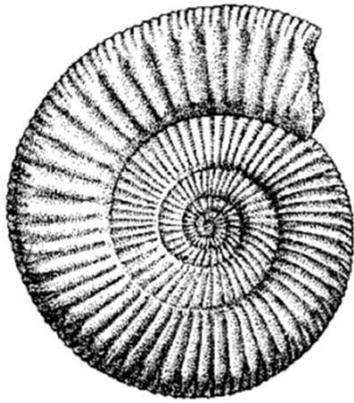


*The  
Marcham  
Society*

# ASTRONOMY CHRISTMAS QUIZ

20 MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

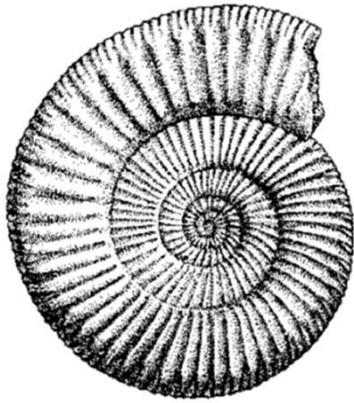


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## The Three Rules of the Quiz

1. The Quiz Master is **always** right!
2. The Quiz is just for fun – there are **no prizes**!
3. If the Quiz Master is wrong, apply rule **number one**!



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**JUST A WARM UP QUESTION....**

**Which is the odd one out?**

**MARS - GALAXY - MILKY WAY - TOBLERONE**

## QUESTION 1



How many light years across the Milky Way galaxy?

50,000    100,000    200,000



Which Greek Goddess is deemed to be responsible for the Milky Way?

- a) Juno
- b) Athena
- c) Venus



## QUESTION 2

A Comet's Tail points in which direction?

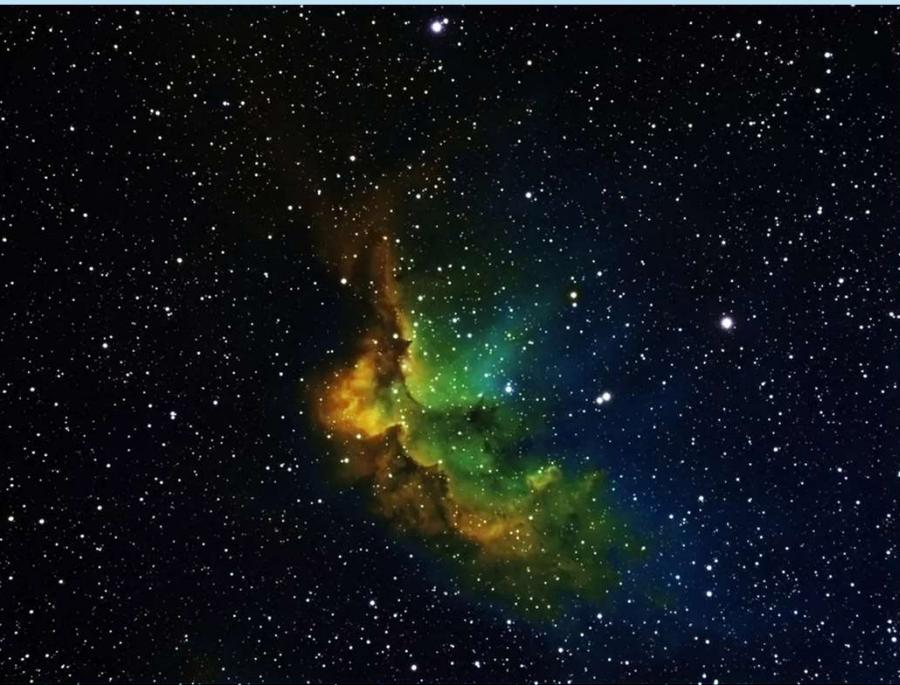
- a) Towards the Sun
- b) Towards the Earth
- c) Behind the comet in its orbit
- d) Away from the Sun

How often does Halley's comet return?

