## Astronomy Ranking Task: The Electromagnetic (EM) Spectrum

## Exercise \#5

Description: Below are four electromagnetic waves labeled A through D, shown on axes of arbitrary units.




A. Ranking instructions: Rank the wavelengths of the electromagnetic waves.

Ranking Order: Shortest 1 $\qquad$ 2 $\qquad$ 3 $\qquad$ 4 $\qquad$ Longest

Or, all the waves have the same wavelength. $\qquad$ (indicate with a check mark)

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
© 2013 Rica Sirbaugh French; idea credit = Center for Astronomy Education (CAE), University of Arizona page 1 of 3

## B. Ranking instructions: Rank the frequencies of the electromagnetic waves.

Ranking Order: Highest 1 $\qquad$ 2 $\qquad$ 3 $\qquad$ 4 $\qquad$ Lowest

Or, all the waves have the same frequency. $\qquad$ (indicate with a check mark)

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
C. Ranking instructions: Rank the amounts of energy carried by a single photon in each of the waves. Ranking Order: Lowest 1 $\qquad$ 2 $\qquad$ 3 $\qquad$ 4 $\qquad$ Highest

Or, the photons all carry the same amount of energy, regardless of the wave. $\qquad$ (indicate with a check mark)

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
D. Ranking instructions: Rank the speeds of the waves.

Ranking Order: Fastest 1 $\qquad$ 2 $\qquad$ 3 $\qquad$ 4 $\qquad$ Slowest

Or, all the waves travel at the same speed. $\qquad$ (indicate with a check mark)

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:
E. Ranking instructions: Rank the periods of the electromagnetic waves.

Ranking Order: Longest 1 $\qquad$ 2 $\qquad$ 3 4 $\qquad$ Shortest

Or, all the waves have same the period. $\qquad$ (indicate with a check mark)

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
F. Ranking instructions: Rank the amplitudes of the waves.

Ranking Order: Highest 1 $\qquad$ 2 $\qquad$ 3 ___ 4 4 Lowest Or, the waves all have the same amplitude. $\qquad$ (indicate with a check mark)

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:

