

Introductory Astronomy

Homework 32: Life in the Universe Not to be handed in. Homework solutions are posted already.

050 qmult 00100 1 4 2 easy deducto-memory: extraterrestrial life discovered

1. Has extraterrestrial life been discovered for **CERTAIN**?

- a) Yes. b) No. c) Maybe. d) Yes and no. e) Yes: 20 years ago.

SUGGESTED ANSWER: (b)

Wrong answers:

- c) How can a “for certain” be a “maybe.”
e) As Lurch would say: “Aaaarh.”

Redaction: Jeffery, 2001jan01

050 qmult 00300 1 1 5 easy memory: Drake equation

Extra keywords: CK-456

2. What equation is used to estimate the number of technologically advanced civilizations in our Galaxy?

- a) The Mandrake equation. b) The Einstein equation. c) The Dragon equation. d) The Duck equation.
e) The Drake equation.

SUGGESTED ANSWER: (e)

Wrong answers:

- a) This equation was invented by Group Captain Mandrake who is famous for his almost-world-saving intervention in the Dr. Strangelove affair.
b) This is $E = mc^2$.
c) One definition of drake is dragon.
d) As Lurch would say: “Aaaarh.”

Redaction: Jeffery, 2001jan01

050 qmult 00410 1 1 3 easy memory: SETI method

Extra keywords: CK-452

3. SETI is usually carried out by:

- a) X-ray observations. b) mechanical probes. c) radio observations. d) optical observations.
e) elves.

SUGGESTED ANSWER: (c)

Wrong answers:

- d) There is some interest in optical SETI, but I don't know much about it.
e) The Christmas answer

Redaction: Jeffery, 2001jan01