50 years   75 years   100 years



# QUESTION 3 - Nebulae..... Which is which?



**A**



**B**



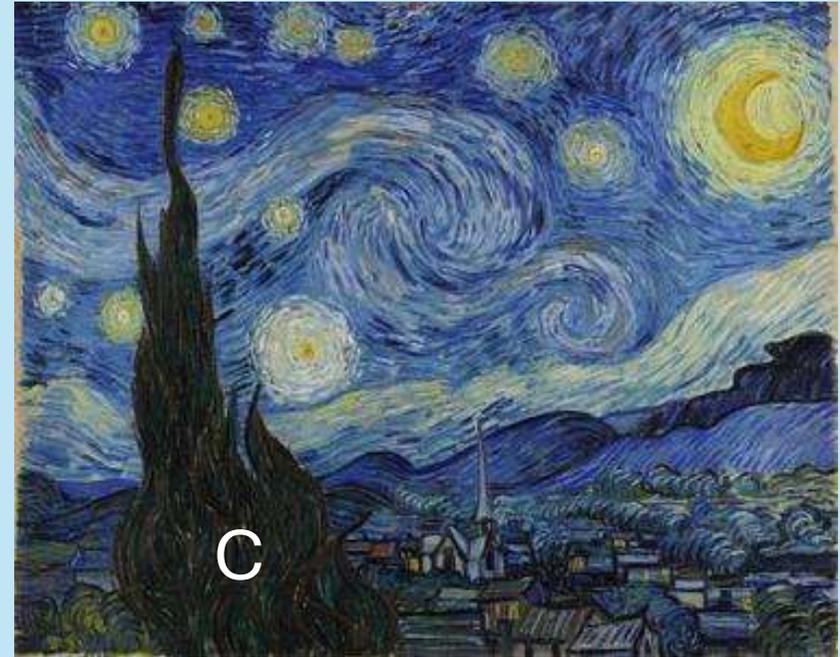
**C**



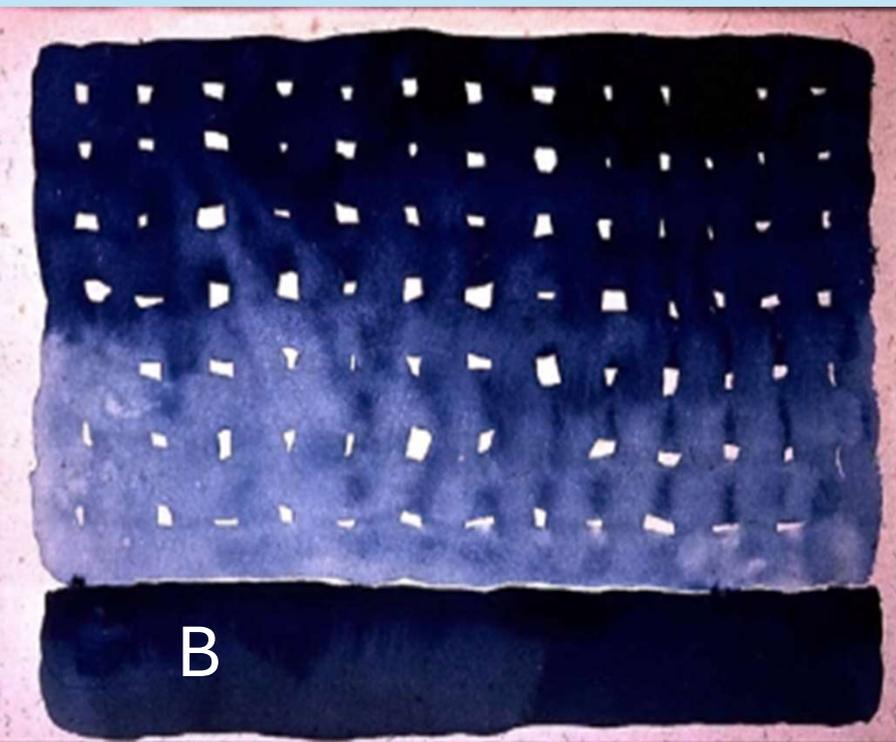
A

# QUESTION 4 MOON, SUN And STARS...

Who painted  
these skies?



