**Name** _____

# A Fiery Descent: What Happens to a Meteoroid When it Enters Earth's Atmosphere?

## Multiple Choice Questions

1. What causes a meteoroid to heat up and glow as it enters Earth's atmosphere?

a) Radioactive decay

b) Sunlight reflection

c) Friction with air molecules

d) Magnetic attraction

2. What term is used for a meteoroid that survives its journey through the atmosphere and reaches Earth's surface?

a) Meteor

b) Shooting star

c) Meteorite

d) Comet

3. At what stage of its journey does a meteoroid emit the most visible light?

a) During its entire descent

b) Only at the very beginning

c) When it reaches the surface

d) When it slows down significantly

4. What is the primary reason behind the luminous trail created by a meteoroid?

a) Reflection of starlight

b) Vaporization of its outer layers

c) A chemical reaction with the atmosphere

d) Interaction with magnetic fields

5. Which celestial body often serves as the source of meteoroids entering Earth's atmosphere?

a) The Sun

b) The Moon

c) Comets

d) Mars