

Isaac Newton Quiz

1. How did Newton's invention of the reflecting telescope affect the field of astronomy?

a. It allowed astronomers to see clearer images, without distorted or lost colors

b. It allowed astronomers to discover the existence of Jupiter and Saturn

c. It made astronomers realize that sunlight contains different colors

d. It allowed astronomers to realize that the earth revolves around the sun

2. According to Newton, what kinds of objects are affected by gravity?

a. Only objects inside the earth's atmosphere, like apples.

b. Only objects that orbit the sun, like planets.

c. Only objects with a lot of mass, like human beings.

d. All objects in the universe.

3. What can you infer from the fact that Newton was elected President of the Royal Society?

a. His personality made him popular among his fellow scientists.

b. His fellow scientists understood the importance of his scientific achievements.

c. His fellow scientists appreciated the work he'd done for the Royal Mint.

d. He was a good friend of the King of England.

4. What type of object could you best measure using calculus?

a. A very large geometric object, like an Egyptian pyramid

b. An object with curves and irregular surfaces

- c. A object so distant you need binoculars to see it
- d. A very close object, like anything under a microscope



How is the moon's orbit around the earth related to an apple falling from a tree?

a. The earth's gravity keeps the moon in orbit, and also pulls objects toward the ground.

b. The earth, the moon, and an apple are all spherical, so they all have gravity.

c. The moon's gravity holds apples on tree branches, while the earth's gravity pulls apples toward the ground.

d. The moon's gravity affects bodies of water; the earth's gravity affects solid objects.

Name:	
Date:	
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6. At the Royal Mint, Isaac Newton helped catch and punish counterfeiters. What is a counterfeiter?

- a. Someone who breaks the laws of physics.
- b. Someone who criticizes the king.
- c. Someone who publishes inaccurate scientific theories.
- d. Someone who prints fake money.

7. Legend has it that a fallen apple was key to Newton's ideas on gravity. What term could you use to describe the apple in this capacity?

- a. Dangerous
- b. Omen
- c. Inspiration
- d. Delicious

8. What conclusion can you draw from the story of Isaac Newton's life?

a. He wasn't nearly as smart as Einstein

b. He revolutionized several different fields within math and science

c. His contributions to math and science were unrecognized until after he died

d. His most important contributions came with the Royal Mint

9. Isaac Newton proved himself to be a polymath. If the prefix "poly-" means "many," what can you infer about what a polymath is?

a. It's someone who comes up with hundreds of scientific equations over his lifetime

b. It's someone who is interested in many different fields of study

c. It's someone who develops mathematical proofs about polynomials

d. It's someone who memorizes the multiplication tables

10. Sir Isaac Newton is buried at Westminster Abbey in London. Which of these other famous people is most likely to also be buried there?

- a. George Washington
- b. King Louis XIV of France
- c. Queen Elizabeth I
- d. Albert Einstein