

Meteor Shower of Halley's Comet Pieces Peaks Sunday

Answer Sheet

1. What causes meteor showers?

- a) Aliens, they don't like us and it shows.
- b) Asteroid strikes on the moon.
- c) **Debris from passing asteroids and comets.**

2. Why do we call meteor shower displays "shooting stars"?

- a) **Because of the stunning fireballs and light shows from meteors.**
- b) Meteors can shoot off jets and debris as they burn up.
- c) Meteors make great target practice for night hunters.

3. How hot do meteors burn when they hit Earth's atmosphere?

- a) Fahrenheit 451 (Ray Bradbury had it right).
- b) 1 million degrees Fahrenheit.
- c) **About 3,000 degrees Fahrenheit.**

4. What's the most famous crater ever caused by a meteor?

- a) Alphonsus Crater on the Moon.
- b) **Trick question! Meteors burn up in the sky, only meteorites can make craters.**
- c) Barringer Crater, AKA Meteor Crater, in Arizona.

5. How fast do meteors fly when they light up the night sky?

- a) **About 30,000 miles per hour.**
- b) Light speed.
- c) Faster than a speeding bullet.

6. When is the best time to watch a meteor shower?

- a) Just after sunset.
- b) When it's Miller time.
- c) **Between midnight and dawn.**

7. What should you do if you find a meteorite after a meteor shower?

- a) **Call an expert to make sure it's really a meteorite.**
- b) Put it in your pocket, save it for a rainy day.
- c) Sell it on eBay.

8. Which Earth meteor shower is dependably one of the year's best shooting star displays?

- a) The Perseid meteor shower
- b) **December's annual Geminid**
- c) None, the best meteor showers during summertime. meteor shower. are on Mars.

9. Which famous comet has spawned two annual meteor showers?

- a) Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9, which broke apart and hit Jupiter.
- b) Comet, Santa's trusty reindeer.
- c) Comet Halley, also known as Halley's Comet.

10. When was the Great Leonid Meteor Storm?

- a) 1 million B.C., only cave men could see it.
- b) There were actually two, in 1966 and 1833.
- c) 1966, the year Star Trek first aired.