Scientific Revolution – 7th Grade Social Studies

Practice Questions

1. In Europe, prior to the Scientific Revolution, what were the two main sources of thinking about the natural world?
    a. the words of Roman Emperor Julius Caesar, and the teachings of Buddha
    b. the words of the Bible, and the teachings of Aristotle
    c. the words of Cleopatra, and the markings on the Mayan Calendar
    d. the teachings of Confucius, and the words of the U.S. Constitution

2. In Europe, prior to the Scientific Revolution, most people believed that...
    a. ...the Earth was the center of the universe.
    b. ...the Earth revolved on its own axis.
    c. ...that the Sun was stationary and that the Earth was one of several orbiting planets.
    d. ...that the outer planets were large balls of gases.

3. Belief in reason and logic as a source of knowledge about the world is called
    a. mercantilism
    b. capitalism
    c. geocentrism
    d. rationalism

4. Who was the first astronomer of the Scientific Revolution to propose a heliocentric model, putting the Sun at the center of the known orbiting heavenly bodies?
    a. Nicolaus Copernicus
    b. Aristotle
    c. Galileo Galilei
    d. Ferdinand Magellan

5. Which was a way that Johannes Kepler was able to improve on Coperinicus' heliocentric model?
    a. he theorized that the Earth orbited the Sun every 24 hours
    b. he figured out that the orbits of planets were elliptical (oval-shaped), rather than circular
    c. he stated that the behavior of humans altered (changed) the orbit of the Earth
    d. none of the above

6. Which was a discovery of Galileo through his development and use of telescopes?
    a. that the moon's surface was rough and uneven
    b. that the planet Venus went through phases (reflected light visible from Earth) because it orbited the Sun
    c. that there were several moons revolving around Jupiter
    d. all of the above were discoveries of Galileo

7. Galileo's discoveries were in conflict with the teachings of the Catholic Church. What was the response by church leaders to Galileo?
    a. they warned Galileo not to teach Copernican theory
    b. they accused Galileo of heresy and tried to silence him
    c. they told him he was not allowed to write more about his astronomical discoveries; they also burned his books
    d. all of the above

8. What was considered to be Isaac Newton's greatest discovery?
    a. splitting the atom
    b. the law of gravity
    c. the brain's control of all body systems
    d. none of the above

9. What happened when Galileo dropped two balls of different weights from the top of the Leaning Tower of Pisa?
    a. the heavier ball landed first
    b. the lighter ball landed first
    c. the two balls landed at the same time
    d. the Leaning Tower of Pisa collapsed

10. Look at the following procedure in the box. What is described here? *

> 1. The scientist states a question or problem.
>
> 2. The scientist forms a hypothesis, or assumption, about the problem.
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> 3. The scientist designs and conducts the experiment to test the hypothesis.
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> 4. The scientist measures the data, or information, produced by the experiment and records the results.
>
> 5. The scientist analyzes the data to determine whether the hypothesis is correct.

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    a. The Parallel Theory of Non-Intersection
    b. The Natural Law
    c. The Scientific Method
    d. The Third Law of Thermodynamics