

EXOPLANET QUIZ

1. Why is it difficult to detect exoplanets..?

- a) They are far away
- b) The light from the parent star is very strong
- c) They may not cross our line of sight from Earth

2. Radial velocity is a method to find exoplanets by..?

- a) Measuring the tiny wobble of a star caused by the pull of a planet
- b) Measuring changes in the light from a star as a planet moves in front
- c) Measuring changes in the movement of a star towards and away from Earth using the Doppler effect

3. Transit methods are used to find exoplanets by..?

- a) Measuring the tiny wobble of a star caused by the pull of a planet
- b) Measuring changes in the light from a star as a planet moves in front
- c) Measuring changes in the movement of a star towards and away from Earth using the Doppler effect

4. Astrometry is a method to find exoplanets by..?

- a) Measuring the tiny wobble of a star caused by the pull of a planet
- b) Measuring changes in the light from a star as a planet moves in front
- c) Measuring changes in the movement of a star towards and away from Earth using the Doppler effect

5. The habitable zone is an area where..?

- a) Humans can build dwellings
- b) Water can exist as a liquid on its surface
- c) It doesn't get very cold

6. True or False? Other stars have habitable zones

- a) True
- b) False

7. The habitable zone is also known as..?

- a) The Snow White zone
- b) The Goldilocks zone
- c) The Cinderella zone

8. Scientists usually look for life elsewhere in the Solar System where..?

- a) On terrestrial planets and moons
- b) Where there is evidence of past or present water
- c) Where it is nice and warm

9. Which is NOT considered a theory for the origin of water on Earth..?

- a) Condensation when Earth formed
- b) Delivery from a comet
- c) From a collision with the Moon

10. The Drake equation is a way to..?

- a) Measure the habitable zone on an exoplanet
- b) Get an idea about how many intelligent alien life forms exist that we could communicate with
- c) Count the number of male ducks on a pond

11. Which of these is a reason why contacting intelligent alien life is NOT a good idea..?

- a) Intelligent life may share knowledge about science that we have yet to discover
- b) Intelligent life may share advances in technology such as travel and communication.
- c) Alien forms of life could create new bacteria capable of killing all life

ANSWERS

1. (a) (b) (c)

2. (c)

3. (b)

4. (a)

5. (b)

6. (a)

7. (b)

8. (b)

9. (c)

10. (b)

11. (c)