

Astronomy Test Review – Planets

- 1) What are the Jovian and Terrestrial Planets? List 5 characteristics of Jovian planets and 5 characteristics of Terrestrial Planets?
- 2) Know the following moons: What planet do they orbit and general characteristics?
 - a. Phobos and Deimos
 - b. Triton
 - c. Titan
 - d. Ganymede
 - e. Callisto
 - f. Europa
 - g. Io
- 3) What Roman God are these planets named after: Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Neptune
- 4) What part of our solar system do comets come from? What are they composed of?
- 5) What are the three criteria for an object to be called a major planet? Why is Pluto not a major planet?
- 6) What are the two primary gases on all Jovian planets?
- 7) According to theory how do astronomers think our moon formed? What evidence leads to this theory?
- 8) What are some of the effects a large meteorite impact would have on Earth? What can we do to try lessen the danger of meteorite impacts?
- 9) What are some evidence that life may have in the past or may still exist on the surface of Mars?
- 10) Where else in our solar system might we look for life?
- 11) Why according to the theory on planet formation did the Jovian planets get so much larger than the terrestrial planets?
- 12) How were Uranus, Neptune and Pluto discovered?
- 13) What are some of the difficulties in sending a human to Mars?
- 14) What causes Mercury to have the most extreme temperatures of any planet?
- 15) When can someone see Mercury? Venus?
- 16) Why do we only see one side of the moon?
- 17) How does the mass of Jupiter compare with the other planets?
- 18) What are the names of the four Galilean moons? Who were they named after?
- 19) What element causes Neptune's blue color?
- 20) Which two planets orbit retrograde (backwards)?
- 21) Why can we only send missions to Mars about every two years?
- 22) What planet is earth's sister planet?
- 23) Why do astronomers think Venus rotates so slowly on its axis?