

Astronomy Ranking Task: Parallax

Exercise #3

Description: The table below shows an incomplete list of the distances and parallax angles for five fictitious stars, lettered A through E.

Star	Distance (pc)	Parallax (")
A		0.1
B	100	
C	1	1
D		0.05
E	5	

A. Ranking instructions: Rank the sizes of the parallax angles of the stars.

Ranking Order: Smallest 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ Largest

Or, the parallax angles of the stars are all the same. _____ (indicate with a check mark)

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:

B. Ranking instructions: Rank the distances of the stars.

Ranking Order: Greatest 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ Least

Or, the distance to each star is the same. _____ (indicate with a check mark)

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:

C. Ranking instructions: Rank how bright the stars appear.

Ranking Order: Brightest 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ Faintest

Or, the stars all appear the same brightness. _____ (indicate with a check mark)

Or, there is not enough information to determine the brightness. _____ (indicate with a check mark)

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:

D. Ranking instructions: Rank how much the stars appear to shift on the sky.

Ranking Order: Least 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ Most

Or, the stars each appear to shift by the same amount. _____ (indicate with a check mark)

Or, there is not enough information to determine the apparent shifts of the stars. _____ (indicate with a check mark)

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:
