Astronomy 2010: Example Exam Chapters 8-15
Real Exam date 24 October 2005
Each question is worth 4 points. You may have a page of notes with you when you take the exam.

1. What are the two sorts of land types on the Moon?

2. Why are the craters on the Moon a measure of the activity in the solar system?

3. What are the theories that describe the origin of the Moon?

4. Why do we think Mercury suffered giant impacts in the early days of the solar system?

5. With telescopes what do we see when we look at Mars?

6. Why is the surface of Venus so hot?
7. What land forms do we observe on Mars?

8. Why do we think the surface of Mars is relatively young?

9. What elements dominate the composition of the gas giant planets?

10. Why are there complex compounds in the atmospheres of the gas giants?

11. Why do we think Jupiter and Saturn have strong magnetic fields?

12. How are the moons of the gas giants different from the Moon?

13. Which of the gas giants have rings?
14. Why do the rings of Saturn have gaps and interwoven strands?

15. Besides the main group of asteroids what are three other groups?

16. What is the shape of comet orbits?

17. What is a meteor shower?

18. What is a meteorite?

19. Why do we think the inner planets are mostly rock and metal?

20. What is the process that caused planets to form out of the Solar Nebula?
21. What are the layers of the sun’s atmosphere?

22. Why do we think the corona of the sun is so hot?

23. How do we know the sun is not producing its energy by chemical burning?

24. How long is the sunspot cycle?

25. How do we look into the interior of the sun?