MEGAN MORAN QUIZZES

Science trivia quiz

20 multiple-choice questions from The Mega Science Quiz Book by Megan Moran. Read each question and its four options out, and teams write down a letter. The host's answer sheet (with a fact to share for each answer) and a team answer sheet to print for every table come after the questions.

Science

1. What is the chemical symbol for gold? A) Ag B) Gd C) Go D) Au
2. How many hearts does an octopus have? A) One B) Three C) Two D) Eight
3. Which planet is known as the Red Planet? A) Mars B) Venus C) Mercury D) Saturn
4. What is the SI unit of electrical resistance? A) Volt B) Ampere C) Ohm D) Watt
5. Which gas do plants take in from the air to make their food by photosynthesis? A) Carbon dioxide B) Oxygen C) Nitrogen D) Hydrogen
6. After the Sun, which is the nearest known star to Earth? A) Sirius B) Betelgeuse C) Polaris D) Proxima Centauri
7. Which metal is liquid at ordinary room temperature? A) Lead B) Mercury C) Tin D) Aluminum
8. Which gas makes up the largest share of Earth's atmosphere? A) Oxygen B) Carbon dioxide C) Nitrogen D) Argon
9. Which planet is tilted so far over that it essentially spins on its side? A) Neptune B) Uranus C) Saturn D) Venus
10. Which structures, often called the powerhouses of the cell, release energy from food? A) Mitochondria B) Ribosomes C) Vacuoles D) Lysosomes
11. Absolute zero, or 0 kelvin, is equal to which temperature? A) ?100 °C (?148 °F) B) ?180 °C (?292 °F) C) ?212 °C (?349.6 °F) D) ?273.15 °C (?459.67 °F)
12. Marie Curie won her first Nobel Prize, in physics, in 1903. In which field did she win her second, in 1911? A) Medicine B) Peace C) Chemistry D) Literature
13. How many bones are in a typical adult human skeleton? A) 206 B) 186 C) 226 D) 300
14. Which scientist discovered penicillin in 1928? A) Louis Pasteur B) Alexander Fleming C) Joseph Lister D) Edward Jenner
15. Which is the largest planet in our solar system? A) Saturn B) Neptune C) Earth D) Jupiter
16. What type of rock forms when molten magma or lava cools and hardens? A) Sedimentary B) Metamorphic C) Igneous D) Clastic
17. At sea level, at what temperature does pure water boil? A) 100 °C (212 °F) B) 90 °C (194 °F) C) 110 °C (230 °F) D) 120 °C (248 °F)
18. Which blood type is known as the universal donor for red blood cells? A) AB positive B) O negative C) A negative D) B positive
19. Roughly how long does sunlight take to reach Earth? A) About 8 seconds B) About 80 minutes C) About 8 minutes D) About 8 hours

20. Which part of the brain is mainly responsible for coordinating balance and smooth movement? A) Frontal lobe B) Hippocampus C) Medulla oblongata D) Cerebellum

Answer sheet

For the host. The facts in gray are extras to read out after each answer.

Science

1. **D) Au**
   Au comes from aurum, the Latin word for gold, while silver's symbol Ag comes from the Latin argentum.
2. **B) Three**
   Two hearts pump blood through the gills and the third pumps it around the body, and that blood is blue thanks to a copper-based protein.
3. **A) Mars**
   Mars gets its rusty color from iron oxide in the dust and rocks that cover its surface.
4. **C) Ohm**
   The unit is named after German physicist Georg Simon Ohm and is written with the Greek letter omega, ?.
5. **A) Carbon dioxide**
   Plants use light energy to turn carbon dioxide and water into sugar, releasing oxygen as a by-product.
6. **D) Proxima Centauri**
   Proxima Centauri is about 4.24 light-years away, so the light we see from it left more than four years ago.
7. **B) Mercury**
   Mercury does not freeze until it reaches ?38.83 °C (?37.89 °F), which is why it was long used in thermometers.
8. **C) Nitrogen**
   Nitrogen makes up about 78% of dry air, while oxygen accounts for about 21%.
9. **B) Uranus**
   Uranus's axis is tipped about 98 degrees, so each pole gets roughly 42 years of continuous sunlight followed by 42 years of darkness.
10. **A) Mitochondria**
    Mitochondria have their own small set of DNA, which people inherit from their mother.
11. **D) ?273.15 °C (?459.67 °F)**
    Absolute zero is the coldest temperature possible; scientists have cooled atoms to within a billionth of a degree of it, but it can never quite be reached.
12. **C) Chemistry**
    Her 1911 prize recognized the discovery of the elements polonium and radium, and she was the first person ever to win two Nobel Prizes.
13. **A) 206**
    Babies are born with around 270 to 300 bones, and many of them fuse together as the body grows.
14. **B) Alexander Fleming**
    Fleming noticed that a mold growing on one of his culture plates in his London laboratory had killed the bacteria around it.
15. **D) Jupiter**
    Jupiter is more than twice as massive as all the other planets in the solar system combined.
16. **C) Igneous**
    The name igneous comes from ignis, the Latin word for fire; granite and basalt are two well-known examples.
17. **A) 100 °C (212 °F)**
    Lower air pressure at altitude lowers the boiling point, so on the summit of Everest water boils at around 70 °C (158 °F).
18. **B) O negative**
    O negative red cells lack the A, B and RhD markers that could trigger a reaction, which is why hospitals use it in emergencies.

19. C) About 8 minutes

The Sun is about 150 million km (93 million mi) away, so its light takes around 8 minutes and 20 seconds to arrive.

20. D) Cerebellum

The cerebellum makes up only about a tenth of the brain's volume but contains more neurons than the rest of the brain combined.

Team answer sheet

Print one for each team. 20 questions.

Team name _____

Science

Total score _____ / 20

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Score _____ / 20