Beyond Earth

Standard difficulty · 20 questions · 40 marks · Time: 36 minutes

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: ____ / 40

Show your working for Sections B and C. Answers are on the last page — try every question first!

Section A — Choose the correct answer — 8 × 1 = 8 marks

1. The Sun is a:

(a) moon **(b)** comet **(c)** planet **(d)** star

2. Venus is:

(a) the hottest planet, often seen as the evening star
(b) the planet famous for its bright rings
(c) the planet farthest from the Sun
(d) the largest planet

3. In the order of planets from the Sun, what comes right after "Venus"?

(a) Mercury **(b)** Jupiter **(c)** Mars **(d)** Earth

4. Which of these is NOT a member of our Solar System?

(a) the Andromeda galaxy **(b)** an asteroid
(c) Jupiter **(d)** Mars

5. Which of these is a small, rocky planet?

(a) Jupiter **(b)** Neptune **(c)** Earth **(d)** Uranus

6. 1 au is about 150 million km. A space probe is 11 au from the Sun. About how far is that?

(a) 165 million km **(b)** 161 million km
(c) 1,650 million km **(d)** 1,800 million km

7. The Moon is about 384,000 km away. A spacecraft travels 1,000 km every hour. How many hours does it take to reach the Moon?

(a) 384 hours **(b)** 192 hours **(c)** 768 hours **(d)** 394 hours

8. How many planets are there between Mercury and Saturn?

(a) 4 **(b)** 5 **(c)** 6 **(d)** 3

Section B — Short answer — 8 × 2 = 16 marks

9. Name the eight planets in order from the Sun.

10. Which planet comes right after (a) Uranus (b) Mercury, going out from the Sun?

11. Name the planet: (a) the red planet (b) the largest planet

12. Is it part of our Solar System? Write "yes" or "no": (a) the Andromeda galaxy (b) Pluto

13. About how many kilometres is 35 au? (1 au is about 150 million km)

14. The Moon's diameter is about a quarter of the Earth's. In a model, the Earth is a ball 40 cm wide. How wide should the model Moon be?

15. The Moon goes around the Earth about once every 27 days. About how many days does it take to go around 7 times?

16. The Earth goes around the Sun once a year. How many times has it gone around since you were 9, if you are now 14?

Section C — Word problems — 4 × 4 = 16 marks

17. Describe our Solar System.

18. A spacecraft travels to the Moon, about 384,000 km away, at 4,000 km an hour. (a) How many hours does it take? (b) About how many days is that (round down)? (c) Name India's Moon missions and one thing Chandrayaan-3 did.

19. Write one fact about each: Jupiter, Venus, Saturn. Then write all eight planets in order from the Sun.

20. Jupiter is about 5 au from the Sun and the Earth 1 au (1 au ≈ 150 million km). (a) About how many million km is Jupiter from the Sun? (b) How much farther from the Sun is it than the Earth? (c) A probe flies 1 million km a day. About how many days to cover the difference? (d) Why is Jupiter so cold?

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Answer key

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Q	Answer	Working
1	**(d) star**	—
2	**(a) the hottest planet, often seen as the evening star**	—
3	**(d) Earth**	Mercury → Venus → Earth → Mars → Jupiter → Saturn → Uranus → Neptune
4	**(a) the Andromeda galaxy**	—
5	**(c) Earth**	—
6	**(c) 1,650 million km**	11 × 150 = 1650
7	**(a) 384 hours**	384,000 ÷ 1,000 = 384
8	**(a) 4**	Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter
9	**Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.**	—
10	**(a) Neptune (b) Venus**	Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune
11	**(a) Mars (b) Jupiter**	—
12	**(a) no (b) yes**	—
13	**5,250 million km**	35 × 150
14	**10 cm**	40 ÷ 4 = 10
15	**189 days**	27 × 7 = 189
16	**5 times**	14 − 9 = 5
17	**The Sun is at the centre. Eight planets go around it: Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars (small and rocky), and Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune (large and gassy). There are also dwarf planets like Pluto, many moons, the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, and comets.**	—
18	**(a) 96 hours (b) 4 days (c) Chandrayaan-1, 2 and 3; Chandrayaan-3 landed near the Moon's south pole in 2023.**	384,000 ÷ 4000 = 96; ÷ 24
19	**Jupiter: the largest planet; Venus: the hottest planet, often seen as the evening star; Saturn: the planet famous for its bright rings. Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune.**	—

Q	Answer	Working
20	**(a) About 750 million km (b) About 600 million km (c) About 600 days (d) It is very far from the Sun and gets much less heat.**	5 × 150 = 750; − 150; ÷ 1

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