C

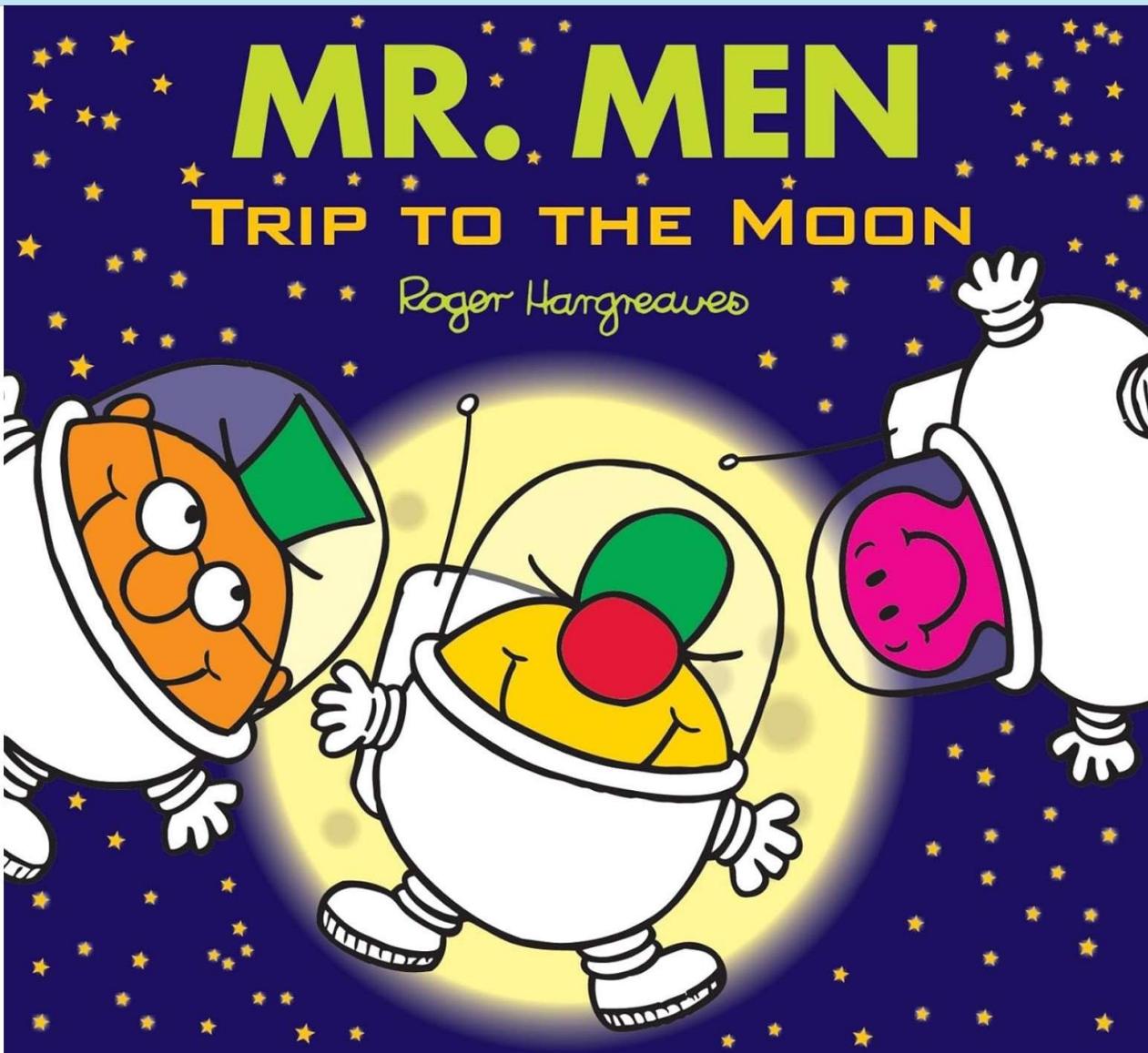


B



D

## QUESTION 5



The Mr Men went to the Moon...

A. He had the idea of a trip to the moon

**MR N.....**

B. He designed the rocket

**MR C.....**

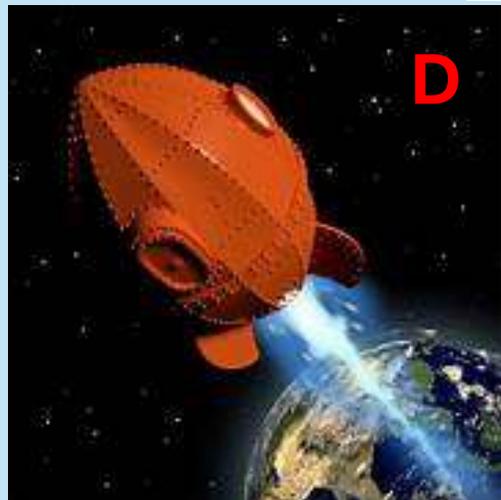
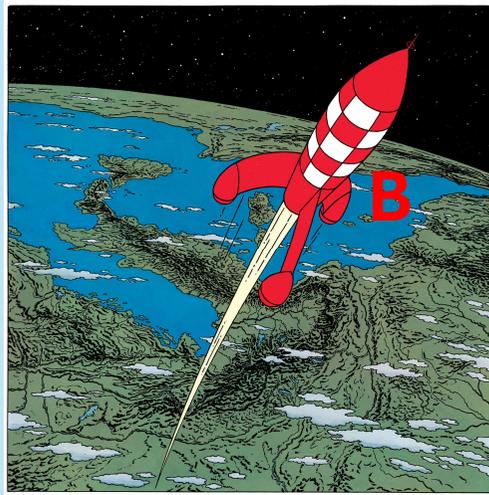
C. He was disappointed upon arrival

**MR G.....**



## QUESTION 6

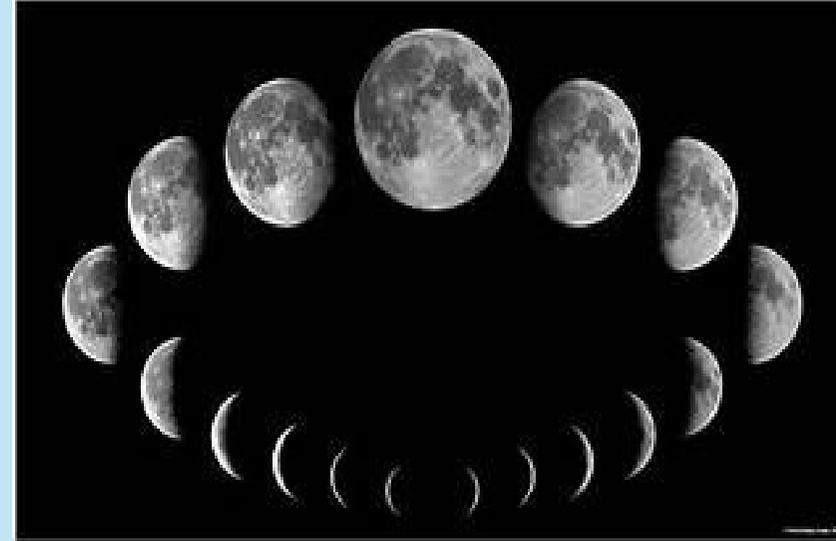
Who is out in Space?



## FULL MOONS

- A**  
BLUE MOON
- B**  
SUPERMOON
- C**  
WOLF MOON
- D**  
BLOOD MOON
- E**  
HARVEST MOON

## QUESTION 7



*Put them in the right order*

1. SECOND FULL MOON IN A MONTH
2. AUTUMN EQUINOX
3. TOTAL LUNAR ECLIPSE
4. PERIGEE - CLOSEST TO EARTH IN ITS ORBIT
5. FIRST FULL MOON OF THE YEAR



