Astronomy and Astrophysics Exam Book

Dr. Sarah Salviander

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ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS: Exam Book by Dr. Sarah Salviander

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The cover photo shows the Carina Nebula taken by the Hubble Space Telescope. Credit: HST/NASA/ESA.

1 Unit 1

Astronomy as a Science and a Sense of Scale
Method for Finding Scientific Truth
Astronomy Without a Telescope

1.1 Unit 1 Exam 1

| Cha | pters 1-3 |
|---------|---|
| Date | : |
| Fill iı | n the Blank |
| 1. | The Earth is about years old. |
| 2. | The intersection of the plane of Earth's orbit and that of the Moon's orbit is called the |
| 3. | When two events happen close together in time or space but there is no causal connection between the two, we call that: |
| 4. | It takes counter example(s) to disprove a hypothesis. |
| 5. | The imaginary sphere that forms the sky is called the |
| 6. | The point straight above a person's head is called the |
| 7. | The arc going through the north point on the horizon, the zenith, and the south point on the horizon is called |
| | the |
| 8. | The of a star is how many degrees above the horizon it is. |
| 9. | In the equatorial coordinate system, stars are located by |
| | and |

Longer Answers

- 10. Why is there a difference between the sidereal day and solar day?
- 11. What causes the temperature differences between the seasons?

12. Explain what 'light-year' means.

13. Where is our Solar System located in the Milky Way Galaxy?

14. List the steps of the scientific method.

15. What makes an idea a good scientific hypothesis?

16. How does induction work? Give an example.

17. How many positive results does it take to prove a theory is true?

18. How does deduction work?

19. What are the basic beliefs of materialism?

20. What is precession, and how does it affect the observed position of the stars?

21. What does science study?

22. Explain the peer review process and why it is important.

23. How is a person's latitude related to the position of the North Celestial Pole?

Math Problems

24. What is the equation for the angle star paths make with respect to the horizon as they rise and set?

- 25. Rearrange the formula K = mr so it's set up to solve for r.
- 26. Use the distance formula to find out how far a space rocket would travel at 20,000 km/h for 10 years.

27. Saturn's average distance from the Sun is approximately 1,433,500,000 km. How far is this in astronomical units?

- 28. Translate the formula D = vt into English.
- 29. How far is the closest star to our Sun?

30. How many degrees are there in 15 arc minutes?

Bonus

Describe, in one sentence, what astronomers do.