

Assignment #43
ASTRONOMY TOPICS II

Name:

Go to <http://formontana.net> and then click on picture # 75.

1. Explain what Marlin Cilz does at his Montana Meteorite Lab in Malta, Montana.
2. Why does he “etch” (wash) the slices of meteorite with acid?
3. What is a meteorite?
4. “Shooting stars” are not stars. Technically, they are called “meteors” and most of them burn up before they hit the ground. What causes them to burn up?
5. What is a meteor shower?
6. Why do we experience a “meteor shower” every August 9-13? (NOTE: There are several other meteor showers each year, but the August one is the most popular.)

Go back to <http://formontana.net> and then click on picture # 19.

7. On the image, what does the larger circle represent?
8. Why are the arrows pointing in the direction that they are?
9. About what percentage of that larger circle is in the darkness (estimate)?
10. Why does the Earth experience seasons?

11. Find Greenland on the image. If you lived on the northern coast of Greenland, what percentage of your day would be spent in darkness?

12. This shortest day of the year, called the Winter Solstice, marks the first day of winter. What does “solstice” mean?

13. What does the sun “stop” doing on this day?

Go back to <http://formontana.net> and then click on picture # 63.

14. What are the blue areas on this image?

15. Tell what cities each of the letters represents.

16. What is the IDA and why do they like dark nights?

17. List the cities that are found at the seven largest spots. Your Montana Highway Map will help.

18. Judging by the image, does Idaho have any cities as large as those in Montana?

Go to <http://formontana.net> and then click on picture # 64.

19. This picture was posted in March of 2004 when Jupiter was especially bright. Jupiter is the largest planet and it is often the brightest object in the night sky (besides the moon). Why was Galileo’s discovery that Jupiter had moons such a big deal?

20. Why was his discovery of sunspots so controversial?

21. Galileo was brought to trial before the “Inquisition” because of his support for the Heliocentric Theory. What was the accepted belief (theory) at that time?

22. Use the Internet or other sources to find out what the time period known as “The Inquisition” was (established by the Roman Catholic Church; was most influential in the 1600s), and then explain what it was.

You have just completed the last assignment! Here’s what happens next.

1. Complete any missing any assignments, or assignments that were less than 85%. See list below.
2. Have your supervising teacher give your folder with all of the completed and corrected worksheets to Mr. Benson.
3. After you have done these things, Mr. Benson will inform your counselor that you have successfully completed the course (.5 credit).

According to my records you still need to complete the following assignments in order to earn credit:

If you think that you have already done these assignments, show them to me. They should be in your folder.

Thanks,
Mr. Benson