## QUESTION 8

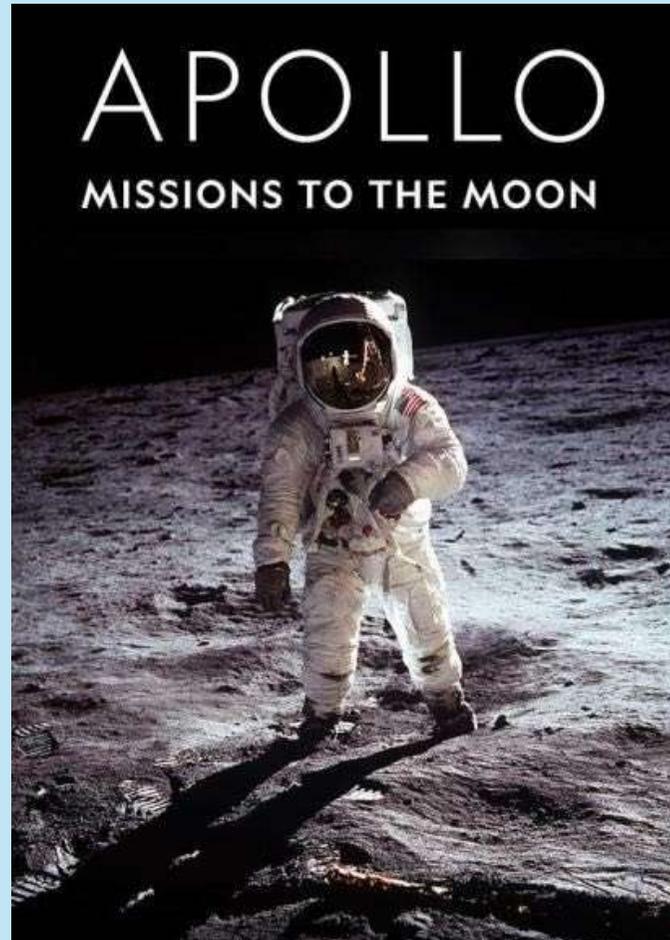
**APOLLO 10**

**APOLLO 11**

**APOLLO 12**

**APOLLO 13**

**APOLLO 14**



APOLLO ASTRONAUTS

Put them in the right order

**ALAN SHEPARD**

**JAMES LOVELL**

**NEIL ARMSTRONG**

**THOMAS STAFFORD**

**CHARLES CONRAD**

# QUESTION 9

## Oldest to Youngest

**A**

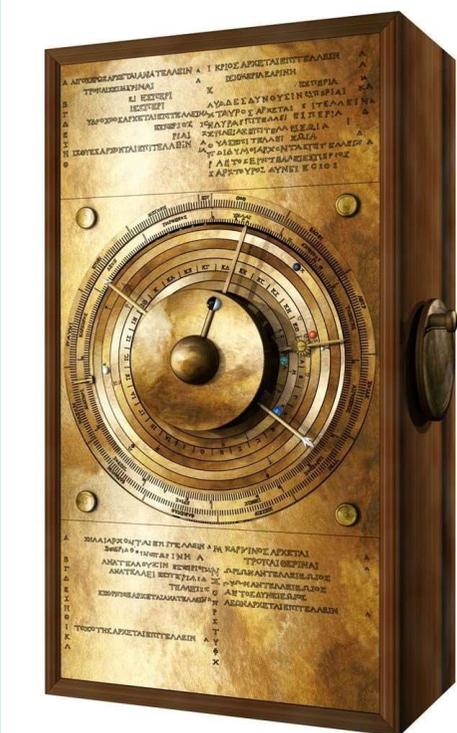
**B**

Three of these items are from the

**HISTORY  
OF SCIENCE  
MUSEUM**

**C**

**D**



**QUESTION 10**  
**What is the common letter....**  
**And why?**



1



2



3



## QUESTION 11

*Solve all five anagrams:-*

**LENT LOCATIONS** .... to the stars that form a figure.

**CURRY ME** .... with the fact that the year only lasts 3 months here.

**PRAWNED FLAT** .... to what Pluto was demoted.

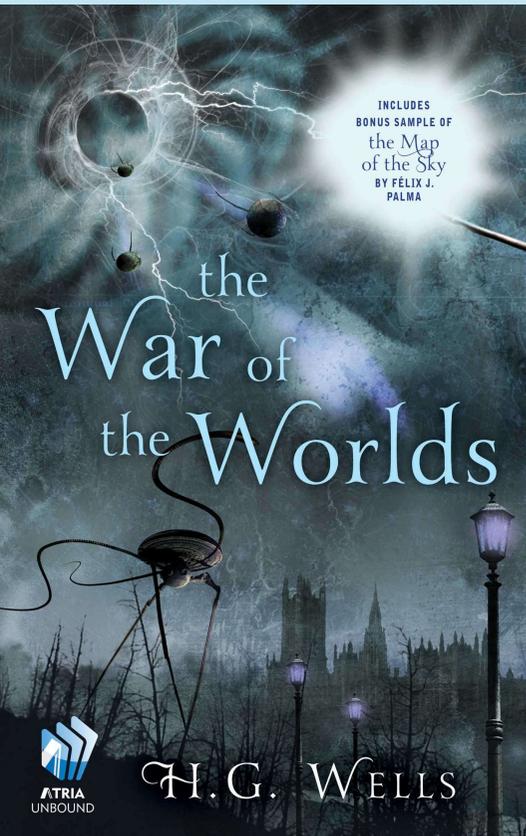
**AMOUR JARS** .... into the pan in the sky.

