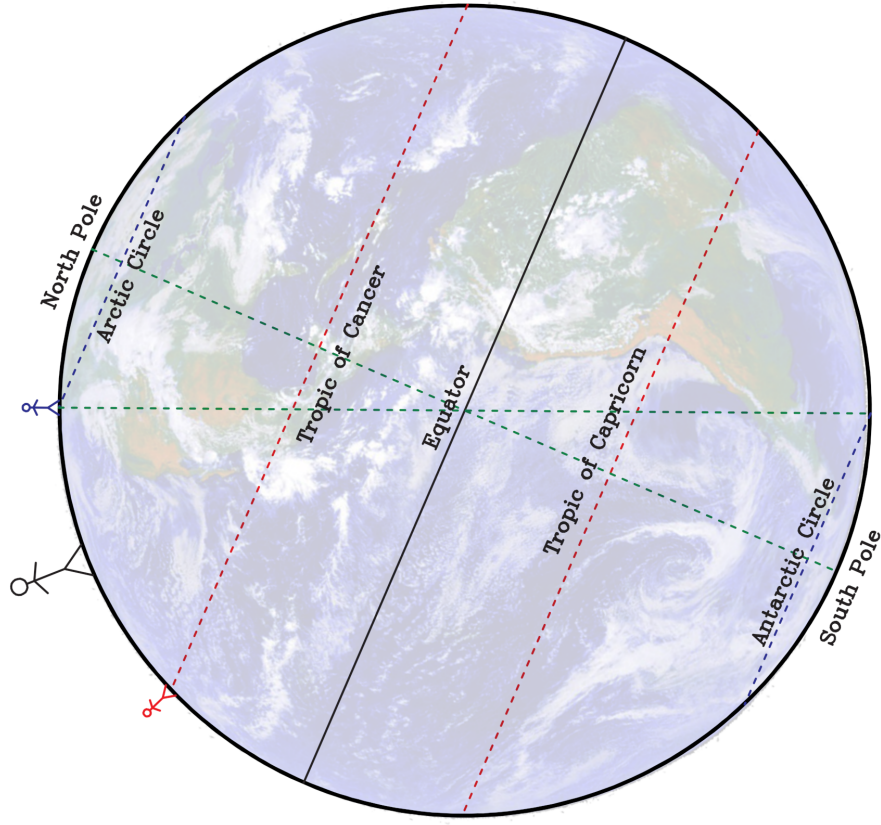


21. Halley's comet has an extremely eccentric orbit. Its perihelion is around 0.59 AU from the Sun, while its aphelion is around 35 AU from the Sun.

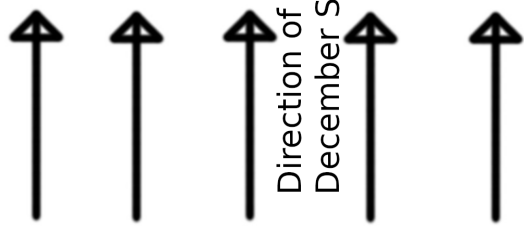
This means that it is about 60 times further from the Sun at aphelion than it is at perihelion.

Which statement is true about the acceleration of Halley's comet due to the Sun's gravity?

- (A) The Sun's gravity causes the same acceleration at perihelion as at aphelion.
- (B) The Sun's gravity causes about 3600 times the acceleration at perihelion as at aphelion. (*The significance of 3600 is that  $60 \times 60 = 3600$ .*)
- (C) The Sun's gravity causes about 60 times the acceleration at perihelion as at aphelion.
- (D) The Sun's gravity causes about 8 times the acceleration at perihelion as at aphelion. (*The significance of 8 is that  $8 \times 8 \approx 60$ .*)
- (E) You cannot figure this out without knowing the masses of the Sun and Halley's comet.



Direction of Sun  
on June Solstice



Direction of Sun on  
December Solstice