

NCERT Exemplar for Class 8 Science Chapter 17: Stars and Solar System

Multiple Choice Questions

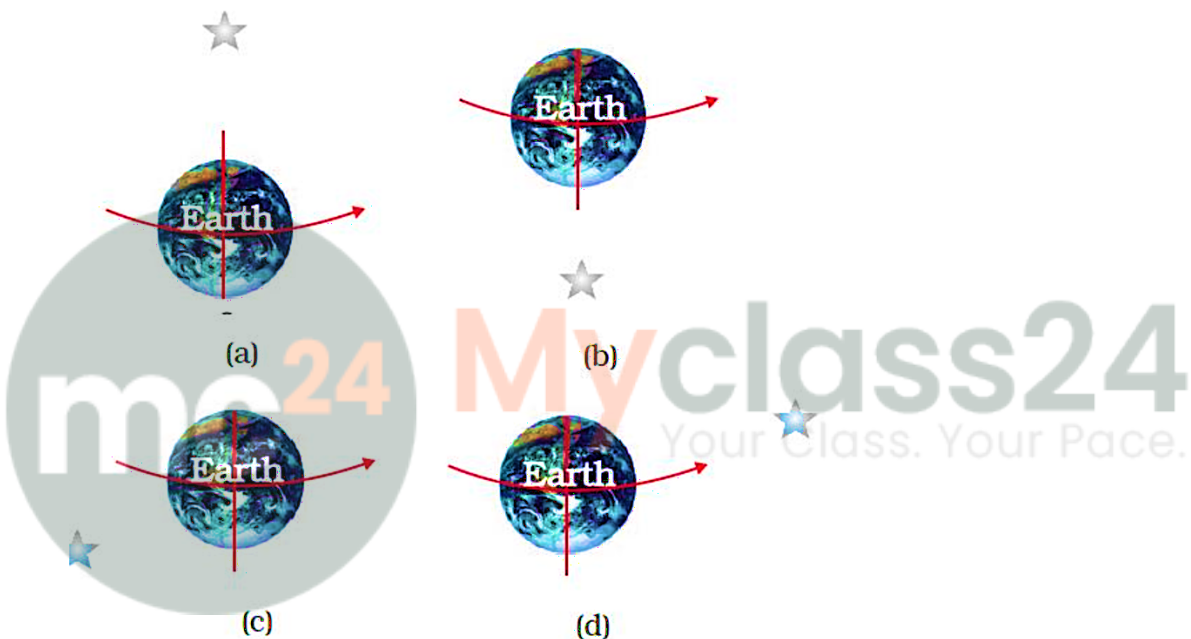
1. Morning star is the name given to

- (a) pole star
- (b) star Sirius
- (c) planet Jupiter
- (d) planet Venus

Answer: (d) planet Venus

Explanation: Planet Venus is dazzling than any other stars and it is visible in the eastern sky before sunrise.

2. Which of the following figures depicts the position of pole star correctly?



Answer: (a)

Explanation: Pole star is situated in north direction of earth's axis hence answer is a)

3. Sun appears to move from east to west around the earth. This means that earth rotates from

- (a) east to west
- (b) west to east
- (c) north to south
- (d) west to north

Answer: (b) west to east

Explanation: Sun appears to move from east to west around the earth which means the earth is rotating in the opposite direction.

4. An astronaut standing on the surface of the moon throws a ball upwards. The ball would

- (a) directly fall down from the point it is released
- (b) hang in space
- (c) go up and then come back to the surface of the moon
- (d) keep going up never to come back

Answer: (c) go up and then come back to the surface of the moon

Explanation: At moon acceleration due to gravity is lesser than earth hence the ball will go up and then come back to the surface of the moon.

5. Suppose a new planet is discovered between Uranus and Neptune. Its time period would be

- (a) less than that of Neptune
- (b) more than that of Neptune
- (c) equal to that of Neptune or Uranus
- (d) less than that of Uranus

Answer: (a) less than that of Neptune

Explanation: We know that time period is directly proportional to the distance from the sun. Hence new planet discovered between Uranus and Neptune will have less time period than Neptune and greater than Uranus.

6. The change in seasons on the earth occurs because

- (a) the distance between the earth and the sun is not constant
- (b) the axis of rotation of the earth is parallel to the plane of its orbit
- (c) the axis of rotation of the earth is perpendicular to the plane of its orbit
- (d) the axis of rotation of the earth is tilted with respect to the plane of its orbit

Answer: (d) the axis of rotation of the earth is tilted with respect to the plane of its orbit

Explanation: Axis of rotation of the earth is not perpendicular to the plane of its orbit. The tilt is responsible for the change of seasons on earth.