**SAT FOR INEQUALITY** .... in this 'watery' place on the Moon.

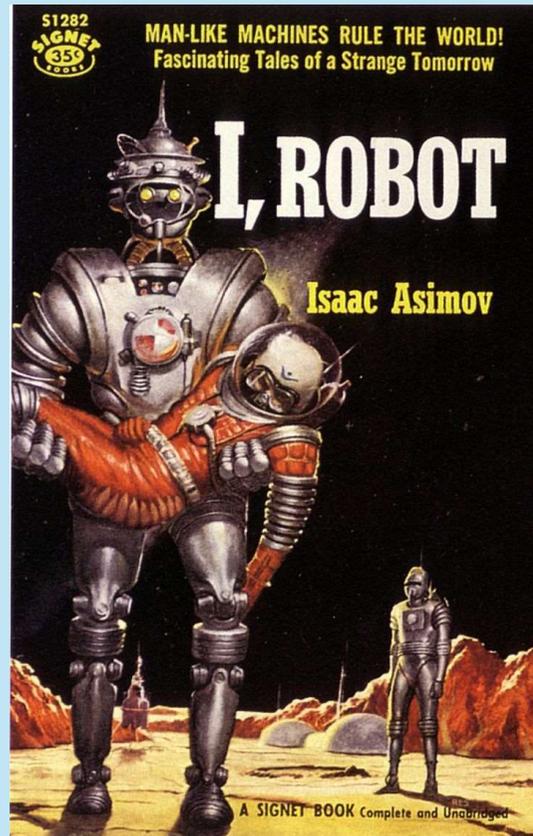


## QUESTION 12

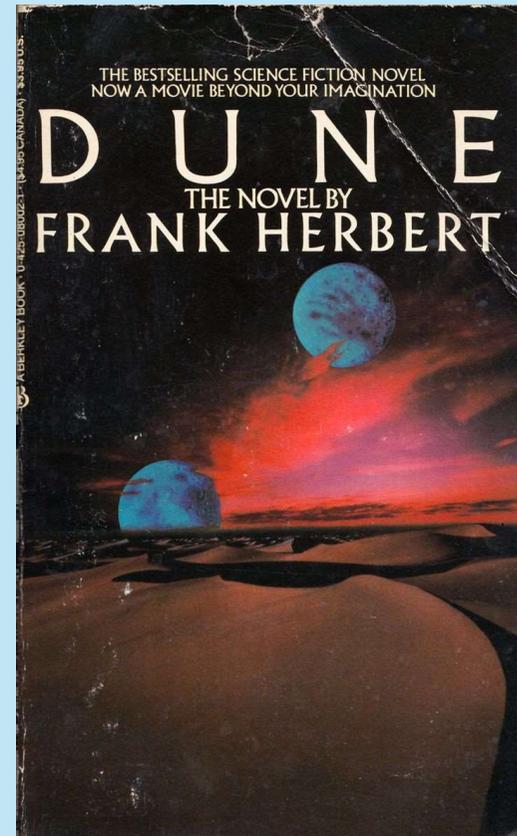
Who also wrote “The Martian Way”?



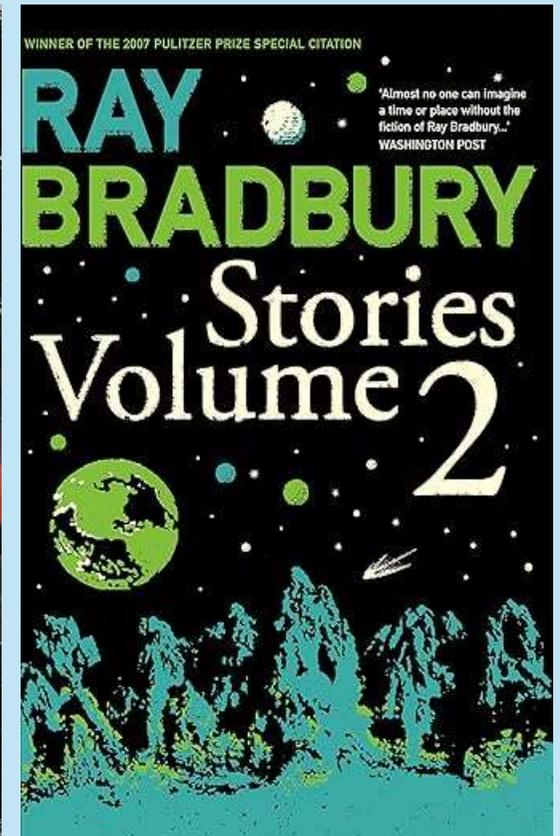
a) HG Wells



b) Isaac Asimov



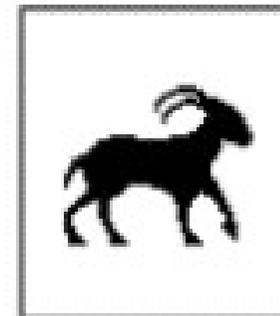
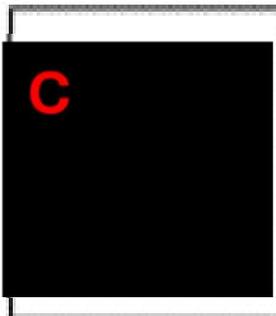
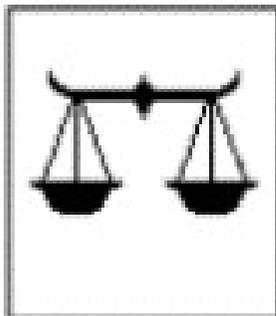
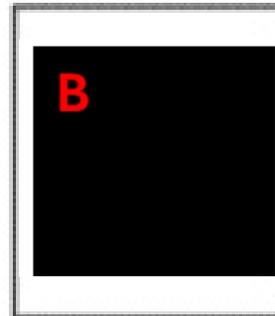
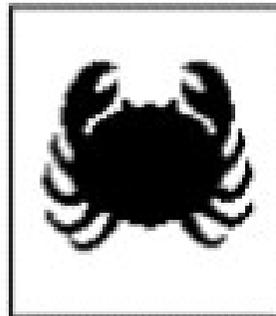
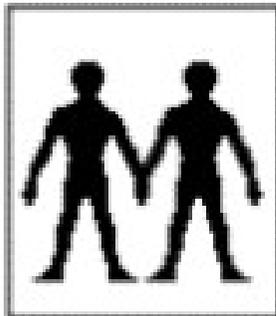
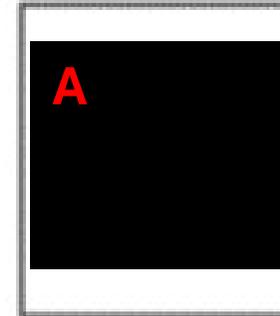
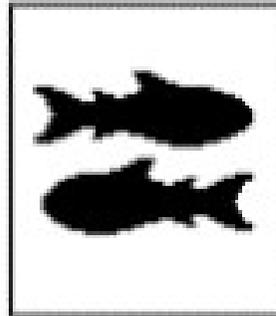
c) Frank Herbert



