

EARTH AND SPACE

Name _____

Text 1

1. Read and fill in the gap. Use the words from the word bank. (7 marks)

Word Bank				
same	night	see	third	water
made				perfect

Planet Earth

We live on a beautiful planet called Earth.

Earth is the 1..... planet from the Sun and the fifth largest planet in our solar system. Earth is the only planet in the solar system that has liquid called 2..... The Earth's atmosphere is 3..... up of nitrogen, oxygen, a little carbon dioxide, and some other gasses. This mix of water and atmosphere makes Earth the 4..... place for us to live!

The Earth orbits around the Sun once every 365 days (365.24 days to be exact). The Earth also rotates, or spins, on its axis once every 24 hours (23.934 hours to be exact). This rotation is what causes day and 5..... Because the Earth's axis is tilted a little bit, we also get a change of seasons. If the axis of the Earth were straight up and down, the temperature where you live would stay almost the 6..... all year long.

Like Mars and Venus, Earth has volcanoes, mountains, and valleys. Earth has only one naturally occurring satellite, the Moon. From Earth, you can only 7..... one side of the moon.

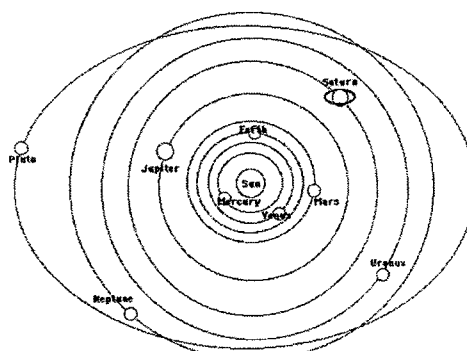
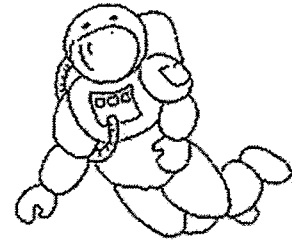


diagram 1

Turn to the next page.

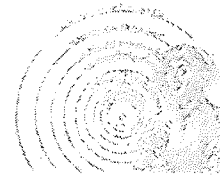
Text 2

Read about space events. Then answer the questions.

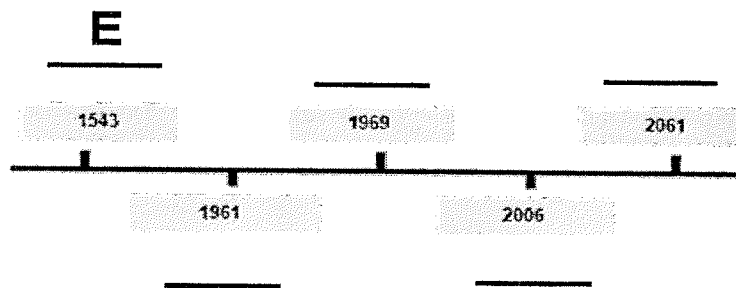


Space Events

- A. Yuri Gagarin was the first man in space. He was a brave Russian astronaut who completed a dangerous journey to outer space in 1961. He was awarded many medals and high honours.
- B. Edmond Halley was an English astronomer who was interested in comets. Using historical records, his own observations, and Newton's universal law of gravitation, he predicted the return of a comet about every 76 years. The comet will be seen again in the year 2061.
- C. In 1969, American astronauts Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong were the first men on the Moon. Armstrong said that it was a small step for a man, but a big leap for mankind.
- D. In 1930 Pluto was discovered deep in space. Many years later in 2006, the International Astronomical Union decided that Pluto wasn't a planet because it doesn't move around the sun.
- E. Nicholas Copernicus was a very important Polish astronomer who discovered many interesting things. In 1543 his studies showed that the Sun does not move, but the Earth and many other planets rotate around the sun.



2. Place the events in the timeline. The first one has been done for you. (1 mark)



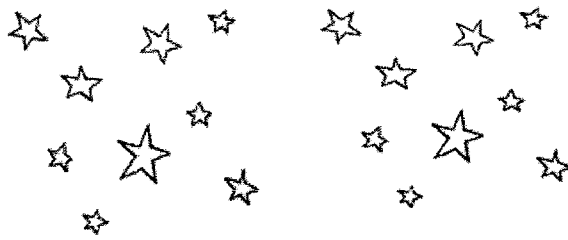
Turn to the next page.

3. Answer these questions. (12 marks)

1. Why was Yuri Gagarin awarded many medals and high honours?
2. When will we see Halley's comet again?
3. When did the first man land on the Moon?
4. Why is Pluto no longer a planet?
5. When did the first man land on the Moon?
6. What did Nicholas Copernicus discover?

