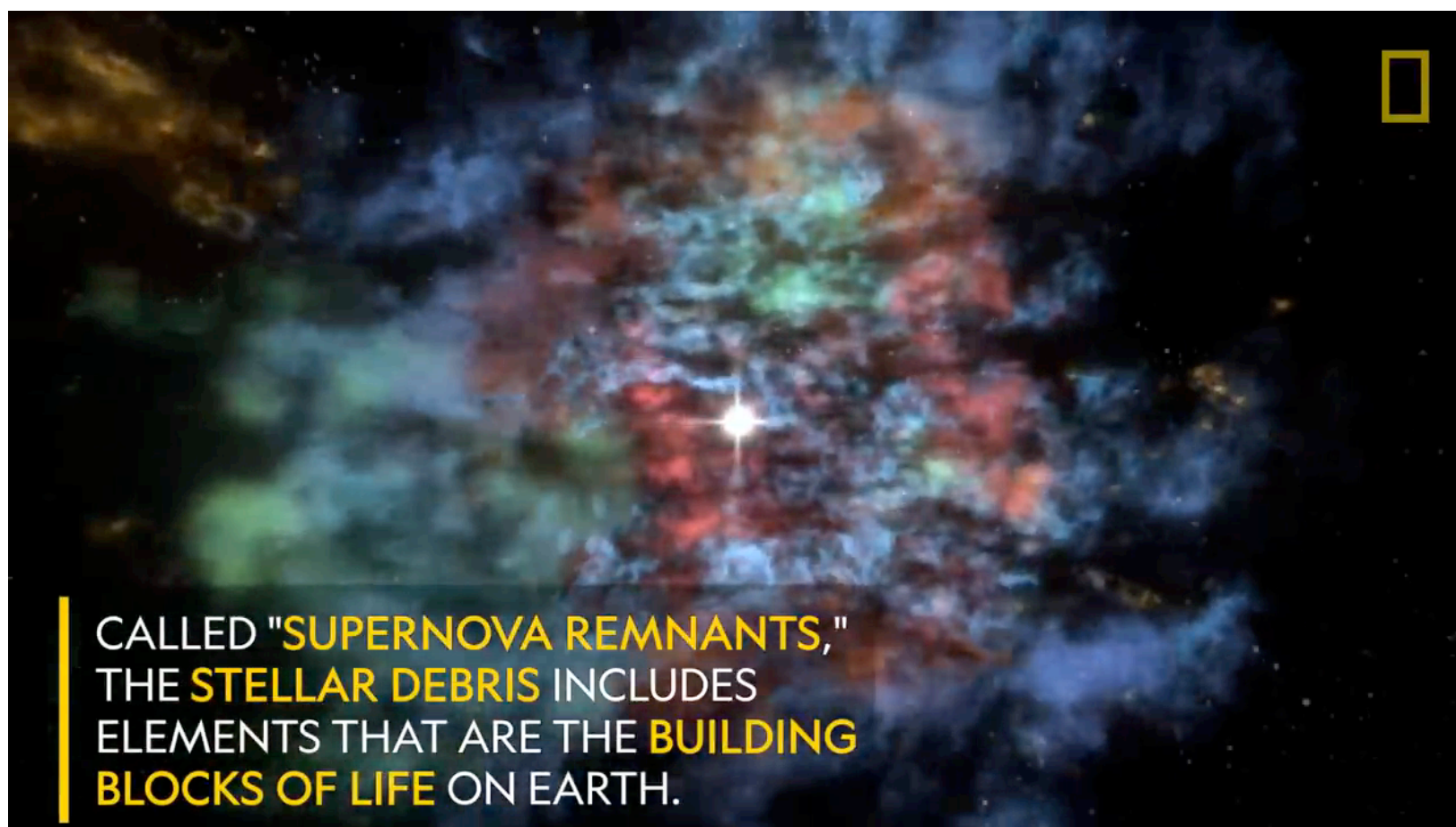


Name and Date:

Astronomy 122

Homework 4: Supernovae and the Earth

Due: by the end of March 15, 2024



Astronomy 122

Homework 4: Supernovae and the Earth

Due: by end of March 15, 2024

1. In addition to the interesting result that stars and supernovae, Type I and Type II, enrich the Universe in elements heavier than lithium, *We are stardust*, nearby supernovae may have serious consequences for life on Earth. Read the article by Adrian Mellott and Brian Thomas, *How Supernovae Affected Life*. The link takes you to the article <https://www.astronomy.com/science/how-supernovae-have-affected-life/>
2. Summarize the article, being sure to point out its major points
3. Compose 5 multiple choice questions with 4 choices based on the article
4. Rate your questions in terms of difficulty: (1) easy, essentially everyone will get the answer; (2) average, roughly 60-65 % of people will get the correct answer; (3) difficult, 15-20 % of people will get the correct answer. What criteria did you use when you assigned level of difficulty, that is, *What makes a question easy or difficult?*
5. If you can, try out your questions on other class members or appropriate friends. How did your expectations on difficulty level turn out?