d) Ray Bradbury

MISSING ANIMAL  
ZODIAC SIGNS

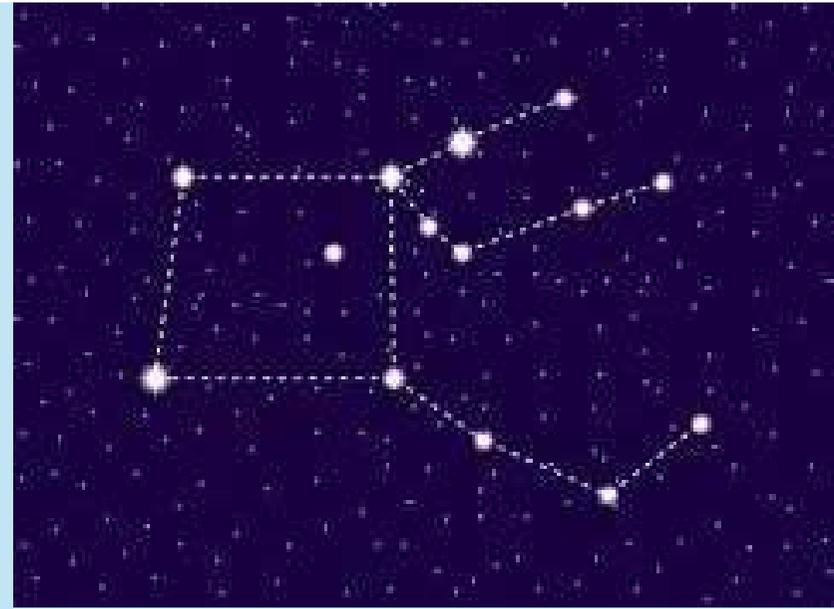
# QUESTION 13



# QUESTION 14

Which constellations?  
All start with the letter 'P'

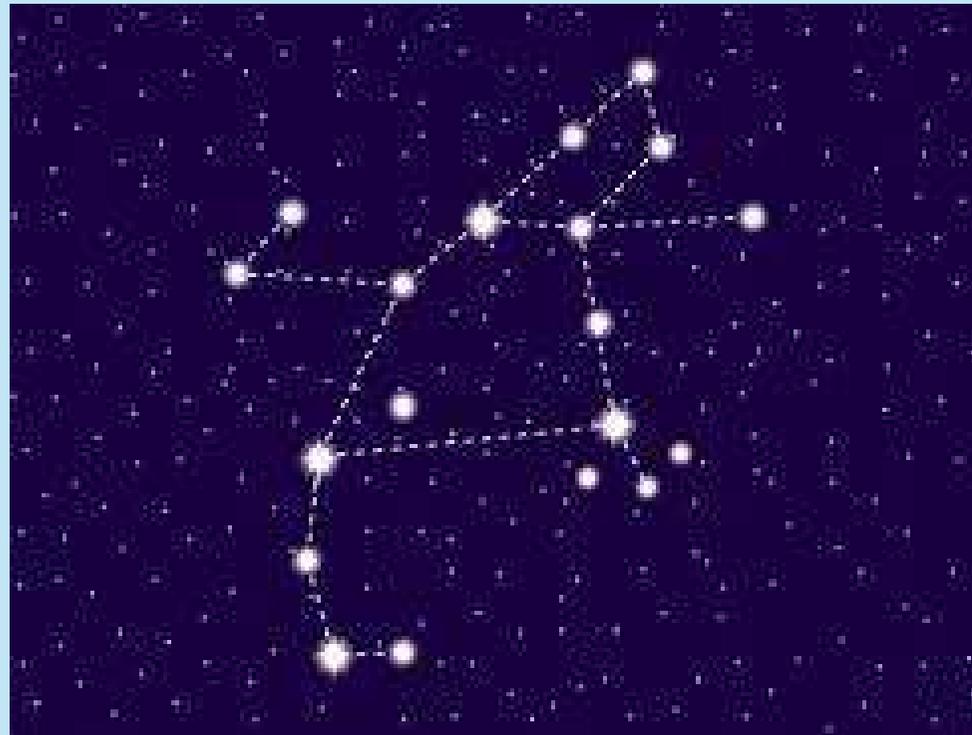
**A**



**B**



**C**





## QUESTION 15

### SPACE STATION



What is the title of the 2024 Booker Prize?

Launched in ...      1998   2002   2008

One Orbit in ...      60 mins   75 mins   93 mins

Orbits a day ...      10      15      20

Average speed ...      8k mph   11k mph   17k mph

# QUESTION 16

WHO IS CALLING?

