

key

Comets

1. What are comets?

x² dirty snow ball

2. What does the head of the comet consist of? What happens when it is heated?

x² nucleus, coma, hydrogen envelope

Comet begins to glow from melting.

3. Which way do comet tails point relative to the Sun? Explain why.

x² Ion tail points 180° away from Sun

This is due to solar wind

4. What are periodic comets?

x² short term comets that come back often.

5. What causes meteor showers?

x² (+) passing through comet's debris field

6. Where are comets found?

x² short term: Kuiper belt
long term: Oort Cloud

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