1) During Earth's infancy, was the Moon closer or farther from the Earth?

2) How many years comprise Earth's history?

3) What events “cooked up” all of the elements we know today?

4) What do we call the enormous rotating disk formed from a cloud of stardust by gravity?

5) What gradually drew dust and rocks together into planetesimals?

6) What was the condition of the Earth at its beginnings?
7) What do we call asteroids when they strike the Earth's atmosphere?

8) Why were the fragments of the asteroid that struck the Earth in Canada so important to scientists?

9) What do scientists use to calculate a meteorite's age, and through that the age of the planets?

10) What conditions combined to create the first of several major “disasters” that struck the early Earth?

11) What was the eventual effect of the migration of elements called the “iron catastrophe” on the structure of the Earth?

12) What was the approximate location of the magnetic north pole at the time of the last survey to find it, and what has been discovered about its movement?

13) Why is Earth's magnetic field important for life on this planet, and where can we see the effects on a planet of losing the field?
14) What elements dominated Earth's early atmosphere?

15) What did scientists studying Moon rocks brought back by the Apollo missions deduce about the age of the Moon?

16) How long did it take for the “giant impact” theory of the Moon's formation to begin to be accepted?

17) How long were Earth's days shortly after the formation of the Moon?

18) What devices are used to very precisely analyze the distance to and motion of the Moon?

19) How would Earth's motion around its axis be different if the Moon were not present?

20) What is the revised age of the Earth's crust as determined by dating zircon crystals?
21) Based upon zircon analysis, how long after the formation of the Earth does it seem that liquid water could be found on the surface?

22) What pumped huge amounts of steam into the infant Earth's atmosphere?

23) What other source might have supplied additional water to the early Earth?

24) How does the composition of water analyzed in comets thus far differ from that in Earth's oceans?

25) What method is used to analyze the chemical composition of a comet from the Earth?

26) How long ago was the “template” that could allow life to develop present on the early Earth?