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CH:THE ORIGIN AND EVOLUTION OF THE EARTH

Short Answer Type Questions

Question 1.

What do you mean by the big splat?

Answer:

The origin of the moon as a satellite of the earth is the result of big collision which is called "the big splat".

Question 2.

Which hypothesis was given by Hoyle?

Answer:

Hoyle gave concept of steady state. It considered the universe to be roughly the same at any point of time. However, with greater evidence becoming available about the expanding universe, scientific community at present favours argument of expanding universe.

Question 3.

What do you mean by dwarf planets?

Answer:

According to International Astronomical Union (IAU) on August 24,2006, a planet is a celestial body that

- orbits around the sun
- has sufficient mass so that it assumes a hydrostatic equilibrium (nearly round) shape.

The non-satellites bodies fulfilling these two rules are called dwarf planets.

Pluto is now considered a dwarf planet. Ceres, Eris, Makemake, Haumea are some other dwarf planets.

Question 4.

What are different stages of development of atmosphere?

Answer:

In the early stage the atmosphere with hydrogen and helium is supposed to have been stripped off as a result of intense solar winds. In the second stage during the cooling of the earth, gases and water vapour were released from the interior solid earth. Continuous volcanic eruptions contributed water vapour and gases to the atmosphere. As the earth cooled, the water vapour released started getting condensed. Third stage was the stage of photosynthesis.

Question 5.

What do you mean by degassing?

Answer:

The early atmosphere largely contained water vapour, nitrogen, carbon dioxide, methane, ammonia and very little of free oxygen. The process through which the gases were outpoured from the interior is called degassing.

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