

## Lightning and Thunder Quiz: Trivia Questions and Answers

1. To what maximum temperature can lightning electrically heat the surrounding air?

- about 1500 °C
- about 18,000 °C
- about 30,000 °C

2. How loud can a peal of thunder be?

- 70 decibels
- 120 decibels
- 540 decibels

3. Elves, sprites, and jets are ...

- types of lightning in the upper atmosphere
- kinds of thunder
- optical phenomena that appear on the ground after a lightning flash

4. Have lightning strikes been recorded on Jupiter and Venus?

- Yes
- Only on Jupiter
- Only on Venus
- No

5. Choose from the list the name of the god of thunder in Slavic mythology.

- Perun
- Indra
- Svarog

6. In 1750, Benjamin Franklin published a paper in which he described his experiment proving that lightning is just a powerful electrical discharge. What did the scientist use during the experiment?

- A balloon

- A metal balloon filled with water
- A balloon

7. Why do we first see lightning and only hear the roar of thunder a few seconds later?

- It's not the lightning that causes the thunder.
- Wet air prevents sound from spreading.
- The speed of light is much faster than the speed of sound.

8. Is lightning dangerous for surface ships built with modern technology?

- No
- Yes

9. What can be determined by the time elapsed between the flash of lightning and the rolling of thunder?

- The distance to the thunderstorm
- Whether a thunderstorm is approaching or moving away.
- Both

10. At what distance can thunder be heard?

- Up to 15-20 kilometers
- Up to 40-50 kilometers
- Up to 100 kilometers

11. What causes thunder to strike?

- A rapid rise in pressure in the path of lightning
- A rapid decrease in pressure in the path of the lightning.

12. The longest lightning for 2022 was recorded in 2020 on the border of the U.S. states of Mississippi and Texas. How long do you think it was?

- 589 meters
- 5 kilometers
- 768 kilometers

13. Can I hide under trees during a thunderstorm?

- Yes, but only if it's a very tall tree
- Yes, wood doesn't conduct electricity.
- No, it's dangerous

14. In powerful above-ground nuclear explosions, lightning can occur near the epicenter. How are they different from lightning discharges?

- Lightning from nuclear explosions runs parallel to the ground.
- Lightning from a nuclear explosion starts at the ground and travels upward.
- Lightning from a nuclear explosion is always ball lightning.

15. What is the name of a device installed on buildings and structures to protect against lightning strikes?

- Lightning rod
- Lightning rod
- Both answers are correct

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### Right answers

1. To what maximum temperature can lightning electrically heat the surrounding air?  
about 30,000 °C
2. How loud can a peal of thunder be?  
120 decibels
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types of lightning in the upper atmosphere
4. Have lightning strikes been recorded on Jupiter and Venus?  
Yes
5. Choose from the list the name of the god of thunder in Slavic mythology.  
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13. Can I hide under trees during a thunderstorm?  
No, it's dangerous
14. In powerful above-ground nuclear explosions, lightning can occur near the epicenter. How are they different from lightning discharges?  
Lightning from a nuclear explosion starts at the ground and travels upward.
15. What is the name of a device installed on buildings and structures to protect against lightning strikes?  
Both answers are correct