

Name of the Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Max. Marks : 26 Marks

Time : 26 Minutes

**Q1.**

- (a) The table summarises some of the properties of two stars in the constellation of Ursa Minor.

name	apparent magnitude	<u>radius of star</u> radius of the Sun	spectral class
Polaris	2.0	50	F
Kocab	2.0	50	K

- (i) Using these data, describe and explain
- one**
- similarity and
- one**
- difference in the appearance of the two stars as seen with the unaided eye by an observer on the Earth.

similarity\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

difference\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
**(2)**

- (ii) Deduce which of the two stars is further from the Earth.

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
**(3)**

- (b) Ursa Minor also contains the galaxy NGC 6251. Measurements indicate that the light from the galaxy has a red shift,
- $z$
- , of 0.025 and that the galaxy is 340 million light years from Earth.

- (i) Use these data to calculate a value for the Hubble constant.

value \_\_\_\_\_  $\text{k ms}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$

(3)

- (ii) Use your answer to part (b)(i) to estimate a value for the age of the Universe. State an appropriate unit for your answer.

age \_\_\_\_\_ unit \_\_\_\_\_

(3)

(Total 11 marks)

## Q2.

- (a) Bellatrix and Betelgeuse are stars in the constellation of Orion. Some of their properties are summarised below.

	Bellatrix	Betelgeuse
absolute magnitude	−6.0	−2.7
apparent magnitude	0.4	1.6
black-body temperature / K	22 000	2 400

- (i) Explain what is meant by absolute magnitude.

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(1)

- (ii) Which of the two stars is closer to the Earth? Explain your answer.

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(1)

- (b) (i) Calculate the wavelength of the peak intensity in the black-body radiation curve of Bellatrix.

answer = \_\_\_\_\_ m

(2)

- (ii) Sketch the black-body radiation curve for Bellatrix. Label the wavelength axis with a suitable scale.



(3)

- (c) Detailed analysis of the light from both stars reveals the presence of prominent absorption lines in the spectra.

- (i) To which spectral class does Bellatrix belong?

\_\_\_\_\_

(1)

- (ii) Prominent features in the Bellatrix spectrum are the Balmer absorption lines due to hydrogen. State the other element responsible for the prominent absorption lines in the spectrum of Bellatrix.

\_\_\_\_\_

(1)

- (iii) Why does the spectrum of Betelgeuse not contain prominent Hydrogen Balmer absorption lines?

\_\_\_\_\_

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(1)  
(Total 10 marks)

**Q3.**

Cygnus A may be the nearest quasar yet discovered.

- (a) Cygnus A has a redshift,  $z$ , of 0.057.  
Calculate the distance to Cygnus A. State an appropriate unit.

answer = \_\_\_\_\_ unit = \_\_\_\_\_  
(4)

- (b) The first quasars were discovered in the 1950s. What property of quasars led to their discovery?

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(1)  
(Total 5 marks)