ENGLAND GCSE PHYSICS AQA FOUNDATION · UNIT 8 · 25 QUESTIONS

Space Physics — Practice Test

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button to let Brett know so he can fix it.

1 **A wristwatch ticks every second. How many ticks in a minute?**

- A 60
- B 30
- C 100
- D 12

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2 **A Ferris wheel turns. What force keeps a person moving in a circle?**

- A air resistance pushing them back
- B centripetal force
- C gravity only, pulling them down
- D friction only, gripping the seat

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3 **A passenger aeroplane takes off. Which force lifts it up?**

- A drag
- B thrust
- C lift
- D weight

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4 **A tennis ball is hit across a court. Which force slows the ball down in the air?**

- A air resistance
- B gravity
- C friction with the ground
- D the hit

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5 **A bicycle freewheels downhill. What happens to its speed?**

- A it decreases
- B it stays the same
- C it increases
- D it becomes zero

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6 **A calculator runs on a small current. What is current measured in?**

- A volts, the unit of voltage
- B amperes
- C ohms, the unit of resistance
- D watts, the unit of power

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7 **A basketball is dropped. What energy store increases as it falls?**

- A thermal
- B elastic
- C gravitational potential
- D kinetic

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8 **What starts when a protostar gets hot and dense enough?**

- A nuclear fusion
- B nuclear fission
- C cooling down
- D burning like a fire

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9 **Hardcover books are stacked on a table. What force pulls them down?**

A friction

B tension

C gravity

D air resistance

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10 **What is at the centre of the Solar System?**

A the Sun

B the Moon

C Jupiter

D the Earth

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11 **A satellite orbits at a radius of 100 km and takes 20 seconds for one orbit. Use pi = 3.14. What is its orbital speed?**

- A 36.4 km/s
- B 31.4 km/s
- C 15.7 km/s
- D 62.8 km/s

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12 **A red race car brakes hard. What happens to its kinetic energy?**

- A it is transferred to heat
- B it becomes sound only, nothing else
- C it disappears
- D it increases

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13 **A rocket launches straight up. Which force acts downwards on the rocket?**

- A air resistance
- B gravity
- C thrust
- D lift

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14 **What are polar orbit satellites used for?**

- A it watches the whole Earth
- B staying over one place, like a TV satellite
- C talking to the Moon
- D blocking sunlight

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15 **What is dark matter?**

A unseen matter with gravity

B matter inside black holes only

C matter that does not exist

D matter that gives out light

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16 **What happens to the orbital speed of a planet further from the Sun?**

A it is slower

B it stays the same

C it stops

D it is faster

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17 **What fuel does a main sequence star fuse?**

A hydrogen

B oxygen

C carbon

D helium, which is the product

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18 **What does a red giant become when it runs out of fuel?**

A a white dwarf

B a new star, born from the old one

C a planet, cooling in space

D a black hole, like a massive star

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19 **What is cosmic microwave background radiation?**

A leftover early radiation

B radiation made by stars today

C radiation from the Sun

D radiation from mobile phones

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20 **A kite rises higher. What happens to the wind speed usually?**

A it stays the same

B it increases

C it decreases

D it becomes zero

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21 **What is a black hole?**

A a star that has gone out

B a dark cloud of gas

C light cannot escape it

D a hole in the Earth

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22 **How do we know dark matter exists?**

A it gives out light

B it is found on Earth

C we can see it directly

D galaxies spin too fast

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23 **A passenger train travels at a steady speed. What is its acceleration?**

- **A** 10 m/s²
- **B** 1 m/s²
- **C** 9.8 m/s²
- **D** 0 m/s²

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24 **About how far away is the nearest star after the Sun?**

- **A** about 4 kilometres
- **B** about 400 light-years
- **C** about 4 million kilometres
- **D** about 4 light-years

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25 **Which planet is the largest in the Solar System?**

A Jupiter

B Neptune, the far planet

C Saturn, the ringed planet

D Earth

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ANSWER KEY

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. A
5. C
6. B
7. D
8. A
9. C
10. A
11. B
12. A
13. B
14. A
15. A
16. A
17. A
18. A
19. A
20. B
21. C
22. D
23. D
24. D
25. A

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