Practice Question Set For GCSE
Subject : Physics
Paper-2 Topic: GCSE Triple Science_Space Physics (LDQ)

Merit Minds
www.merit-minds.com
Exam Preparation and Free Resources

Name of the Student:_____
Max. Marks : 19 Marks **Time : 19 Minutes**

Q1.

(a) There are eight planets in orbit around the Sun.

Which other type of object orbits the Sun?

Tick **one** box.

Dwarf planet ☐

Galaxy ☐

Moon ☐

Star ☐

(1)

(b) Complete the sentences.

Choose the answers from the box.

black hole	**gravity**	**friction**
nebula	**protostar**	**upthrust**

The Sun was formed when a _____ in space was pulled together by _____ .

(2)

(c) The Sun has reached the Main Sequence stage in its lifecycle.

What stage in the lifecycle of the Sun will follow the Main Sequence stage?

_____

(1)

The table shows some data about the eight planets that orbit the Sun.

Planet	**Distance from**	**Time to**	**Mean surface**

	the Sun compared to the Earth	orbit the Sun in years	temperature in °C
Mercury	0.4	0.2	+125
Venus	0.7	0.6	+465
Earth	1.0	1.0	+22
Mars	1.5	1.9	–48
Jupiter	**X**	12	–108
Saturn	9.6	30	–180
Uranus	19.3	84	–216
Neptune	30.0	165	–201

(d) What pattern links the distance a planet is from the Sun and the time taken by the planet to orbit the Sun?

_____

_____

_____

(1)

(e) Estimate the value of **X** in the table.

Distance = _____

(1)

(f) A student looked at the data in the table and wrote the following conclusion:

'The mean surface temperature of a planet decreases the further the planet is from the Sun.'

Explain why this conclusion is **not** totally correct.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

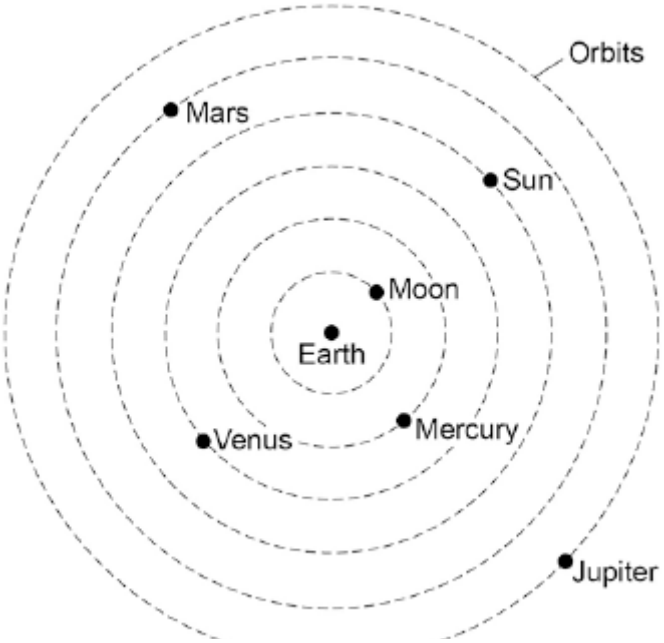
_____

(3)

(Total 9 marks)

Q2.

The figure below shows what scientists over 1000 years ago thought the solar system was like.



(a) Give **one** way that the historical model of the solar system shown in the figure above is different from what we now know about the solar system.

_____

_____

(1)

(b) Give **one** way that the solar system shown in the figure above is the same as what we now know about the solar system.

_____

_____

(1)

(c) The first artificial satellite to orbit the Earth was launched into space in 1957.

Describe the orbit of an artificial satellite.

_____

_____

(1)

(d) What provides the force needed to keep a satellite in its orbit?

Tick **one** box.

friction ☐

gravity ☐

tension ☐

(1)

(e) All stars go through a lifecycle.

The star Mira will go through a supernova stage in its lifecycle but the Sun will not.

How is the star Mira different to the Sun?

_____

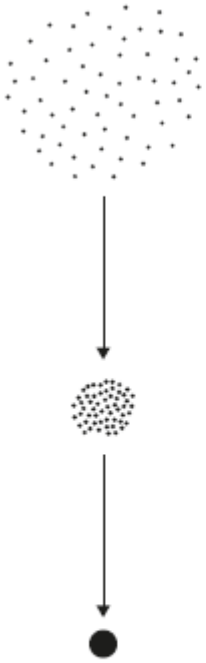
_____

(1)

(Total 5 marks)

Q3.

(a) The figure below shows how a star is formed.
Use **one** answer from each box to complete the sentences.



gas	**rock**	**water**

A star starts as a huge cloud of dust and _____ particles in space.

friction	**fusion**	**gravity**

The force of _____ pulls the particles in the cloud closer together.

protostar	**red giant**	**white dwarf**

The compressed mass of particles

forms a _____ .

(3)

(b) Elements heavier than iron are formed in a supernova.
What is a supernova?

Tick (✔) **one** box.

the explosion of a massive star ☐

a very bright, hot young star ☐

a very cool super giant star ☐

(1)

(c) Brown dwarf stars are small stars too cool to give out visible light. They were first discovered in 1995. Scientists think that there are millions of these stars spread throughout the Universe.

Which **one** of the following is the most likely reason why brown dwarf stars were not discovered before 1995?

Tick (✔) **one** box.

Brown dwarf stars did not exist before 1995. ☐

Scientists were looking in the wrong part of the Universe. ☐

The telescopes and measuring instruments were not sensitive enough. ☐

(1)

(Total 5 marks)