PRACTICE

Copernicus

From the early history of man, people believed that we lived in a **geocentric** universe. That is, they believed that the Earth was the center of the universe. They believed that the Sun, the Moon, and the planets **revolved around** the Earth. They had good reasons for these beliefs. It appeared to them that the Earth was **stationary**. It also appeared to them that the Sun, the Moon, and the planets were moving across the sky.

Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543) did not believe that the universe was geocentric; he did not **accept the idea** that the Earth was the center of the universe. He studied the movement of the stars and the planets carefully. He came to believe that our Earth was part of a **heliocentric** system. In a heliocentric system, planets revolve around a sun. Copernicus believed that our Earth revolved around the Sun. Most of the people living at that time believed the opposite. Today, we **recognize** that Copernicus was **accurate**.

1. **In a "geocentric" universe in paragraph 1,**
A. the Earth is in the middle of the universe
B. the Moon is in the middle of the universe.
C. the Sun is in the middle of the universe.
D. the Earth revolves around the Moon.

2. **In paragraph 1, "revolved around" could best be replaced by**
A. lined up with.
B. were different.
C. outlined.
D. circled.

3. **The word "stationary" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to**
A. not dark.
B. not moving.
C. not quiet.
D. not circular.

4. **The phrase "accept the idea" in paragraph 2 could best be replaced by**
A. buy.
B. think.
C. remember.
D. take.

5. **Based on the information in paragraph 2, which of the following best explains the term "heliocentric"?**
A. The Earth is in the middle of the universe.
B. The Moon is in the middle of the universe.
C. The Sun is in the middle of the universe.
D. The Earth revolves around the Moon.

6. **The word "recognize" in paragraph 2 could best be replaced by**
A. doubt.
B. forget.
C. understand.
D. intend.

7. **The word "accurate" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to**
A. wrong.
B. nice.
C. upset.
D. correct.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Mark Twain

From the start of his career as a writer, Mark Twain was fascinated with inventions. **As a result**, he chose to spend much of his available **income** on various inventions, generally without much success. In **fact**, he lost a lot of the money he invested. By 1887, the forty-nine-year-old author had invested most of his money on one project, the Paige typesetting machine.

Twain expected the Paige machine to be **completed** in 1889. Unfortunately, the machine was never completely finished, and by the early 1890s, Twain knew he was in a **serious** financial situation. He worked hard to **take care of** his problems by producing a number of books **in a row**. He wrote A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court (1892), An American Claimant (1892), Tom Sawyer Abroad (1893), and Pudd'nhead Wilson (1894). However, all of this work did not solve his financial problems, and he was forced to declare bankruptcy.

8. The expression "As a result" in paragraph 1 could best be replaced by

A. Also.
B. Furthermore.
C. Therefore.
D. However.

9. The word "income" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to

A. time.
B. money.
C. work.
D. space.

10. The word "fact" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to

A. preparation.
B. action.
C. reality.
D. motion.

11. The word "complete" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to

A. finished.
B. taken.
C. interested.
D. started.

12. The word "serious" in paragraph 2 could best be replaced by

A. great.
B. tired.
C. pretty.
D. grave.

13. The expression "take care of" in paragraph 2 could best be replaced by

A. increase.
B. exercise.
C. comfort.
D. solve.

14. The expression "in a row" in paragraph 2 could best be replaced by

A. one another.
B. very slowly.
C. on time.
D. in a straight line.

LIVEWORKSHEETS