7. The first of a month is the new moon day. On fifteenth of the same month, which of the following figures would represent the phase of the moon?



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Answer: (a)

Explanation: After 15 days of new moon day it will be full moon day hence we can see full moon as shown in option a)

Very Short Answer Questions

8. Do stars emit light only during night?

Answer: Stars emit light always, but cannot see them in the day because of excess brightness of sun.

9. Paheli and Boojho observe a bright object in the night sky which was not twinkling.

Paheli says, it is a star and Boojho says it is a planet. Who is correct?

Answer: Boojho is right, because only planets cannot twinkle whereas stars emit light from far distance and they twinkle.

10. State whether the following statements are 'True' or 'False':

- (a) The planet nearest to us is Jupiter
- (b) All the stars are at the same distance from us
- (c) The planets do not emit light of their own
- (d) The planets keep changing their position with respect to stars
- (e) The planet Venus appears in the eastern sky before sunrise
- (f) The plane in which the earth revolves around the sun is called equatorial plane of earth

Answer:

- a. **False** – Mars and Venus are the nearest planets to earth
- b. **False** – Different stars are at different distances from us
- c. **True**

- d. True
- e. True
- f. False – Earth revolves around sun in orbital plane

11. John saw full moon on a particular day. After how many days will he be able to see the full moon again?

Answer: Approximately 29 days

12. In the picture of rotating earth given as Fig. 17.3 mark the position of pole star.

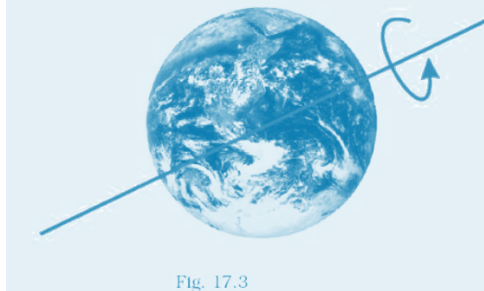
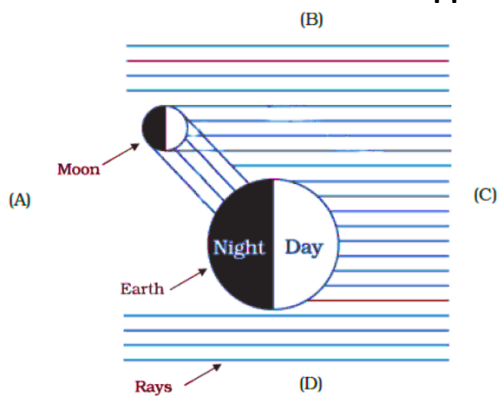


Fig. 17.3

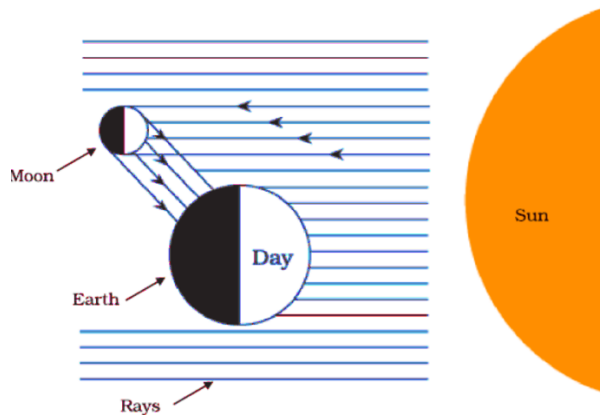
Answer: [Requires marking pole star position on diagram - pole star should be marked above the north pole of Earth]



13. In the given Fig. 17.4 out of the positions A,B,C and D which will indicate the position of the sun? Draw the sun at the appropriate position.

