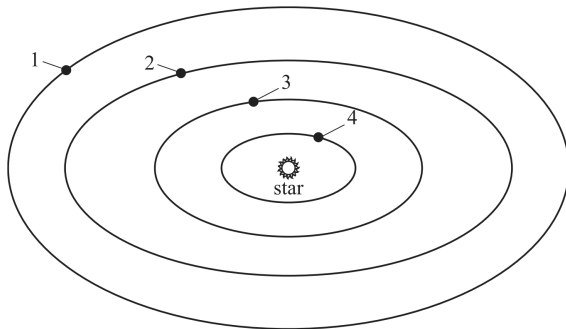


RQ Solar System

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. There are four planets and a star in the solar system below.



The planets move around the center star in different orbits. Which planet has an orbit that is in the same relative position from its star as Earth's orbit is from the Sun?

- A. planet 1 B. planet 2
C. planet 3 D. planet 4
2. A day on Saturn takes about 10 Earth hours. Which fact would *best* explain this short day?
- A. Saturn is less dense than Earth.
B. Saturn is much farther from the Sun than Earth.
C. Saturn rotates more rapidly than Earth.
D. Saturn's orbit has greater eccentricity than Earth's.
3. The diameter of Saturn is almost ten times that of the Earth, yet its density is much less. This can *best* be explained by the fact that Saturn
- A. is farther from the Sun.
B. is a gaseous planet.
C. has a shorter period of rotation.
D. has a ring around its center.

4. The clouds that surround Venus are so thick that the planet actually absorbs less sunlight than the Earth. Nevertheless, Venus has a surface temperature of more than 400°C. Which of these *best* explains this high surface temperature?
- A. The bright surfaces of the clouds reflect sunlight back on the planet.
B. The strong winds in the atmosphere produce friction.
C. The thick clouds in the atmosphere prevent heat from escaping.
D. The sulfuric acid in the clouds releases heat energy.
5. Which of the following best describes the inner planets of the solar system?
- A. Large gas planets with thick atmospheres
B. Small planets of ice with elliptical orbits
C. Dense, rocky planets with few moons
D. Barren planets with rings of gas and dust
6. The atmospheres of which two planets are composed mainly of hydrogen and helium gases?
- A. Mars and Mercury B. Mars and Saturn
C. Jupiter and Saturn D. Venus and Neptune
7. The dwarf planet Pluto takes much longer to revolve around the Sun than do other planets. This is because Pluto
- A. is farther from the Sun than other planets.
B. is smaller than other planets.
C. has fewer satellites than other planets.
D. has a very slow rotation as compared to other planets.

8. Which planet has rings circling it?
- A. Mars B. Venus
C. Uranus D. Mercury
9. What planet is known as “the red planet” because of its soil color?
- A. Mars B. Venus
C. Jupiter D. Mercury

10. A year on Jupiter is 4,344 days long. This tells you how long it takes
- A. Jupiter to orbit the sun.
B. Jupiter to rotate one time on its axis.
C. the sun to orbit Jupiter.
D. Earth to orbit Jupiter.