**A.** Who famously wants to phone home?



**B.** Six of these have special links to iPhones

**C.** One other is an 'odd one out'!  
*(Hint: we saw three in Q.3)*

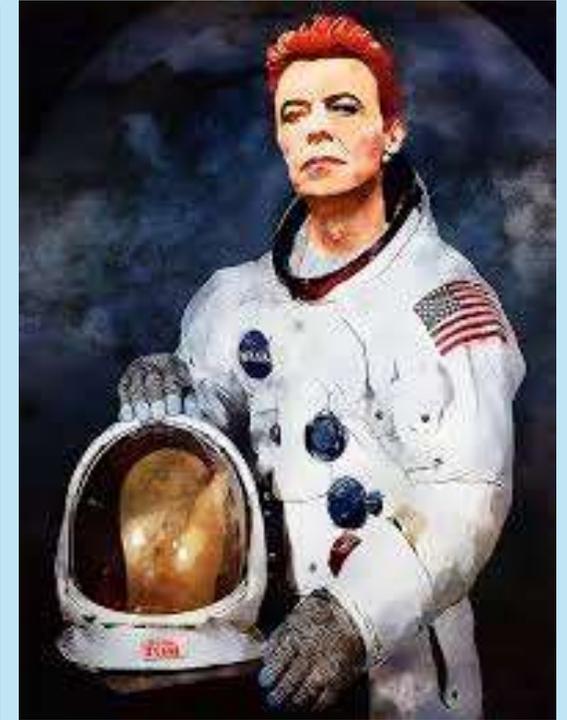
## QUESTION 17



1979 P....



2006 M...



1969 B....

Who sang what at these dates?



## QUESTION 18

### Doctor Who...?

- A.** What is **Gallifrey**?
- B.** Who is **Davros**?
- C.** The name of the **Doctor's Dog**?
- D.** It is **Time and relative dimension in space**?

## QUESTION 19

# THE METONIC CYCLE

Which of these comments are **FALSE**?

- A. A Metonic Cycle has 19 gears
- B. It's named after a Greek mathematician
- C. It affected the Bede's Easter Table
- D. It is also called *Enneadecaeteris*
- E. Sea level calculations depend on it
- F. It is a cycle of 235 synodic months
- G. It was allowed for in the Antikythera mechanism
- H. The Babylonians used it in their calculations
- I. Runic Calendars from Sweden used it
- J. It's the name of a heavy metal band

Sir Fred Hoyle,  
*Astronomer*

Stephen Hawking,  
*Astrophysicist*

Arthur C. Clarke,  
*Science Fiction  
Writer*

## QUESTION 20

### Who said what?

**A**

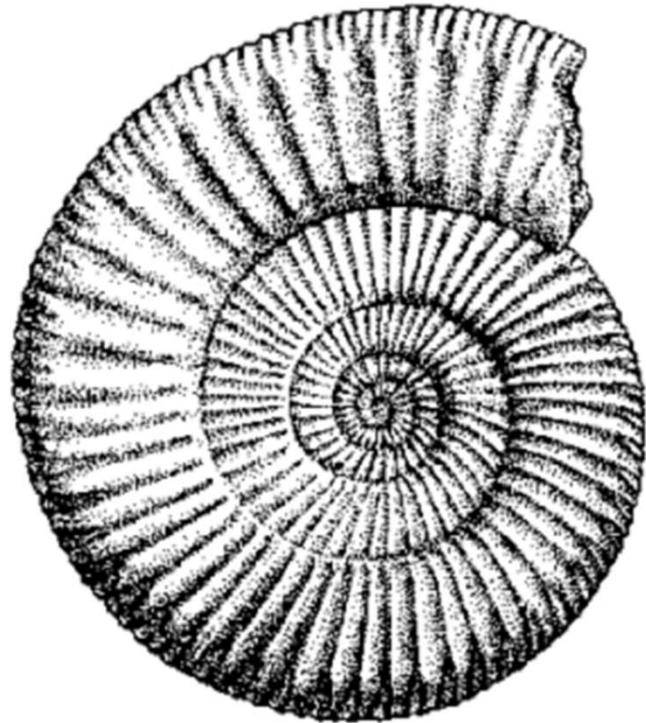
"Space isn't remote at all. It's only an hour's drive away, if your car could go straight upwards."

**C**

"To confine our attention to terrestrial matters would be to limit the human spirit."

**B**

"I'm sure the universe is full of intelligent life. It's just been too intelligent to come here."



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**Have we a winner?! Tie breakers?**

[www.marchamsociety.org.uk](http://www.marchamsociety.org.uk)

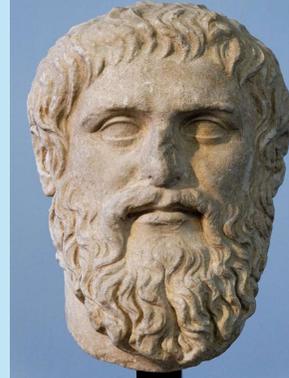


SCIENCE & EXPLORATION

plato

Terrestrial planet hunter

## QUESTION 21 PLATO

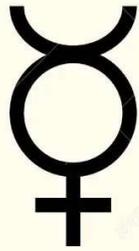


The PLATO space telescope will search across up to one million stars, and to discover and characterize rocky extrasolar planets around yellow dwarf stars (like the Sun), subgiant stars, and red dwarf stars. The emphasis of the mission is on Earth-like planets in the habitable zone around Sun-like stars where water can exist in a liquid state.

