



**Drag the correct word from the list to complete the sentence.**

**moon**

**meteors**

**navigate**



a) The brightest star in our sky is the Sun .



b) The Hubble space telescope is used to view the stars in the universe.

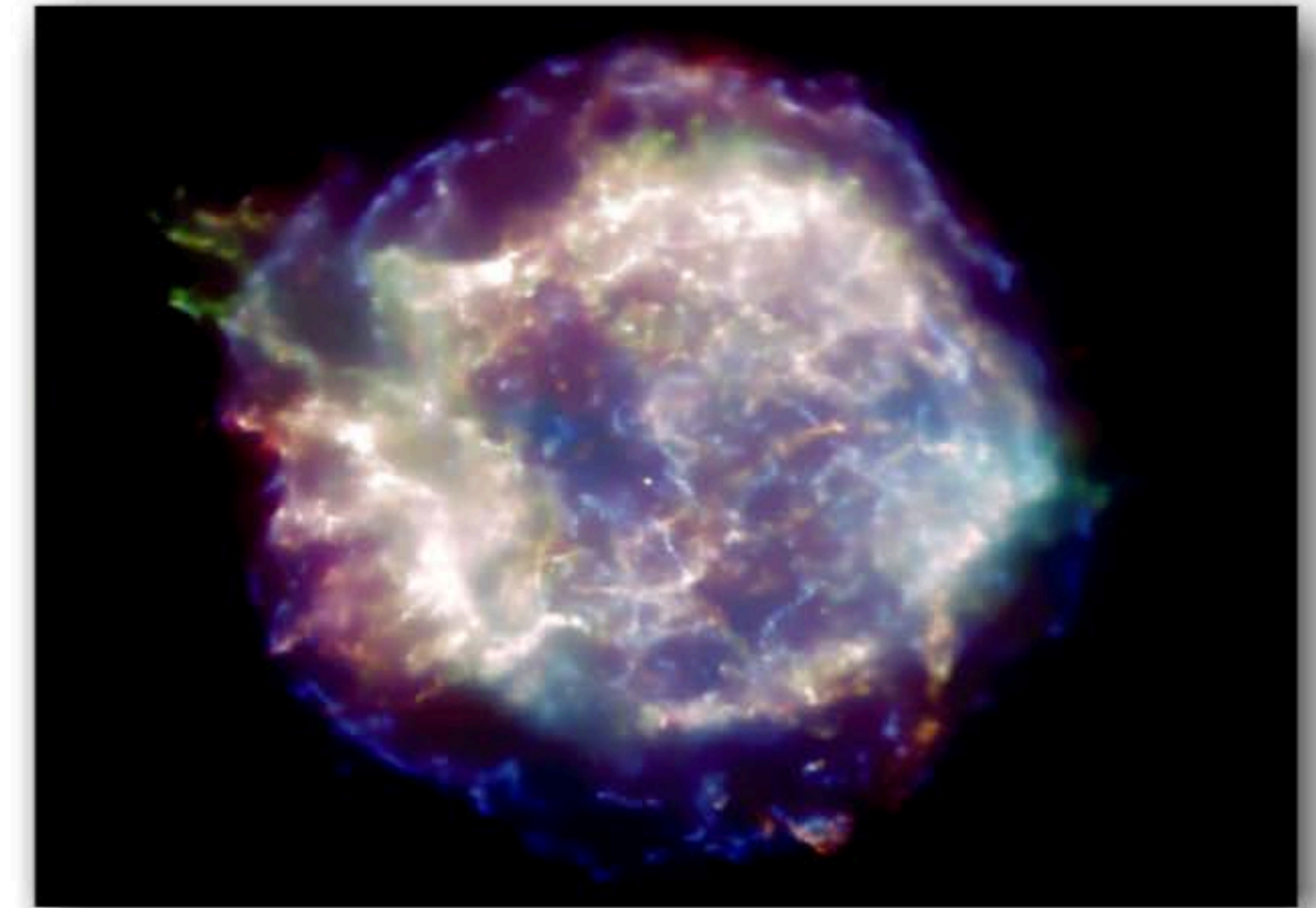
c) Shooting stars are not actually stars. They are \_\_\_\_\_ .

d) Stars have been used by sailors to \_\_\_\_\_ the ocean for hundreds of years.





