

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_



### **8A Test #3 Unit 3**

#### **Aristarchus**

When we look up at the big blue sky every morning, we know exactly what we will see. In the morning we will see the sun rise in the East. In the middle of the day, we will see the sun high up in the sky. And then in the evening, we will see the sun set in the West. If we look up at the big, blue sky tomorrow and the next day, we will see the same thing. It looks as if the Earth stays in one place, and the sun goes around the Earth. Indeed, that is how it looks, and a long time ago almost everyone believed that. But today we know the truth. We know that the opposite is true – the Earth and other planets go around the sun.

The first person who came up with this idea was Aristarchus, an astronomer who lived more than 2,300 years ago. An astronomer is someone who studies stars, planets, space and the universe. During Aristarchus' time, people were shocked by his idea and thought it was silly, because it was unlike what they always saw whenever they looked up at the sky.

That's why, for many generations after Aristarchus, people didn't even consider his excellent idea. In addition, during the Middle Ages<sup>1</sup> the Church<sup>2</sup> strongly attacked Aristarchus' idea, and people were afraid of the Church. The Church believed that the Earth is the center of the universe and they punished anyone who didn't agree with them. When some people did bravely say that the Earth is not the center of the universe, the Church called them heretics<sup>3</sup>, blamed them for bad things that happened and punished them.

Much later, about two thousand years after Aristarchus, a scientist called Newton proved that Aristarchus was right -- that the Earth does indeed go around the sun. Finally people started to believe what Aristarchus said so many years earlier.

There are other things people believed thousands of years ago but that we now know are not true. For example, in many places, people believed the Earth is flat. They also thought that everything is made out of air, earth, fire and water. Many people thought that smells can affect people's health: They believed diseases are caused by bad smells, and that people can gain weight just by smelling food. In addition, many believed that we have the ability to know someone's character just by the way they look, especially by their faces. This, unfortunately, led to a lot of racism.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_



As we can see, not everything that people believe is true. Luckily, over the years people changed many of their beliefs and learned new truths. But there are many more truths that we still need to learn.

**A. Choose *True* or *False* for each sentence. Then correct the false sentences. (4\*11=44 points)**

1. A long time ago, most people believed that the sun went around the Earth. TRUE / FALSE

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Aristarchus proved that the Earth went around the sun. TRUE / FALSE

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Aristarchus was a mathematician. TRUE / FALSE

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Aristarchus is the only person who believed his idea until Newton. TRUE / FALSE

\_\_\_\_\_

**B. Answer the questions. (7\*8=56p)**

- a. The sun rises in the \_\_\_\_\_ and sets in the \_\_\_\_\_

- b. When did Aristarchus live?

\_\_\_\_\_

- c. Astronomers studied \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_

- d. Why did most people believe that the sun went around the Earth?

\_\_\_\_\_

- e. Why were people afraid of the Church?

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_



f. According to the text, which of the following were believed by people in the past?

Choose **TWO**.

- i. The earth was flat.
  - ii. People can fly.
  - iii. Bad smells can make people sick.
  - iv. Everything was made out of fire.
- g. People believed that everything was made out of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
and \_\_\_\_\_.

I BELIEVE IN YOU!  
GOOD LUCK!

