Astronomy Ranking Task:  
Phases of the Moon

Exercise #3

Description: Shown below are five different phases of the Moon (A – E) as seen by an observer in the Northern Hemisphere.

![Moon Phases Diagram]

Ranking Instructions: Beginning with the waxing gibbous phase of the Moon, rank the moon phases shown below in the order that the observer would see them over the next four weeks.

Ranking Order:

Beginning with the waxing gibbous phase 1 _D_  2 _B_  3 _E_  4 _A_  5 _C_  Last phase seen.

Or, all of these phases would be visible at the same time. _____ (indicate with check mark).

Carefully explain your reasoning for ranking this way:
Beginning with the waxing gibbous phase (just before full moon) the first image is D (waning gibbous) then B (last quarter), E (waning crescent) … then transition through new moon to A (waxing crescent and finally C (first quarter moon).