

Content Practice A

LESSON 2

The Inner Planets

Directions: Match each fact with the correct planet by writing the letter of each fact in the correct box. Each fact is used only once.

Mercury
Venus
Earth
Mars

- A.** period of rotation = 24 hours
- B.** polar ice caps made of frozen carbon dioxide
- C.** surface features last for billions of years because of little erosion
- D.** surface always covered by thick clouds
- E.** period of rotation = 244 days
- F.** period of revolution = 1.88 years
- G.** has soil rich in iron oxide
- H.** has no atmosphere or winds
- I.** third planet from the Sun
- J.** atmosphere made up of 95 percent carbon dioxide
- K.** period of rotation = 59 days
- L.** 80 percent of surface is covered by solidified lava
- M.** has one moon
- N.** hottest planet in the solar system
- O.** southern hemisphere covered with craters
- P.** closest to the Sun

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Content Practice B**LESSON 2*****The Inner Planets***

Directions: Answer each riddle by writing the name of the correct inner planet on the line provided.

1. Which planet is 5.5 percent of Earth's mass and has no moon?

2. Which planet has an average distance from the Sun of 1.52 AU, the compound iron oxide present in its surface, and carbon dioxide ice caps? _____
3. Which planet is hotter than Mercury, has a longer period of rotation than revolution, and has an atmosphere of about 97 percent carbon dioxide? _____
4. Which planet has the largest known mountain in the solar system, two moons, and a period of rotation equal to 24.6 hours? _____
5. Which planet has the presence of liquid water, a period of rotation equal to 24 hours, and a solid inner core? _____
6. Which planet is the only planet with liquid water on its surface, a liquid outer core, and a crust broken into large plates? _____
7. Which planet shows no evidence of life, experiences great dust storms, and has a volcano on it as wide as Arizona? _____
8. Which planet has clouds of acid and an atmospheric pressure that is 90 times greater than Earth's but an internal structure that is similar to Earth's?

9. Which planet has a liquid outer core, a mantle, and an atmosphere that protects life from the Sun's radiation? _____
10. Which planet has the greatest extremes of temperature depending on which side faces the Sun, a thin crust, and a core made of iron and nickel? _____
11. Which planet has an average temperature of 460°C , has no water in its atmosphere, and rotates from east to west? _____
12. Which planet has a cracked and wrinkled surface, gravity so small that it cannot hold gases near its surface, and a thin crust? _____