

Microbial Life on Mars Quiz

The Tiny Survivors of the Red Planet

1. What type of life is most likely to exist on Mars?

- A. Dinosaurs
 - B. Microbial life
 - C. Intelligent aliens
 - D. Birds
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2. Where would microbial life most likely survive today on Mars?

- A. Surface deserts
 - B. Subsurface ice or rock
 - C. Open craters
 - D. The thin atmosphere
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3. Why is subsurface life more plausible than surface life on Mars?

- A. It is warmer underground
 - B. Protected from UV radiation
 - C. Access to water ice
 - D. All of the above
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4. Which evidence hints at potential microbial life on Mars?

- A. Seasonal methane spikes
 - B. Organic molecules detected by rovers
 - C. Possible ancient lake beds
 - D. All of the above
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5. Why is methane significant in the search for microbial life on Mars?

- A. Methane can be produced by microbes
- B. Methane is always biological
- C. Methane warms the planet

D. Methane creates breathable air

6. Which missions have searched for signs of microbial life on Mars?

- A. Viking landers
 - B. Curiosity rover
 - C. Perseverance rover
 - D. All of the above
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7. What environmental challenge would microbes face on Mars?

- A. Extreme cold
 - B. Low atmospheric pressure
 - C. High radiation
 - D. All of the above
-

8. What is a biosignature that might indicate microbial life?

- A. Fossilized microbial mats
 - B. Organic molecules
 - C. Methane fluctuations
 - D. All of the above
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9. Why might microbial life on Mars be dormant for long periods?

- A. Lack of sunlight
 - B. Scarcity of liquid water
 - C. Freezing temperatures
 - D. All of the above
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10. What would the discovery of microbial life on Mars imply?

- A. Life exists only on Mars
- B. Life could be common in the universe
- C. Intelligent aliens are nearby

D. Mars is fully habitable

BONUS QUESTION

If microbes exist on Mars, where would we likely find the **most resilient types**?

- A. Near the poles
 - B. In caves or deep underground
 - C. On mountain peaks
 - D. Floating in the thin atmosphere
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ANSWERS

1.
B

2.
B

3.
D

4.
D

5.
A

6.
D

7.
D

8.
D

9.
D

10.
B
Bonus: B