


Looking up at the night sky, you will probably notice that it is all one color; a black blanket dotted with stars and the moon very often. However, you might be surprised to learn that if you took a trip to either the cold Arctic, in the North, or Antarctic, in the South, then you are very likely to see a colorful


performance—auroras, which are natural light shows in the sky, usually of greenish color but sometimes red or blue. To be able to tell them apart, scientists call the light shows over the Arctic, “aurora borealis” and **those** over the Antarctic, “aurora australis”. To make it much easier to remember them, some people like to call them the Northern or Southern lights.

Parts of auroras are made by the Sun. The Sun is made of gas, that throws out particles with lots of energy from its surface—this is called the Solar Wind. These strong winds flow into the Earth and show the magical lights.

Old stories had claimed that the aurora could create brief and weak noises such as claps heard by those on the ground. Science studies have shown that this could in fact be true with clapping sounds recorded during the time that an aurora appears.

Would you like to enjoy the magic show? Get on **Aurora Watch** and download the time table. Don’t miss it!

 tell...apart 分辨 particle 微粒 surface 表面 clap 鼓掌聲

1. Which picture shows the right places where auroras appear? (  auroras)

(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)



2. What does **those** infer?
- (A) Aurora borealis. (B) The light shows.  
(C) Scientists. (D) Colors of auroras
3. What is “**Aurora Watch**” most likely to be?
- (A) A website to list the show time of auroras.  
(B) A book about the knowledge of auroras.  
(C) A TV program about the sights of auroras.  
(D) A science museum for watching the auroras.
4. According to the reading, which is **NOT** true?
- (A) The aurora in the north is called “aurora borealis.”  
(B) Solar Winds carrying the particles with strong energy to the earth make the aurora.  
(C) It has been easy for people to hear the sounds clearly while auroras are showing in the sky.  
(D) Auroras show green lights more than red ones.

## Teacher's Note

Answer: **B B A C**

1. 參考網頁改編：

- <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/earth/aurora.html>
- [http://www.kidsastronomy.com/Aurora\\_article.php](http://www.kidsastronomy.com/Aurora_article.php)
- <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/earth/aurora.html>
- <http://www.northernlightscentre.ca/northernlights.html>
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- <http://www.livescience.com/48463-facts-about-northern-lights.html>
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aurora>
- <http://odin.gi.alaska.edu/FAQ/#color>
- <http://odin.gi.alaska.edu/FAQ/#what>
- <http://www.phy6.org/Education/waurora1.html>
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- <http://www.planet-science.com/categories/under-11s/our-world/2012/01/have-you-seen-the-northern-lights.aspx>
- [http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Popular\\_Science\\_Monthly/Volume\\_53/August\\_1898/The\\_Aurora](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Popular_Science_Monthly/Volume_53/August_1898/The_Aurora)
- <http://www.vectoriel.com/vectors/400/2013/07/05/4418-earth.jpg>