

MILKY WAY QUIZ

1. Our galaxy is called this because..?

- a) In pre-telescope times it was thought to look a milk-like path
- b) It looks like a bar of chocolate

2. We see the Milky Way from Earth...

- a) ...from above
- b) ...along its plane
- c) ...from below

3. What type of galaxy is the Milky Way..?

- a) Elliptical
- b) Spiral
- c) Spiral Barred

4. What is thought to be at the centre of the Milky Way?

- a) A Super Giant star
- b) A Super Massive Black hole
- c) A creamy nougat filling

5. How wide is the Milky Way?

- a) 30,000 to 70,000 light years across
- b) 70,000 to 100,000 light years across
- c) 100,000 to 150,000 light years across

6. What is its height along the plane?

- a) 500 light years
- b) 1,000 light years
- c) 1,500 light years

7. Where are star clusters positioned in respect to our galaxy?

- a) Around the Halo
- b) Along the Arms
- c) At the centre

8. Where are globular clusters positioned in respect to our galaxy?

- a) Around the Halo
- b) Along the Arms
- c) At the centre

9. What distance from the centre of the Milky Way is our Sun located?

- a) Approx. 5-10,000 light years, near the centre
- b) Approx. 10-25,000 light years, half way along
- c) Approx. 25-30,000 light years, two-thirds along

10. How long does the Sun take to orbit the galaxy?

- a) Over 1 year
- b) Over 200 million years
- c) Over 5 billion years

11. Why do astronomers study the rotation of the galaxy at 21cm wavelengths?

- a) It allows them to see further past clouds of gas than visible light
- b) They only have a 21cm telescope

ANSWERS

1. (a)

2. (b)

3. (c)

4. (b)

5. (c)

6. (c)

7. (b)

8. (a)

9. (c)

10. (b)

11. (a)