



Assessment

DIRECTIONS: Read each question carefully. Choose the letter of the best answer. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Which of the following is a postulate of Einstein's theory of special relativity?
 - a. The laws of physics are the same in all inertial frames of reference.
 - b. The laws of physics are relative in all frames of reference.
 - c. The speed of light in a vacuum is relative to the observer.
 - d. The speed of light in a vacuum is relative to the source.
2. Which of the following **BEST** describes relativity of simultaneity?
 - a. Two events occurring simultaneously in one reference frame are simultaneous in another frame.
 - b. Two events occurring simultaneously in one reference frame may not necessarily be simultaneous in another frame.
 - c. Two events occurring simultaneously in one reference frame are always simultaneous to an observer's reference frame.
 - d. Two events occurring simultaneously in different reference frames are always simultaneous to the observer's reference frame.
3. Which of the following **BEST** describes time dilation?
 - a. An observer who is at rest (relative to the moving object) would see the moving object to be shorter in length.
 - b. When an object is moving very fast it experiences time more slowly than when it is at rest.
 - c. There is a tremendous amount of energy in mass.
 - d. The speed of light is regarded as the fastest speed ever recorded.
4. Which of the following **BEST** describes length contraction?
 - a. Length is absolute regardless of the reference frame.
 - b. Length may change under one reference frame.
 - c. Length may change depending on the environment.
 - d. Length varies from one reference frame to another.
5. Which of the following **BEST** describes the cosmic speed limit?
 - a. Infinite amount of energy is needed for an object to reach the speed of light.
 - b. Infinite amount of force is needed for an object to reach the speed of light.
 - c. Infinite amount of mass is needed for an object to reach the speed of light.
 - d. Infinite amount of speed is needed for an object to reach the speed of light.

6. At the age of 20, Donna joined a space exploration at the speed of $.8c$. According to those manning the control station on Earth, the trip took 20 years. Identify her age upon her return to Earth.

- a. 32 b. 45 c. 51 d. 56

7. Determine the perceived length of a 5m ship traveling at $.637c$.

- a. 1.25m b. 2.95m c. 3.85m d. 4.35m

8. Determine the energy equivalent of an object with a mass of 27kg.

- a. $2.11 \times 10^{18} \text{ J}$ b. $2.23 \times 10^{16} \text{ J}$ c. $2.43 \times 10^{18} \text{ J}$ d. $2.53 \times 10^{19} \text{ J}$

9. At the age of 23, Danny joined a space expedition at the speed of $.6c$. According to those manning the control station on Earth, the trip took 25 years. How long was the trip according to the clock on board the spaceship?

- a. 33 b. 35 c. 43 d. 20

10. Determine the energy equivalent of an object with a mass of 1230 kg.

- a. $1.11 \times 10^{20} \text{ J}$ b. $1.36 \times 10^{18} \text{ J}$ c. $2.25 \times 10^{25} \text{ J}$ d. $2.45 \times 10^{37} \text{ J}$