

SERIE 4: Space Travel *

Question 1. Is distance the only space-travelling problem? If not, what are the other ones?

Answer

- Travelling speed
 - [Several aspects / considerations related to *speed* mentioned in the text may be accepted as total or partial answers]
 - Complexity. (The huge number of stars and their planets) / (The possibility of cosmic chaos without a good indexing / numbering system)

Question 2. Does Arthur Clarke consider the speed of light impossible to overcome?

Answer

- He is not sure but feels optimistic about it.
- ["Yes" and "no" answers, if (well) reasoned, will be accepted.]

-“So many other ‘impassable’ barriers, have been broken in the past...”

-“Picture a time when, by the development of techniques far beyond our present engineering [...] we can reach anywhere we please instantaneously, with [...]”

Question 3. Why could the development of techniques lead to chaos?

Answer

- The Cosmic Directory would be 10^{14} times bigger than the phone directories of New York and London, which contain 10^6 numbers, to hold its 10^{20} stars and their planets.
- With instant transportation, dialling just a wrong digit could put you at the wrong end of the universe.

Question 4. Which of the following sentences summarises the text best?

Answer

- b

* Aquestes respostes contenen la informació que contesta directament a la pregunta. Ho fan, però, de forma més o menys literal (“tal i com es troba en el text”). Evidentment hi haurà una gama de variants en la organització d’aquest contingut i en la seva formulació sintàctica i lèxica per part dels alumnes [v. algunes possibilitats menors en els claudàtors]. Els parèntesis completen la informació essencial.

Les respostes entrades i en lletra petita contenen informació secundària relacionada.