Scientists estimate that there are trillions of stars in the universe. You could probably see about 3,000 of them on a clear night if you live in the country. Did you know that stars have a **life cycle**, just like living things? They are born, they grow up, and then they die. A star begins as a cloud of gas and dust, called a **nebula**. As the cloud moves around, it picks up more and more gas and dust. Picture a snowball rolling down a hill and getting bigger and bigger. The star gets really big and hot; eventually it runs out of gas and burns out. The burnt out star will blow up, shrink or go cold. This whole cycle can take billions of years to happen.



(touch the image to enlarge)

(continue)

Reset



# Life Cycle of Our Sun

## YEARS

**Birth**

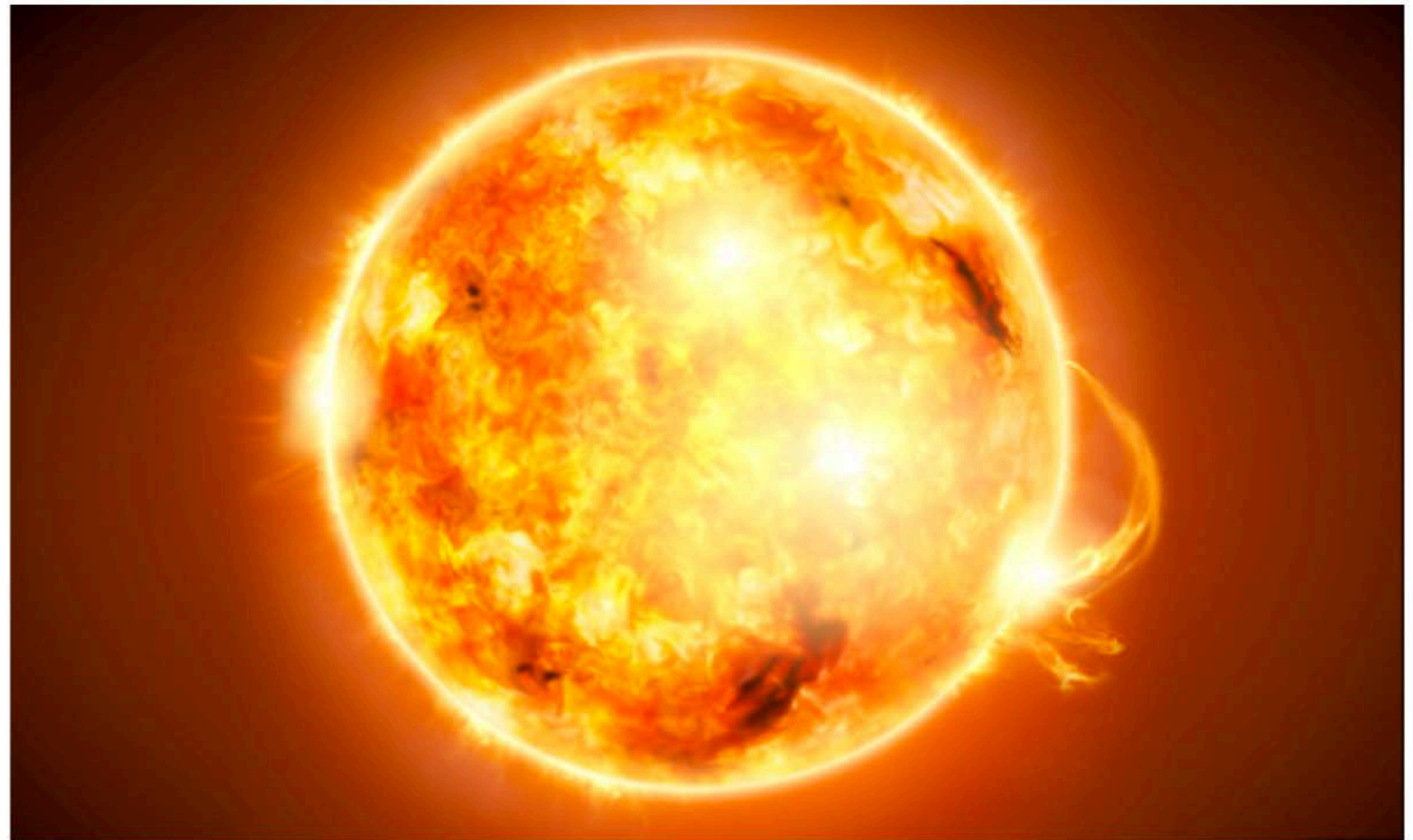
**1 Million**

**11 Million**

**10 Billion**

**11 Billion**

**12 Billion**



**Main Sequence Star:** Our Sun is currently halfway through this phase and is classified as a Yellow Dwarf. Nuclear fusion begins in the protostar, heating the core of the star. This is the longest phase of a star.