Astronomy Ranking Task: Phases of the Moon

Exercise #4

Description: In each figure below the Moon is shown in a particular phase along with the position in the sky that the Moon would have at one time during the day (or night). The dark area on each moon figure shows the unlit portion of the Moon visible from Earth at that time. Assume that sunset occurs at 6 pm and that sunrise occurs at 6 am, and the observer is located in the Northern Hemisphere.

Ranking Instructions: Use the time each Moon phase (A – F) would appear as shown to rank the figures (from earliest to latest), starting from sunrise (6 am).

Ranking Order:

Earliest (about 6 am) 1 ___ 2 ____ 3 ____ 4 ____ 5 ____ 6 _____ Latest

Or, the time of day or night are the same for all the phases shown. ________ (indicate with check mark).

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:

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