

Question 1:

One **technique** for measuring the age of the sun is to calculate the change in the amount of energy it radiates.

- a) database
- b) content
- c) method
- d) ammunition

Question 2:

Scientists have learned that the center of the sun is **incredibly** hot.

- a) precisely
- b) majority
- c) back and forth
- d) **unbelievably**

Question 3:

With the tremendous distance between the Earth and Mars, emergency **retrievals** to rescue the astronauts would be impossible.

- a) helps
- b) assistances
- c) recoveries
- d) escape

Question 4:

Today, scientists often **debate** the future of manned space flight.

- a) question
- b) argue
- c) imagine
- d) propose

Question 5:

In Mars, some chemicals in the meteorite may have **originated** without present of life.

- a) turned
- b) changed
- c) begun
- d) disappeared

Question 6:

The young Earth was **battered** by meteorites that pulverized the newly forming crust.

- a) melted into liquid
- b) broken into small parts
- c) frozen very hard
- d) washed clear

Question 7:

...related to the study of the position of stars, the sun, and the planets in the belief that they **influence** earthly events.

- a) affect
- b) improve
- c) modify
- d) adjust

Question 8:

The planet Mercury is so small that the **proportion** of its volume to the Earth's is about 1 to 20.

- a) section
- b) ratio
- c) partition
- d) fraction

Question 9:

The long-time dream of traveling to the moon became history on July 20, 1969, when astronaut Neil A. Armstrong of the USA **set foot** on it.

- a) saw
- b) reached
- c) walked
- d) destroyed

Question 10:

It was a Polish astronomer Nicholas Copernicus who first **maintained** that the planets revolve around the Sun.

- a) supported
- b) assumed
- c) supposed
- d) told

(adapted from TOEFL iBT Preparation)