Turn to the next page.

Text 3



Light Pollution

We use lights to brighten streets, shopping centres and houses. The light helps people see their way, but it has another effect: lights that shine skyward can block out the view of stars and brighten what would normally be a dark night-time environment. This can affect animals too. Scientists call this problem light pollution.

Read the following comments from an online discussion.

43. Sarah 11TH APRIL 2012 - 11:58

When I was a child, I lived in a village. I remember going to the back garden, lying on my back and looking at the stars. I shall be moving to the countryside shortly so that I can look at the stars again. I think everyone should enjoy the beauty of stars in cities or villages. We should stop light pollution.

56. Jordan 11TH APRIL 2012 - 17:34

Can you imagine living in the city without adequate street lighting? Light pollution is a small price to pay for feeling safe and being able to see where you are going when it is dark. I am sure the night sky looks spectacular away from the city and that is where I will go to see it.

62. Matthew 12TH APRIL 2012 - 12:04

The main problem in cities is not really the street lights but the number of offices and other buildings that leave the lights on all night. We need street lights for safety but what is the point of having empty buildings lit up all night? Advertising maybe?

Turn to the next page.

Questions for Text 3

4. Read and circle. Fact or Opinion?

- A) Lights that shine skyward can block out the view of stars. FACT / OPINION
- B) I think everyone should enjoy the beauty of stars in cities or villages. FACT / OPINION
- C) Light pollution is a small price to pay for feeling safe. FACT / OPINION
- D) We use lights to brighten streets, shopping centres and houses. FACT / OPINION

5. Read and circle. True or False?

- A) Light pollution can affect animals. TRUE / FALSE
- B) Sarah is moving to the countryside because she wants to see the stars again. TRUE / FALSE
- C) Sarah thinks that light pollution is not a problem. TRUE / FALSE
- D) Jordan also wants to see the stars in the city. TRUE / FALSE
- E) Jordan and Matthew think that we need street lights for safety. TRUE / FALSE
- F) Matthew thinks that street lights are the main problem. TRUE / FALSE
- G) Matthew thinks that office buildings might leave the lights on all night for advertising. TRUE / FALSE

Turn to the next page

Text 4

6. Read and match the texts with the pictures.

Solar Eclipse of November 2012

A: Picture

A total solar eclipse will be visible in Australia on November 13th, 2012. The path of the total eclipse will start in northern Australia and it will end in the south Pacific off South America. The maximum eclipse is at 22:11:48 UT, when the total phase will last just over 4 minutes.

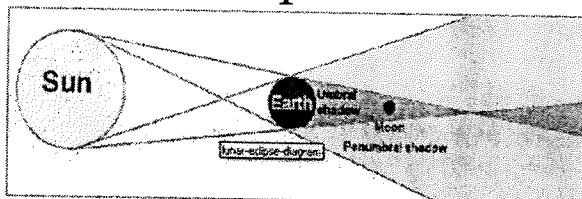
B: Picture

A solar eclipse occurs when the Moon passes in front of part or all of the Sun, which casts a shadow over a certain area of the Earth. This can only happen at New Moon, when the Sun, Moon and Earth are in a straight line. A Solar Eclipse doesn't happen every New Moon though.

C: Picture

Never look directly at the Sun with unprotected eyes or permanent eye damage can result. You must take precautions - use properly filtered "eclipse glasses", or use special techniques to view the Partial Solar Eclipse. Never view the Sun through a telescope or binoculars unless it is fitted with a specially designed Solar Filter.

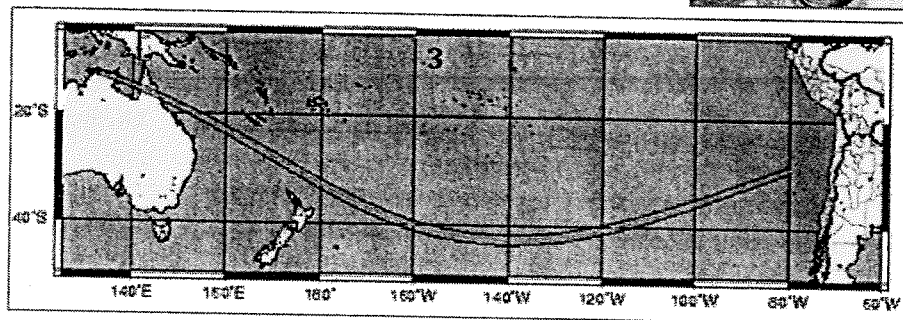
1



2



3



This is the end of the test.