

# Objective Questions for GCSE Astronomy - Sample 2 The Moon and the Sun

These ten questions are taken from the set of 240 objective questions from Mickledore Publishing's Objective Questions for GCSE Astronomy (available as a complete set on CD-ROM with unlimited site licence priced £15)

1. What is the mean distance between the Earth and the Moon?

- A 384 000 AU      B 384 000 km      C 384 000 miles      D 384 000 l.y.

2. The lunar cycle of phases and the Moon's orbital period around the Earth differ slightly. Which line in the table is correct?

	orbital period / day	lunar cycle / day
A	27.3	28.0
B	27.3	29.5
C	28.0	29.5
D	29.5	27.3

3. An observer sees a full Moon in the night sky. What will the Moon's phase be 10 days later?

- A crescent      B decrescent      C gibbous      D new

4. A student sees a thin, crescent Moon. At what time of day, and whereabouts in the sky, would this be visible?

- A due south at midnight  
B in the east at dawn  
C in the north near Polaris  
D in the west at sunset

5. What is the approximate range of temperatures on the lunar surface?

- A  $-150^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$   
B  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$   
C  $-150^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $120^{\circ}\text{C}$   
D  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $120^{\circ}\text{C}$

6. What is the mean distance between the Sun and Earth?

- A 93 million km
- B 150 million miles
- C 150 million km
- D 150 AU

7. What name is given to the Sun's visible 'surface'?

- A corona
- B chromosphere
- C limb
- D photosphere

8. What is the approximate temperature of this 'surface'?

- A 1500 K
- B 3800 K
- C 5800 K
- D 7800 K

9. What is the mechanism behind the Sun's energy supply?

- A chemical reactions in its core
- B chemical reactions close to its surface
- C nuclear reactions in its core
- D nuclear reactions close to its surface

10. Which chemical element is the most abundant inside the Sun?

- A carbon
- B oxygen
- C helium
- D hydrogen

## Solutions:

- |   |   |    |   |
|---|---|----|---|
| 1 | B | 6  | C |
| 2 | B | 7  | D |
| 3 | B | 8  | C |
| 4 | D | 9  | C |
| 5 | C | 10 | D |

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