

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Planet Uranus Multiple Choice Questions

Circle the correct answer.

- When viewed from space Uranus appears
  - Blue
  - Tan
  - Black
  - Green
- The diameter of Uranus about what percent of Earth's diameter?
  - 50%
  - 100%
  - 200%
  - 400%
- Much of the information scientists have about Uranus comes from
  - Early observations with telescopes
  - Voyager space probes
  - Landings on Uranus
  - All of the above
- A year on Uranus is
  - The same as a year on Earth
  - Shorter than a year on Earth
  - Longer than a year on Earth
  - Shorter than a month on Earth
- Where is Uranus among the planets in distance from the Sun?
  - First
  - Third
  - Fifth
  - Seventh
- Uranus has many
  - Moons
  - Lakes
  - Continents
  - Craters



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### Planet Uranus Short Answer Questions

1. The ancient Egyptians and Greeks knew about many of the planets. Why wasn't Uranus discovered until 1781?
2. How did astronomers finally obtain good scientific data about Uranus?
3. Why does a year on Uranus equal about 84 Earth years?
4. The length of a day on Earth is 24 hours everywhere on the planet. Explain why Uranus can have a different length of day in different places.
5. Draw a diagram showing the tilt of the axis of each of these planets: Earth, Mars, and Uranus.
6. Miranda is one of the moons of Uranus. Do some research and write a short report about the unusual features of Miranda called ovoids.
7. Working with a group of your classmates, create a summary chart of the planets in our solar system. Include facts like distance from the Sun, number of moons, surface characteristics and more.



## Planet Uranus Answer Key

### Multiple Choice

1. d.
2. d.
3. b.
4. c.
5. d.
6. a.

### Short Answer

1. Uranus is so far from Earth that astronomers needed advanced telescopes to view Uranus.
2. Astronomers obtained good information about Uranus through the Voyager 2 space probe.
3. Uranus is so far from the Sun that it takes the planet about 84 times longer than the Earth to make one revolution around the Sun.
4. A day on Uranus, the time it takes for the planet to rotate once on its axis is fast, is just 17 hours and 14 minutes in Earth time. Due to prevailing winds that blow at about 450 miles per hour, the atmosphere of Uranus in the southern hemisphere rotates even faster, making one rotation every 14 hours. This difference in rotational speed is possible because like other planets in the outer edges of the solar system, Uranus does not have a solid surface. Instead the surface is composed of gases.
5. Earth has a tilt of  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees; Mars, 25 degrees; and Uranus, 98 degrees.
6. Individual response
7. Individual response

