

SCIENTIFIC NOTATION SELF-CHECK PUZZLE



This space junk, a NASA Payload Assist Module, fell out of orbit into the Saudi Arabian desert in 2001. Complete the puzzle to find out how much space junk orbits Earth right above our heads.

| | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| S | 4.5×10^2 | I | 1.2×10^4 |
| E | 4.5×10^3 | A | 3.4×10^1 |
| O | 4.5×10^4 | X | 1.2×10^{-2} |
| N | 4.5×10^{-5} | T | 3.4×10^2 |
| S | 2.3×10^{-4} | T | 1.2×10^{-4} |
| N | 4.5×10^{-1} | H | 2.3×10^3 |
| O | 2.3×10^{-1} | N | 3.4×10^5 |
| D | 3.4×10^{-5} | S | 1.2×10^5 |
| U | 2.3×10^0 | | |

| | | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| <u>120000</u> | <u>12000</u> | <u>0.012</u> | <u>0.00012</u> | <u>2300</u> | <u>0.23</u> |
| <u>2.3</u> | <u>0.00023</u> | <u>34</u> | <u>340000</u> | <u>0.000034</u> | <u>340</u> |
| <u>45000</u> | <u>0.45</u> | <u>0.000045</u> | <u>4500</u> | <u>450</u> | |

ANSWER

SIX THOUSAND TONNES