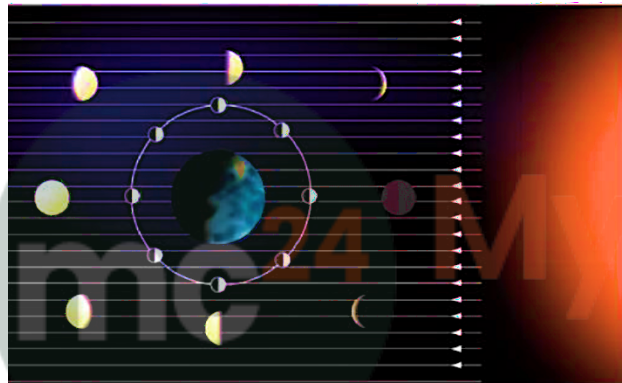


Answer: [Requires drawing sun at appropriate position based on the shadow patterns shown]



14. In Fig. 17.5 mark the arrows (\leftarrow), (\rightarrow), (\downarrow), or (\uparrow) to show the direction of sunlight

Answer: [Requires drawing arrows showing sunlight direction from right to left (\leftarrow)]



Short Answer Questions

15. A star is ten light years away from the earth. Suppose it brightens up suddenly today. After how much time shall we see this change?

Answer: We will see the change after 10 years.

16. Meteors are not visible during the daytime. Explain the reason.

Answer: Meteors are not visible during the daytime because the brightness of a meteor is extremely small compared to that of the sun.

17. Why does the moon change its shape daily?

Answer: We see only that part of the moon from which the light of the sun is reflected towards us. Hence moon changes its shape daily.

18. Paheli saw the moon through a glass window at 8:00 p.m. She marked the position of the moon on the glass pane. She got up at 4 a.m. in the morning. Will the moon be visible at the same position?

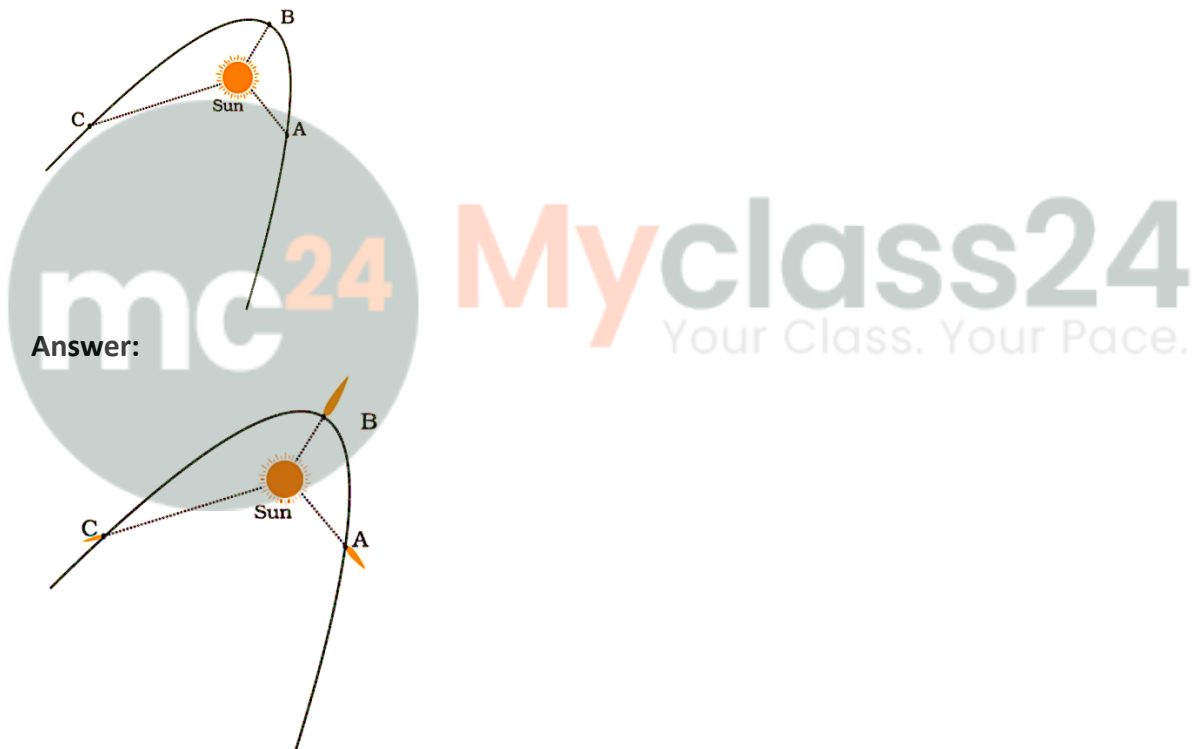
Answer: No, because position of the moon keeps changing during night.

Long Answer Questions

19. Suppose the moon emits light of its own. Would it still have phases? Justify your answer

Answer: As moon does not emit its own light and reflects the light of sun, phases are seen. Because of revolution of earth, reflection of different intensities of light fall on moon. Because of this moon glows continuously forming phases.

