

Middle School
Set 1

TOSS-UP

1) Physical Science – *Short Answer* Niels Bohr developed a model of the atom that explained why different elements burn in different colors. In this model, the light emitted by burning is due to changes in what subatomic particle?

ANSWER: ELECTRON

BONUS

1) Physical Science – *Short Answer* Identify all of the following three properties of matter that are extensive: 1) Mass; 2) Volume; 3) Density.

ANSWER: 1, 2

TOSS-UP

2) Earth and Space – *Multiple Choice* Which of the following minerals will be a source of phosphate to the environment when it is weathered?

- W) Quartz
- X) Apatite
- Y) Gypsum
- Z) Pyrite

ANSWER: X) APATITE

BONUS

2) Earth and Space – *Short Answer* Rank the following three elements in order of increasing abundance in Earth's crust: 1) Iron; 2) Silicon; 3) Carbon.

ANSWER: 3, 1, 2

TOSS-UP

3) Energy – *Short Answer* Ames Lab researchers are determining the physical properties of AuNPs [*A. U. N. P's*]. What metallic element are these nanoparticles made of?

ANSWER: GOLD

BONUS

3) Energy – *Multiple Choice* Researchers at Fermi National Accelerator Lab are designing a new kind of qubit [*Q-bit*]. Which of the following best describes the difference between a qubit and a classical bit?

- W) Qubits use quantum tunneling to move data more quickly
- X) Qubits can exist in a superposition of classical states
- Y) Qubits exploit quantum interference to become more energy efficient than classical bits
- Z) Qubits use quantum decoherence to simulate multiple classical bits

ANSWER: X) QUBITS CAN EXIST IN A SUPERPOSITION OF CLASSICAL STATES

TOSS-UP

4) Life Science – *Short Answer* From time to time, arthropods must shed their exoskeletons to continue growing. What is the term for this process?

ANSWER: MOLTING (ACCEPT: ECDYSIS)

BONUS

4) Life Science – *Short Answer* During prophase I, what process results in the exchange of DNA between homologous *[ha-MAWL-uh-gus]* chromosomes?

ANSWER: CROSSING OVER (ACCEPT: SYNAPSIS; do not accept: RECOMBINATION)

TOSS-UP

5) Math – *Short Answer* $x/2 + x/4$ is what percent of x ?

ANSWER: 75

BONUS

5) Math – *Short Answer* Solve the following equation for x :
open parenthesis $7x - 6$ close parenthesis squared = 64.

ANSWER: $-2/7$ OR 2 (must give both answers)

TOSS-UP

6) Physical Science – *Short Answer* What is the term for double-replacement reactions between acids and bases?

ANSWER: NEUTRALIZATION

BONUS

6) Physical Science – *Short Answer* In the combustion of ethane, how many water molecules are produced for every oxygen molecule used?

ANSWER: 6/7

TOSS-UP

7) Earth and Space – *Multiple Choice* Which of the following best describes the direction in which a comet's gas tail points?

- W) Ahead of the comet's motion
- X) Behind the comet's motion
- Y) Away from the Sun
- Z) Towards the Sun

ANSWER: Y) AWAY FROM THE SUN

BONUS

7) Earth and Space – *Short Answer* Which of the terrestrial planets has the largest number of natural satellites?

ANSWER: MARS

TOSS-UP

8) Energy – *Short Answer* Brookhaven National Lab scientists are investigating materials that decrease in volume when heated, instead of increasing in volume. What is the term for the physical effect where the volume of a material is dependent on temperature?

ANSWER: THERMAL EXPANSION (ACCEPT: THERMAL CONTRACTION)

BONUS

8) Energy – *Multiple Choice* Brookhaven National Lab is researching how to tether catalysts to chromophores for artificial photosynthesis. Which of the following is most similar in function to a chromophore?

- W) Enzyme
- X) Fuel
- Y) Solvent
- Z) Dye

ANSWER: Z) DYE

TOSS-UP

9) Life Science – *Multiple Choice* Which of the following is NOT found in an animal cell?

- W) Mitochondrion
- X) Cytoskeleton
- Y) Endoplasmic reticulum [*reh-TIK-yoo-lum*]
- Z) Cell wall

ANSWER: Z) CELL WALL

BONUS

9) Life Science – *Short Answer* In a multicellular organism, cells in different tissues have very different functions. Identify all of the following three features that are typically different between two such cells: 1) DNA sequence; 2) Transcriptomic [*trans-krip-TOH-mik*] profile; 3) Proteomic [*pro-tee-OH-mik*] profile.

ANSWER: 2, 3

TOSS-UP

10) Math – *Short Answer* A trapezoid has height 6 and one base of length 16. If the area is 72, what is the length of the other base?

ANSWER: 8

BONUS

10) Math – *Short Answer* Express the following in scientific notation rounded to two significant digits: the fraction with numerator 5.7×10^5 and denominator 8.9×10^{-4} .

ANSWER: 6.4×10^8

TOSS-UP

11) Physical Science – *Short Answer* While Newton's first law deals with linear motion, spinning objects also have a tendency to remain spinning in the absence of external torques [*torks*]. This is due to the conservation of what quantity?

ANSWER: ANGULAR MOMENTUM (ACCEPT: ROTATIONAL MOMENTUM, MOMENT OF MOMENTUM)

BONUS

11) Physical Science – *Short Answer* In most organic compounds, how many covalent bonds does nitrogen make to other atoms?

ANSWER: THREE



TOSS-UP

12) Earth and Space – *Short Answer* What two phases of the Moon come directly before and after waxing gibbous [*GIH-bus*], respectively?

ANSWER: BEFORE = FIRST QUARTER, AFTER = FULL
(ACCEPT: FULL MOON for after)

BONUS

12) Earth and Space – *Short Answer* Rank the following three stellar spectral classes by increasing temperature: 1) G; 2) M; 3) A.

ANSWER: 2, 1, 3

TOSS-UP

13) Energy – *Short Answer* Scientists at Pacific Northwest National Lab are studying antibiotic resistance in the bacterial genus *Mycobacterium*. What human lung disease, which can be diagnosed with a PPD skin test, is caused by bacteria in this genus?

ANSWER: TUBERCULOSIS (ACCEPT: TB)

BONUS

13) Energy – *Short Answer* Scientists at Pacific Northwest National Lab are developing NWChem, a computational chemistry software capable of Hartree-Fock, DFT, and TD-DFT calculations. These calculations are primarily concerned with the behavior of what subatomic particle?

ANSWER: ELECTRON

TOSS-UP

14) Life Science – *Short Answer* What is the term for sequence alterations within DNA that may result from errors in replication, exposure to radiation or chemicals, or viral infection?

ANSWER: MUTATIONS

BONUS

14) Life Science – *Short Answer* What is the general term for viruses that infect prokaryotes [*PRO-care-ee-oats*]?

ANSWER: BACTERIOPHAGES (ACCEPT: PHAGES)

TOSS-UP

15) Math – *Short Answer* What is the slope of a line perpendicular to the line with equation $9x + 4y = 36$?

ANSWER: $4/9$

BONUS

15) Math – *Short Answer* What is the volume of a circular cone formed by rotating a right triangular region with legs of length 13 and 9 about its longer leg?

ANSWER: 351π