

Name: _____ Date: _____

Planet Venus Multiple Choice Questions

Circle the correct answer.

1. The name of the NASA spacecraft that landed on Venus is

- a. Magellan
- b. Mariner
- c. Venera
- d. None of the above

2. Compared to the Earth Venus is

- a. Smaller
- b. About the same size
- c. Larger
- d. Much larger

3. With regard to orbits,

- a. Earth and Venus both have elliptical orbits
- b. Earth and Venus both have circular orbits
- c. Earth and Venus have the same shape orbit
- d. None of the above

4. A year on Venus is

- a. The same as a year on Earth
- b. Shorter than a year on Earth
- c. Longer than a year on Earth
- d. Shorter than a month on Earth

5. Venus is surrounded by thick clouds of

- a. Sulfuric acid
- b. Sulfur dioxide
- c. Argon
- d. Neon

6. Astronomers believe the surface of Venus is hot due to

- a. Volcanoes
- b. A molten core
- c. A greenhouse effect
- d. All of the above



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Planet Venus Short Answer Questions

1. Do some research and write a short report about the Soviet Venera space probes.
2. Why is Magellan a good name for the NASA space probe that began orbiting Venus in 1990?
3. Planet Mercury is 36 million miles from the Sun; Venus is 67 million miles; and Earth is 93 million miles. If this was all the information you had available, how far from the Sun would you predict the fourth planet to be?
4. How long is a day on Venus compared to a day on Earth? Explain how you determined your answer.
5. True or false: A day on Venus is longer than a year on Venus. Explain your answer.
6. Do you think that astronauts will be able to land on the surface of Venus some day? Explain why or why not.
7. Do some research and explain about the phases of Venus that are similar to the phases of the Moon.



Planet Venus Answer Key

Multiple Choice

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

Short Answer

1. Individual response
2. Individual response
3. Prediction: mathematically, the fourth planet would be about 123 million miles from the Sun.
4. It takes Venus 243 Earth days to complete one rotation on its axis so one day on Venus is equal to 243 Earth days.
5. A day on Venus, the time it takes Venus to rotate on its axis, is 243 Earth days. A year on Venus, the time it takes Venus to make one revolution around the Sun, is 225 Earth days. So it is true that a day on Venus is longer than a year on Venus.
6. Individual response
7. Individual response

