

Name _____ Date _____

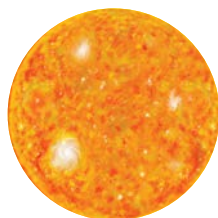
Directions: Read each question and choose the best answer.

1. Which of these is the best way to describe our solar system?

- (a) It is a group of stars revolving around a single object.
- (b) It is a group of objects revolving around a single star.
- (c) It is a single star revolving around a group of objects.
- (d) It is a single object revolving around a group of stars.

2. Which of these facts about the Sun is *not* true?

- (a) It is much larger than most other stars.
- (b) It provides energy in the form of light.
- (c) Gravity holds the planets in orbit around the Sun.
- (d) It is about 150 million kilometers (93 million miles) from Earth.



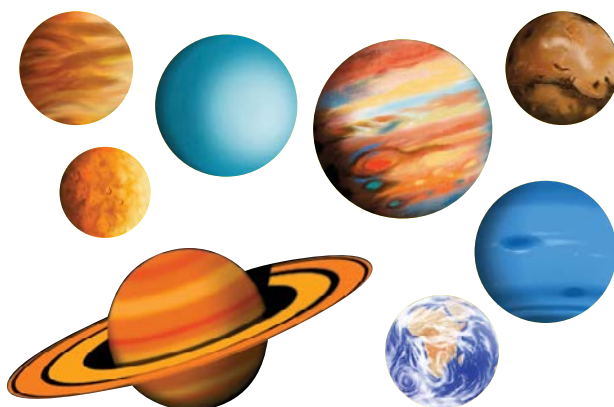
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3. *Moon* is related to *planet* in the same way that ***planet*** is related to _____.

- (a) *orbit* (c) *star*
- (b) *Neptune* (d) *dwarf planet*

4. Which of these phrases would be a useful way to remember the names and order of the eight planets, listed from nearest the Sun to farthest from the Sun?

- (a) My Very Energetic Mother Just Served Us Nachos
- (b) My Excellent New Violin Usually Sounds Mighty Jazzy
- (c) Neighbors Using Spicy Juice Might Enjoy Vegetable Mixtures
- (d) Every Jar Under My Nose Smells Very Moldy



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5. Which planets are the largest ones in our solar system?

- (a) Venus and Earth
- (b) Saturn and Jupiter
- (c) Mars and Mercury
- (d) Neptune and Uranus

6. Which of these planets would probably be safest to land on because of its solid surface?

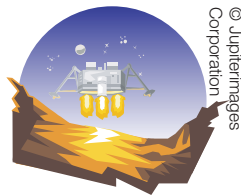
- (a) Neptune (c) Jupiter
- (b) Uranus (d) Mars

7. Which planets are the gas giants?

- (a) Saturn and Venus
- (b) Mars, Earth, Venus, and Mercury
- (c) Neptune, Uranus, Saturn, and Jupiter
- (d) All of the above

8. If you passed between Mars and Jupiter, and saw an area with rocks of different sizes floating through space together, what would they most likely be?

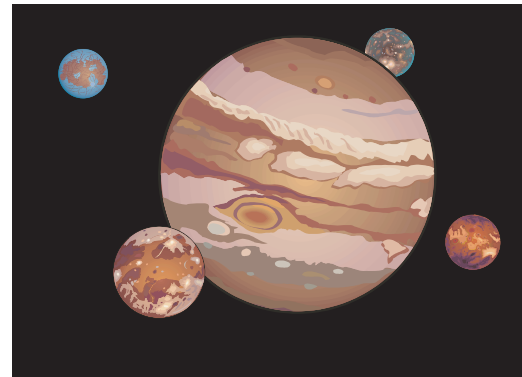
- (a) comets (c) planets
- (b) asteroids (d) moons



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9. Which statement about planets and their moons is *true*?

- (a) Every planet in our solar system has at least one moon.
- (b) The Sun's size is the reason that moons orbit planets.
- (c) Every moon in our solar system revolves around, or orbits, its planet.
- (d) All the moons in our solar system are covered with oceans and clouds.








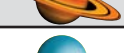


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10. What makes Earth different from any other planet?

- (a) It is the only planet known to have living things on it.
- (b) It is the only planet known to have liquid water on its surface.
- (c) It is the only planet known to have air that is safe for animals to breathe.
- (d) All of the above

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Directions: Use the table to answer questions 11–13. (The planets are listed in alphabetical order.)**FAST FACTS ABOUT THE PLANETS IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM**

Planet	Diameter (km)	Period of rotation	Period of revolution	Number of known moons
 Earth	12,756	23.96 Earth hours (1 Earth day)	365.24 Earth days (1 Earth year)	1
 Jupiter	142,984	9.9 Earth hours	11.9 Earth years	63
 Mars	6,794	24.6 Earth hours	687 Earth days	2
 Mercury	4,879	59 Earth days	88 Earth days	0
 Neptune	49,528	16.1 Earth hours	164.8 Earth years	
 Saturn	120,536	10.7 Earth hours	29.4 Earth years	60
 Uranus	51,118	17.24 Earth hours	84 Earth years	27
 Venus	12,104	243 Earth days	225 Earth days	0

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11. Using the diameter information from the table, which answer lists the planets in the correct order, from largest to smallest?

- (a) Venus, Jupiter, Mercury
- (b) Neptune, Uranus, Mars
- (c) Mercury, Venus, Earth
- (d) Saturn, Uranus, Earth

12. What belongs in the blank box?

- (a) the diameter of Venus
- (b) Saturn's period of revolution
- (c) the number of known moons that Neptune has
- (d) the number of known moons that Mercury has

13. Which planets rotate faster than Earth does?

- (a) Jupiter, Neptune, Saturn, and Uranus
- (b) Mars, Mercury, and Venus
- (c) All of the other planets rotate faster than Earth does.
- (d) None of the other planets rotate faster than Earth does.

14. Extended Response: Choose a planet in our solar system other than Earth. First, describe how it is different from Earth. Then explain whether or not you would want to visit it and why.

Unit Quiz Answer Sheet

I=inferentialV=vocabularyL=literal/recallD=data analysis

1. (b) L
2. (a) L
3. (c) V
4. (a) I
5. (b) L
6. (d) I
7. (c) L
8. (b) V
9. (c) I
10. (d) L
11. (d) D
12. (c) D
13. (a) D

14. Extended Response: Responses will vary but must address both parts of the question.

For the first part of the response, students should select a planet other than Earth and describe one or more ways it differs from Earth. These differences may include: facts from the data table in this quiz, descriptions of each planet's appearance, the fact that the other planet is not known to sustain life or to have surface water, or other accurate information that contrasts the two planets.

For the second part of the response, students should explain whether or not they would want to visit the planet they chose and why. Responses will vary. Reasons should support the choice to visit or not visit and may include: an interest in learning more about the planet; an eagerness to see special features up close; concerns about the time it would take to travel there and back; concerns about the availability of air, food, water, shelter, family, and friends; or any other valid reasons.