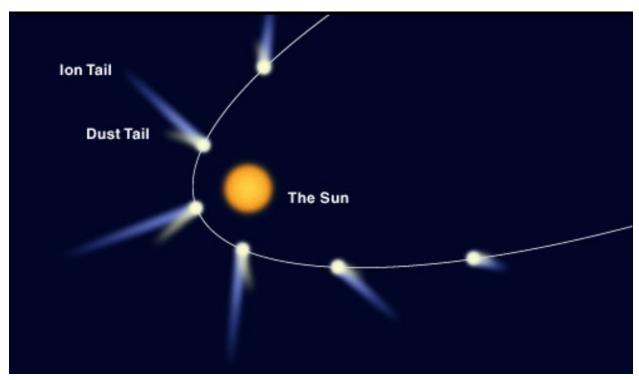


Directions: Below is a diagram of the path of a comet around the Sun. Answer the questions based on that diagram.



- 1. How would you describe the path of a comet around the Sun?
- 2. Where in its path is the comet at its brightest?
- 3. Why is the ion tail of the comet always pointed away from the Sun?
- 4. Comets lose some of their matter every time they pass the Sun.

Cosmic Collisions Vocabulary NAME _____ HR__

Directions: Match the words with the definitions at the bottom of the page. Write the letter of the definition next to the term. Label the 2 pictures.

- 1. Meteor
- 2. Asteroid
- 3. Meteorite
- 4. Asteroid Belt
- 5. ___Comet
- 6. Oort Cloud
- 7. ___Tail
- 8. Meteoroids
- 9. ___Crater
- 10. ___Coma



11.



- 12 _____
- A. Orbits the Sun between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.
- B. An object made of frozen gas, dust and pieces of rock.
- C. Fuzzy glowing ball that forms when a comet gets close to the Sun.
- D. Meteors that make it through the atmosphere and hit the surface of the Earth.
- E. Made by the solar wind as its particles hit a coma and blow out material. It always faces away from the Sun.
- F. Any kind of particles in space. Mainly the remains of comets.
- G. Pieces of rock or dust that burn up as they speed through the Earth's atmosphere.
- H. The largest space rocks.
- I. A bowl-shaped hole on the surface of a planet or our Moon.
- J. Home to possibly 100 billion comets, it is as much as 50,000 times farther from the sun than the Earth.