

Text 1

Read the text below and answer the questions.

<u>Five planets align: how to see this spectacular celestial show</u>	1
Keen astronomers still have time to see the five planets Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn in the night sky in a rare alignment which has not happened for more than a decade.	2
The alignment was first visible in Britain just before dawn on Wednesday 20 th January and will continue until the morning of 20 th February.	3
<u>How can I see the planets align?</u>	4
The planets form a diagonal line from the Moon to the horizon and with clear skies and good eyesight, it should be visible with the naked eye. People hoping to catch a glimpse of the alignment should choose an open spot, away from tall buildings and city lights to avoid light pollution. Mercury will appear just three degrees above the horizon – the equivalent of three thumb widths with an outstretched arm – so will be the trickiest planet to spot.	5
The best time to see the alignment is around 6.45 in the morning, just before dawn. It is best to try and see Venus, as it is the brightest, before looking for the rest of the planets.	6
Four of the five have already been visible in the early morning sky in recent weeks, but Mercury joined them for the first time on 20 th January.	7
Dr Robert Massey of the Royal Astronomical Society said spotting Mercury would be a challenge as it will be close to the horizon, but the other planets should be easy to see before dawn.	8
"There will be a dance of the planets, and now is the time to get out and have a look", said Dr Massey. "It will be well worth getting up for. People will struggle to see Mercury, it will probably just look like a star but if we get good weather we should be able to see Venus, Saturn, Mars and Jupiter well. But people should have a go at seeing them altogether."	9
He added; "If you have binoculars you will be able to see Jupiter's moons and the red tinge of Mars. You probably won't be able to see Saturn's rings but it will have a funny shape because of the rings."	10
<u>What if I miss the alignment?</u>	11
If you fail to catch the alignment this month, it will be happen again in August of this year although the late days of summer are likely to make it even more difficult to see in Britain. After that, the five planets will not be seen together again until October 2018.	12
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Astronomer Professor Alan Duffy, of the Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne, is following the alignment in the southern hemisphere, where it is likely to be easier to spot.	42
Speaking about Britain he said: "The challenge is Mercury which will rise over the horizon at around 7am but will still be low to the ground as the morning begins and the rising _____ outshines it.	43
"It should be visible for the month so if you don't succeed at first, try again."	44
<small>Adapted from the Telegraph: www.telegraph.co.uk</small>	45
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1. What is visible in the night sky between 20th January and 20th February?
 - a. Five planets changing colours.
 - b. Five planets joining in one line.
 - c. Five planets disappearing.
2. What is the best way to see the five planets?
 - a. Find a place away from the city late at night.
 - b. Find a place near a city early in the morning.
 - c. Find a place away from the city early in the morning.
3. Dr Robert Massey says ...
 - a. Mercury will be difficult to see because it is near the horizon.
 - b. Venus will be easy to see as it is far away from the horizon.
 - c. Mercury is impossible to see with the naked eye.
4. If you have binoculars, you might be able to see ...
 - a. all seven planets.
 - b. Jupiter's moons and the red tinge of Mars.
 - c. Jupiter's moons, mars and Saturn's rings.
5. When will people next be able to see this display?
 - a. October 2018
 - b. February 2016
 - c. August 2016

6. A punctuation error has been made on ...
 - a. line 28
 - b. line 31
 - c. line 33
7. A spelling error has been made on ...
 - a. line 12
 - b. line 13
 - c. line 16
8. A grammatical mistake has been made on ...
 - a. line 14
 - b. line 22
 - c. line 37
9. A word has been deleted from line 47. It should be ...
 - a. world
 - b. moons
 - c. sunlight
10. The word 'trickiest' as used on line 14, can be best replaced by ...
 - a. easiest
 - b. most difficult
 - c. most beautiful