

1. If the Earth's spin axis was not tilted with respect to the Earth's orbital plane (around the Sun) which of the following would be true, which false?:

T The number of daylight hours in a day would not change through the year.

F The length of a day would increase from 24 hours to 365 days

F The change of seasons would become more pronounced in the Northern Hemisphere.

F There would be no change in the pattern of the seasons compared to the real situation

} see lecture notes

2. Suppose you identified in a distant galaxy the Hydrogen emission line corresponding to an electron dropping from the second excited level to the first excited level. The "rest" wavelength of this photon is $= 6365 \text{ \AA}$ yet in the galaxy spectrum you measure it at 5365 \AA .

(a) Is this galaxy moving toward ___ or away ___ from the Earth?

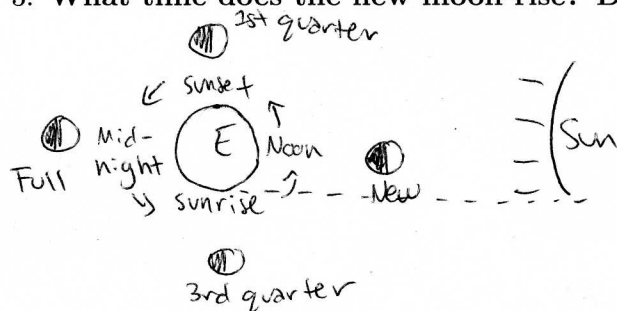
(b) What is the relative speed between the Earth and the Galaxy?

Since $\lambda_{\text{obs}} < \lambda_{\text{rest}} \Rightarrow$ galaxy is moving toward

$$\frac{|v|}{c} = \frac{|\lambda_{\text{obs}} - \lambda_{\text{rest}}|}{\lambda_{\text{rest}}} \Rightarrow |v| = 3 \times 10^{10} \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{s}} \cdot \frac{6365 \text{ \AA} - 5365 \text{ \AA}}{6365 \text{ \AA}} = 3 \times 10^{10} \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{s}} \cdot 0.157$$

$$\Rightarrow |v| = 4.71 \times 10^9 \text{ cm/s}$$

3. What time does the new moon rise? Draw a picture to demonstrate your answer.



By looking @ the horizon line (----) we see that the first time the new moon appears is at sunrise

4. Given the speed of light $c = 186,000$ miles/second, how many miles is a "light-minute"?

$$1 \text{ ly} = c \cdot t \quad w/t = 1 \text{ year}$$

$$1 \text{ Lm} = c \cdot (1 \text{ minute}) = \frac{186,000 \text{ miles}}{\text{second}} \cdot 1 \text{ minute} \cdot \frac{60 \text{ seconds}}{1 \text{ minute}}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \text{ Lm} = 11,160,000 \text{ miles}$$

5. Suppose you lived on the Moon where there is essentially no atmosphere. Label the following statements as (T) true or (F) false:

F The Sun would appear redder (compared to as seen from the Earth) during the day.

T The color of the sky (looking away from the Sun during the day) would be black.

F At sunset, the Sun would appear redder than it does at noon.

F The "green flash" would be a "red flash"

} see lecture notes

6. You measure the spectrum of a solid green sphere of aluminum and the highest intensity is at a wavelength of 2×10^{-4} cm. What is the temperature of this sphere?

Since $\lambda_{\text{green}} \approx 510 \text{ nm} \ll \lambda_{\text{obs}}$ we can ignore the fact that the sphere is green & treat it as a blackbody

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{2.9 \times 10^6 \text{ nm K}}{\lambda_{\text{peak}}} = \frac{2.9 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m K}}{2 \times 10^{-4} \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ m}} = \boxed{14500 \text{ K} = T}$$

7. What color does a red apple appear to be when illuminated with white light?

Since a red apple will absorb all but the red wavelength of light & reflect the red

\Rightarrow Apple will appear red

8. What is the frequency of light with a wavelength of 20 cm?

$$\nu = \frac{c}{\lambda} = \frac{3 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm/s}}{20 \text{ cm}} \Rightarrow \boxed{\nu = 1.5 \times 10^9 \text{ s}^{-1} = 1.5 \times 10^9 \text{ Hz}}$$

9. What is $10^3 \times 10^5 \times 10^{-6}$?

$$10^3 \times 10^5 \times 10^{-6} = 10^{(3+5-6)} = \boxed{10^2}$$