20. Fig. 17.6 shows comets without their tail. Show the tails of the comets at position A, B, and C. In which position will the tail be longest?

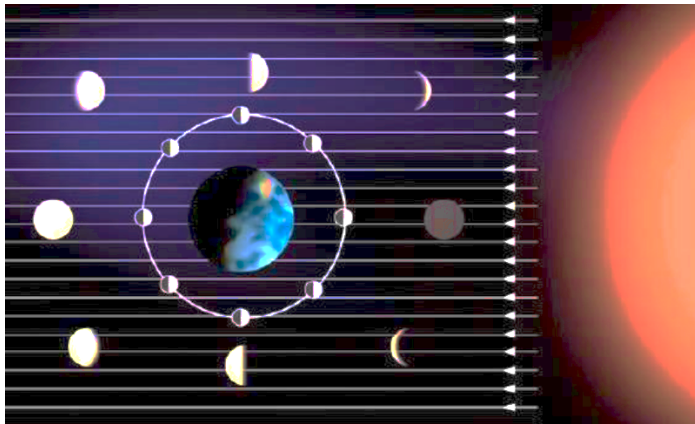


The tail will be longest at position B.

21. Explain why we always see the same side of moon.

Answer: We always see the same side of moon because moon's period of revolution around the earth is equal to the period of rotation of the moon on its axis. Hence we can only see the side that faces us.

22. Look at Fig. 17.7 carefully and answer the following question:



- (a) In which part of the sky would you see the full moon in the evening?
- (b) In which part of the sky would you see the crescent moon in the evening?

Answer:

- (a) We see the full moon in the evening in the eastern part of the sky
- (b) We see the crescent moon in the evening in the western part of the sky

23. Write the names of all planets in Fig. 17.8.

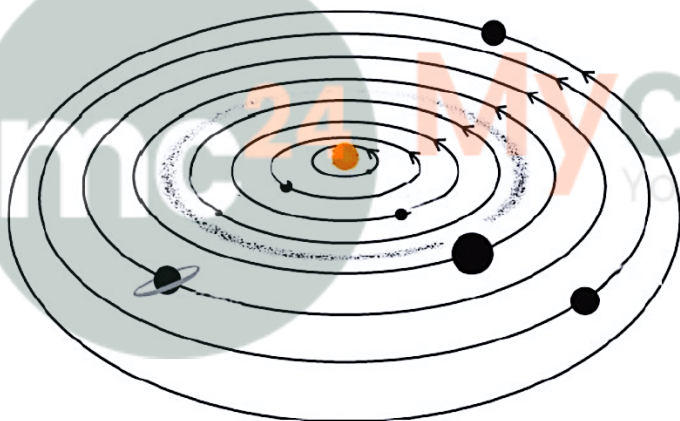
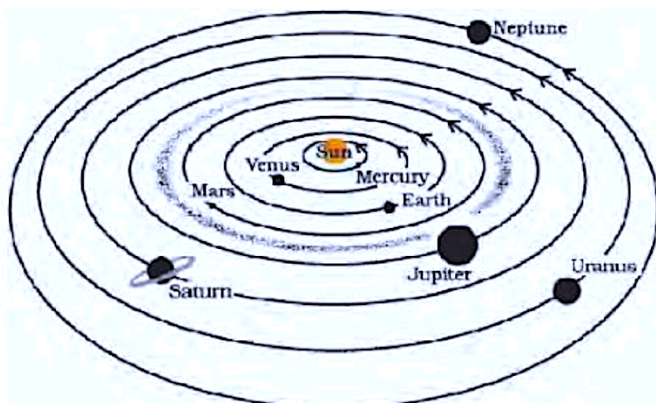


Fig. 17.8

Answer:



- (i) Mercury
- (ii) Venus
- (iii) Earth
- (iv) Mars
- (v) Jupiter
- (vi) Saturn
- (vii) Uranus
- (viii) Neptune

24. Suppose the distance between earth and sun becomes half of its present distance.

What is likely to happen to life?

Answer: Life may no longer exist because some special environmental conditions are needed for the existence and continuation of life on the earth. The right distance of earth from the Sun is necessary so that it has right temperature range, the presence of water and suitable atmosphere and a blanket of ozone.

25. Explain with a diagram how you can locate pole star with the help of the constellation Great Bear (Ursa Major).

Answer: Locate the two end stars of Ursa Major. Imagine a straight line passing through these stars as shown in the figure below. Extend this imaginary line towards the north direction. This line will lead to a star which is not too bright. This is pole star.

