Space physics

Physics Paper 2 | 30 quick questions

GCSE science knowledge recall

Answer online, marked instantly

Name: _____ **Date:** _____ **Score:** _____ **/ 30**

1 What is the name of the galaxy our solar system is part of? Answer in three words.

Separate science only

2 How many planets are there in our solar system?

Separate science only

3 What is the name for a natural satellite that orbits a planet? Answer in one word.

Separate science only

4 What is the name for a cloud of dust and gas in space from which a star forms? Answer in one word.

Separate science only

5 What is the name for the early stage of a star, when gravity pulls the gas together and it heats up but fusion has not yet begun?

Separate science only

6 Which process releases energy in the core of a star? Answer in two words.

Separate science only

7 What is the name for the long, stable stage of a star's life, which our Sun is in now? Answer in three words.

Separate science only

8 In a main sequence star, the outward force from fusion energy is balanced by which inward force?

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9 A star about the same size as the Sun becomes which type of star after the main sequence? Answer in two words.

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10 A red giant collapses into a small, hot, dim star. What is it called? Answer in two words.

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11 What is the last stage of a star the size of the Sun, once a white dwarf has cooled and stopped giving out light? Answer in two words.

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12 What is the name for the huge explosion at the end of the life of a red supergiant? Answer in one word.

Separate science only

13 After a supernova, the core left behind can become a neutron star or what? Answer in two words.

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14 Elements heavier than iron are made in which event? Answer in one word.

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15 Explain in one sentence how a supernova spreads elements through the universe.

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16 Which force keeps planets in orbit around the Sun? Answer in one word.

Separate science only

17 What shape is the orbit of a planet treated as for this topic? Answer in one word.

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18 A satellite moves in a circular orbit at constant speed. Does its velocity change? Answer yes or no.

Higher, Separate science only

19 In which direction does the acceleration of an object in a circular orbit point?

Higher, Separate science only

20 For a stable orbit, if a satellite moves faster, must the radius of its orbit be larger or smaller?

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21 What does the Moon orbit?

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22 What is the name for the increase in wavelength of light from galaxies moving away from us? Answer in one word.

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23 Is the red-shift of a more distant galaxy bigger or smaller than that of a nearer galaxy?

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24 Red-shift shows that the universe is doing what? Answer in one word.

Separate science only

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25 Which theory says the universe began from a very small, extremely hot and dense region? Answer in two words.

Separate science only

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26 Explain in one sentence how red-shift supports the Big Bang theory.

Separate science only

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27 Observations of distant supernovae since 1998 suggest the expansion of the universe is speeding up or slowing down?

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28 What is the name for the unknown energy thought to be causing the expansion of the universe to speed up? Answer in two words.

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29 What is the name for the unseen mass thought to hold galaxies together because the visible mass is not enough? Answer in two words.

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30 Is light from a galaxy moving away from us shifted to longer or shorter wavelengths?

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