

1. The most likely places in which stars and planetary systems are forming are in \_\_\_\_\_ and these objects are best studied \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) dust-free regions of very hot helium gas ( $\sim 10^6$  K) in the spiral arms of galaxies, at infrared wavelengths which can penetrate Earth's atmosphere
  - B) dense centers of spiral galaxies, at x-ray wavelengths from the proto-stellar disks surrounding young condensates
  - C) gas and dust clouds (nebulae), at infrared wavelengths which can easily emerge from the obscuring cloud
  - D) gas and dust clouds (nebulae), at ultraviolet wavelengths which are characteristically emitted by hot, young stars
  - E) outer space between galaxies, at visible wavelengths
2. A particular giant molecular cloud has a **total** mass of approximately 400 000 solar masses ( $= 400,000 M_{\odot}$ ). The mass of **helium** in this cloud is approximately \_\_\_\_\_ solar masses.
- A) 4000
  - B) 200 000
  - C) 392 000
  - D) 100 000
  - E) There is no helium in giant clouds in space.
3. At what wavelength have astronomers mapped the spiral arms of the Milky Way...AND... searched for signals from extraterrestrial civilizations?
- A) long radio wavelengths, greater than 210 meters
  - B) light which is optically visible to humans using photography
  - C) ultraviolet because the clouds in the spiral arms are very hot
  - D) 21 meters
  - E) 21 centimeters
4. The major source of energy in the **pre-main-sequence** life (i.e., the protostar stage) of a star is \_\_\_\_\_ and the major source of energy in the main sequence phase is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) gravitational contraction, fusion of hydrogen nuclei in the core
  - B) nuclear fusion of light elements, fusion of hydrogen nuclei in the core
  - C) chemical burning of carbon atoms, nuclear fission of light elements
  - D) nuclear fission, convection cells carrying hot energetic material from the core to the surface of the star
  - E) gravitational contraction, fusion of helium nuclei in a shell around the core
5. Mostly carbon is produced by helium "burning" in the core of a star, but some  $^4\text{He}$  combines with  $^{12}\text{C}$  to form  $^{16}\text{O}$  ...AND... some  $^4\text{He}$  combines with  $^{16}\text{O}$  to produce \_\_\_\_\_.
- A)  $^{22}\text{Na}$  (light isotope of sodium)
  - B)  $^{20}\text{Ne}$  (regular isotope of neon)
  - C)  $^{18}\text{O}$  (heavy isotope of oxygen)
  - D)  $^{24}\text{Mg}$  (regular isotope of magnesium)
  - E) an unusual isotopic form of water in which helium has replaced hydrogen
6. What makes a red giant star so large during its **first** red giant phase?
- A) The iron-rich core has expanded, pushing the overlying layers of the star outward.
  - B) These stars are always  $>33M_{\odot}$  and therefore much bigger than normal stars.
  - C) Red giants are rapid rotators and centrifugal force pushes the surface of the star outward.
  - D) The helium-burning core and hydrogen-burning shell are heating the interior and making the star expand.
  - E) Helium-based nuclear reactions on the surface of the star propel its atmosphere outward.