

ASTRONOMY

ABCD

1. What is the name of the planet shown in the photograph?



- ☐ Earth
- ☐ Mercury
- ☐ Venus
- ☐ Mars

ABCD

2. What is the astronomical instrument used in navigation until the early 18th century, the predecessor of the sextant, called?

- ☐ The compass
- ☐ The telescope
- ☐ The chronometer
- ☐ The astrolabe

INTEGER

3. How many times a year does the Earth orbit the Sun?

Answer: _____

ABCD

4. What is the name of the planet shown in the photograph?



- ☐ Saturn
- ☐ Uranus
- ☐ Jupiter
- ☐ Neptune

PLANET

5. Which planet is composed mainly of hydrogen and helium, and whose distinctive Great Red Spot is an anticyclone that has been observed continuously since at least the 17th century?

- ☐ Mercury
- ☐ Venus
- ☐ Earth
- ☐ Mars
- ☐ Jupiter
- ☐ Saturn
- ☐ Uranus
- ☐ Neptune

INTEGER

6. How many moons does the dwarf planet Pluto have?

Answer: _____

± You can be off by 1.

DATE

7. When does astronomical winter begin?

Answer: _____

± You can be off by one day.

PLANET

8. Which planet orbits the Sun in about 11.86 years?

- ☐ Mercury
- ☐ Venus
- ☐ Earth
- ☐ Mars
- ☐ Jupiter
- ☐ Saturn
- ☐ Uranus
- ☐ Neptune

ABCD

9. In astronomy, what is the average time it takes the Moon to orbit the Earth relative to the stars called?

- ☐ Synodic month
- ☐ Sidereal month
- ☐ Anomalistic month
- ☐ Draconic month

ABCD

10. Which dwarf planet is named after the Roman goddess of agriculture?

- ☐ Ceres
- ☐ Haumea
- ☐ Eris
- ☐ Makemake

ABCD

11. Which constellation is Sirius, the brightest star in the night sky, in?

- ☐ Lyra
- ☐ Canis Minor
- ☐ Canis Major
- ☐ Orion

PLANET

12. Which planet of the solar system was discovered last?

- ☐ Mercury
- ☐ Venus
- ☐ Earth
- ☐ Mars
- ☐ Jupiter
- ☐ Saturn
- ☐ Uranus
- ☐ Neptune

INTEGER

13. How many time zones is the Earth divided into?

Answer: _____

ANGLE

14. How many degrees of longitude correspond to a one-hour time difference?

Answer: _____

YES/NO

15. Did the astronomer Edmond Halley know Isaac Newton?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

AGE

16. In which century was the planet Pluto discovered?

Answer: _____

± You can be off by one century.

ABCD

17. What is the name of the third-brightest star in the Pleiades cluster?

- ☐ Aldebaran
- ☐ Vega
- ☐ Sirius
- ☐ Electra

INTEGER

18. How many moons does Venus have?

Answer: _____

ORDER

19. Arrange the planets of the solar system from the one closest to the Sun to the one furthest away.

Number the items in the correct order.

- ☐ Earth
- ☐ Mercury
- ☐ Saturn
- ☐ Neptune

PLANET

20. Belinda is a moon of which planet?

- ☐ Mercury
- ☐ Venus
- ☐ Earth
- ☐ Mars
- ☐ Jupiter
- ☐ Saturn
- ☐ Uranus
- ☐ Neptune

Answers

ASTRONOMY

1. **Venus**
2. **The astrolabe**
The name comes from a Greek word meaning "star-taker".
3. **1**
4. **Jupiter**
5. **Jupiter**
6. **5**
7. **21 December**
Astronomical winter begins at the December solstice, which falls on 21 or 22 December.
8. **Jupiter**
9. **Sidereal month**
The name comes from the Latin "sidus, sideris", meaning "star".
10. **Ceres**
Ceres was discovered in 1801 by Italian astronomer Giuseppe Piazzi. The word "cereal" also comes from the goddess's name.
11. **Canis Major**
Sirius is the brightest star in the night sky because it is close to us.
12. **Neptune**
It was discovered in 1846. It is the only planet found through mathematical calculation rather than by observing the sky.
13. **24**
14. **15°**
15. **Yes**
Halley persuaded Newton to write the "Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica" (1687) and then paid for its printing.
16. **XX century**
The planet was discovered on 18 February 1930 by Clyde Tombaugh.
17. **Electra**
Only Alcyone and Atlas are brighter. Electra is a blue giant in the constellation Taurus.
18. **0**
19. **Mercury → Earth → Saturn → Neptune**
20. **Uranus**
It is one of the planet's inner moons.

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