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## Exercise D2: Comets and Meteors

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Check the box with the correct answer.*

**Question 1:** Another difference between comets and asteroids is their orbital properties. What major difference exists between asteroid and comet orbits?

- a. Comet orbits are more elliptical than asteroid orbits.
- b. Comet orbits tend to be closer to the plane of the ecliptic than asteroid orbits.
- c. Comet orbits have their aphelion closer to the Sun than asteroid orbits.
- d. Comet orbits are more stable than asteroid orbits.

**Question 2:** Like most comets, Halley spends most of its time near aphelion far from the Sun. Assuming no major changes, what is the orbital period of Halley's comet after 2020?

- a. 38 years
- b. 65 years
- c. 76 years
- d. 152 years

**Question 3:** How does the semi-major axis of Halley's orbit compare to the Earth's distance from the Sun?

- a. It is about the same.
- b. It is 18 times larger.
- c. It is 36 times larger.
- d. It is 72 times larger.

**Question 4:** What is the approximate date of the Eta Aquarid meteor shower?

- a. Early May
- b. Late April
- c. Mid-April
- d. Late May