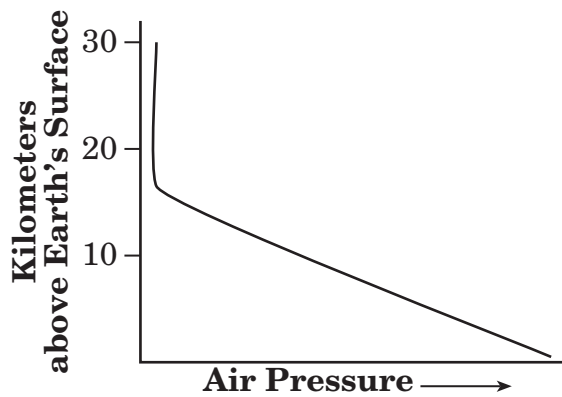


## Grade 7 Science Sample Items

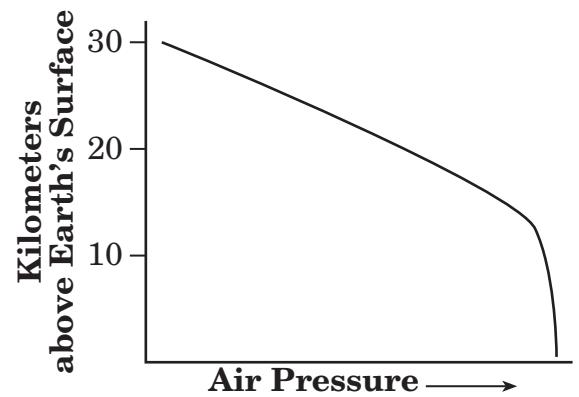
1. Objective: 1.01  
Thinking Skill: Applying

As air rises above Earth's surface, it becomes less dense. The resulting decrease in air pressure is gradual up to about 15 km above the surface and then pressure decreases very rapidly. Which graph *best* shows the relationship between height above Earth's surface and air pressure?

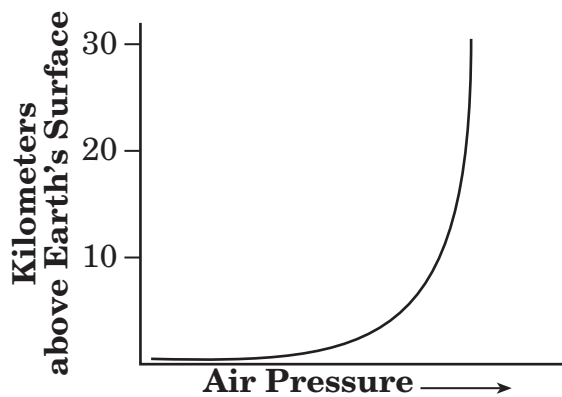
A



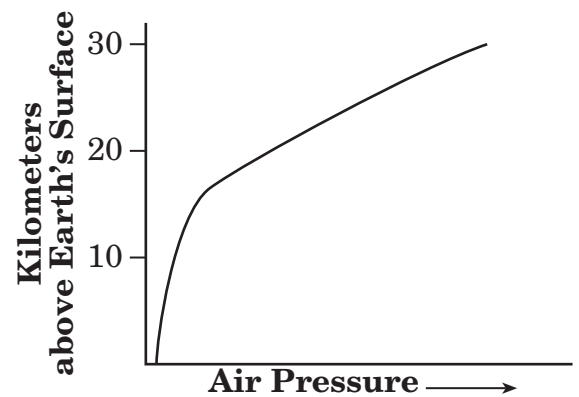
\* B



C



D



2. Objective: 1.03  
Thinking Skill: Knowledge

Some scientists believe that sunspot cycles have an effect on Earth's climate, and may cause periodic droughts in some regions. A climatologist studying sunspots examines historic records to see whether sunspot cycles match variations in rainfall. The climatologist is performing what scientific procedure?

- A controlling variables
- B experimentation
- \* C historical research
- D isolating a variable

3. Objective: 3.05  
Thinking Skill: Applying

In 1992, scientists announced that they may have found a vaccine that protects monkeys against a certain disease. Several monkeys vaccinated in 1990 and then exposed to the virus have not acquired the disease after two years. What conclusion about the vaccine is **most** appropriate?

- A The vaccine is reliable because the scientists have not become infected.
- \* B The vaccine is reliable based on current information.
- C The vaccine is not reliable because not enough time has passed to be sure.
- D The vaccine should be put on the market before any monkeys die.