

Answer Key

Each question is worth 5 points each.

1. What does NIST stand for?
National Institute of Standards and Technology
2. What percent of business use the metric system of measurement?
75%
3. By what percent was Eratosthene's measurement of the earth's circumference off?
1%
4. Why did the NIST move from Washington, DC to Gaithersburg, Maryland in the 1960s?
Vibrations from city traffic were strong enough to affect the organization's ability to take proper measurements
5. A jiffy is an actual unit of measurement for what?
Time
6. What is the equation for speed?
Speed = Distance divided by time
7. What is the speed of sound?
767 miles per hour at sea level
8. How many estimated speeding citations are given out a year in the U.S.?
20 million
9. What can the world's most sensitive scales measure down to?
A few zeptograms, the approximate mass of one protein molecule
10. Who invented the first accurate system of measurement for Temperature
James Fahrenheit