

EARTH QUIZ

1. What is the approximate diameter of the Earth?

- a) 1,300 km
- b) 13,000 km
- c) 130,000 km

2. Which of these best describe the shape of the Earth?

- a) Cuboid
- b) Spheroid
- c) Oblate Spheroid

3. 70% of Earth's surface is covered by..?

- a) Land
- b) Water
- c) Crust

4. The Earth's axis is tilted by..?

- a) 23.5°
- b) 45°
- c) 90°

5. The sky is blue because..?

- a) It is always blue, night-time turns it black
- b) The red part of sunlight gets scattered by Nitrogen
- c) The blue part of sunlight gets scattered by Nitrogen

6. Which of these is a form of chemical pollution that affects astronomers?

- a) Volcanic ash
- b) Cigarettes
- c) Oil Spills

7. What is the main form of optical pollution that affects astronomers?

- a) Too much artificial light from towns
- b) Too many people shining torches into the sky
- c) Too many adverts for opticians on TV polluting our airwaves

8. Latitude is..?

- a) How far a position is north or south of the equator
- b) How far a position is east or west of the Greenwich Meridian

9. Longitude is..?

- a) How far a position is north or south of the equator
- b) How far a position is east or west of the Greenwich Meridian

10. Which of these means the imaginary line in the sky between the observers Pole and Zenith?

- a) Latitude
- b) Horizon
- c) Meridian

11. Which of these terms means the point in the sky directly above the observer?

- a) Zenith
- b) Meridian
- c) Nadir

12. Which of these is a reflector telescope?

- a) A convex lens is used at the end of a tube to bring an image into focus at a point
- b) Collects light, reflects it off a concave mirror, brought to a focus by a secondary mirror further up the tube

13. Why are larger telescopes reflectors rather than refractors?

- a) Refractors suffer from lens sagging and colour aberration
- b) Images look clearer in reflectors
- c) Cannot see so far with a reflector

14. Mobile phone signals and telecommunications can affect which of these?

- a) Telescope Observations
- b) Radio Observations
- c) Television Signals

15. Which is NOT a reason why observatories are often sited on high mountains?

- a) Less atmosphere to obscure viewing
- b) Located in areas that have good, dry weather and fewer clouds
- c) Built in remote locations far removed from light pollution
- d) The views are lovely

16. True or False? Earth's atmosphere is transparent to visible light, microwaves and some radio waves.

- a) True
- b) False

17. True or False? X-Ray observatories are typically on board spacecraft, as are many ultraviolet and infrared observing stations.

- a) True
- b) False

18. What are the Van Allen belts?

- a) A magnetic field around Earth that traps solar particles
- b) An area around the Earth that can be seen from the Moon
- c) A trophy that boxers fight for

ANSWERS

1. (b)

2. (c)

3. (b)

4. (a)

5. (c)

6. (a)

7. (a)

8. (a)

9. (b)

10. (c)

11. (a)

12. (b)

13. (a)

14. (b)

15. (d)

16. (a)

17. (a)

18. (a)