**I am sure the Greek philosopher would have been delighted but...  
what does PLATO actually stand for?**

# QUESTION 22

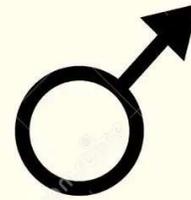
## IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM



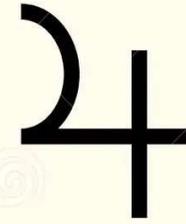
A



B



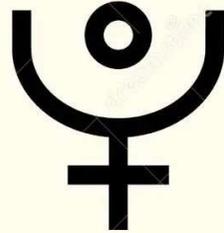
C



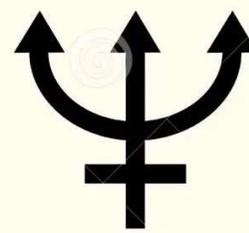
D



E



F



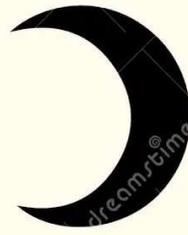
G



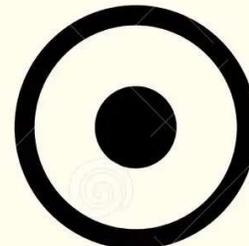
H



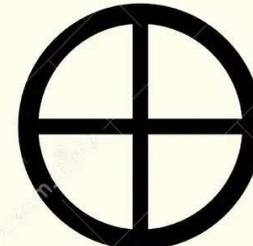
I



J



K



L

**RUDYARD KIPLING –  
‘The Astrologer’s Song’**

**HENRY LONGFELLOW –  
‘The Light of the Stars’**

**WILLIAM WORTHSWORTH –  
‘Calm is the Fragrant Air’**

## **QUESTION 23**

**A**

Look for the stars, you'll say that there are none;  
Look up a second time, and, one by one,  
You mark them twinkling out with silvery light,  
And wonder how they could elude the sight!

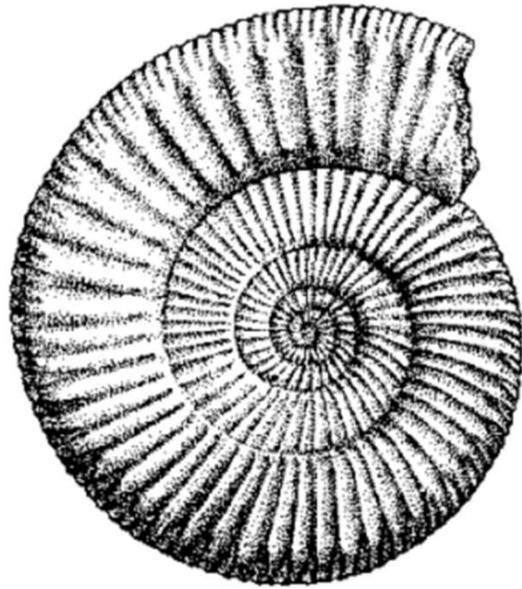
**B**

The night is come, but not too soon;  
And sinking silently,  
All silently, the little moon  
Drops down behind the sky.

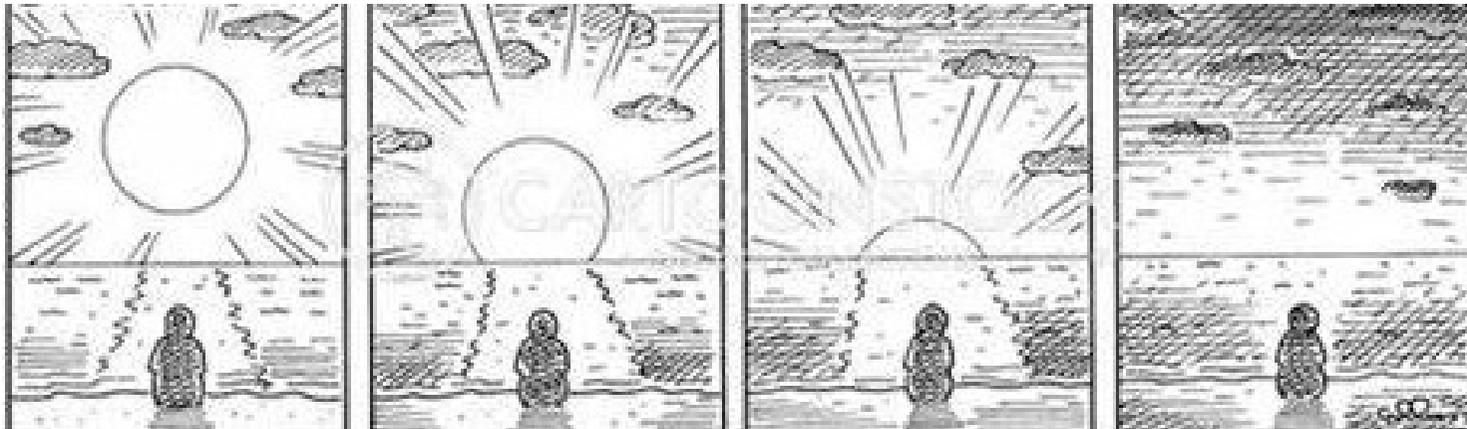
There is no light in earth or heaven  
But the cold light of stars;  
And the first watch of night is given  
To the red planet Mars.

**C**

To the Heavens above us  
O look and behold  
The Planets that love us  
All harnessed in gold!  
What chariots, what horses  
Against us shall bide  
While the Stars in their courses  
Do fight on our side?



# *The Marcham Society*



[www.marchamsociety.org.uk](http://www.marchamsociety.org.uk)