

## GEOL 1312 Midterm 2 Practice Exam

1) **Venus is about \_\_\_\_\_ from the Sun.** (you shouldn't really need your notes for this one – reason it out by thinking about the definition of an AU and how close Venus is to the Earth and how far it is from the Sun)

- a. 10 AUs
- b. 1.5 AUs
- c. 1 AU
- d. 3/4 AU
- e. 1/5 AU

2) **Which answer correctly matches the following astronomers with their noteworthy accomplishments?**

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 1. Ptolemy    | A. Formulated the Geocentric model                              |
| 2. Copernicus | B. Formulated the Heliocentric model                            |
| 3. Kepler     | C. Observed moons orbiting Jupiter                              |
| 4. Galileo    | D. Formulated mathematical laws describing all planetary motion |

- a. 1-A, 2-C, 3-D, 4-B
- a. 1-D, 2-C, 3-A, 4-B
- b. 1-A, 2-B, 3-D, 4-C
- c. 1-C, 2-B, 3-D, 4-A
- d. 1-C, 2-B, 3-A, 4-D

3) **Which planetary body from the list below has the highest surface pressure?**

- a. Mars
- b. Earth
- c. Moon
- d. Venus
- e. Mercury

4) **Which planetary body has the closest orbiting Moon?**

- a. Mercury
- b. Venus
- c. Earth
- d. Moon
- e. Mars

5) Which planetary body from the list below has the largest magnetic field?

- a. Mars
- b. Earth
- c. Moon
- d. Venus
- e. Mercury

6) Which is presently (today) the most volcanically active planetary body from the list below?

- a. Mars
- b. Earth
- c. Moon
- d. Venus
- e. Mercury

7) If you look into the nighttime sky at the end of this week (October 31<sup>st</sup> - November 1st), you will observe which lunar phase (pick the closest)? *Hint: the last 1<sup>st</sup> quarter moon was on October 26<sup>th</sup>.*



- a. I.
- b. II.
- c. III.
- d. IV.
- e. Not enough information

8) Which planet has the largest volcano? (*Do you remember the name?*)

- a. Jupiter
- b. Mercury
- c. Venus
- d. Mars
- e. Earth

9) About how old is the Earth?

- a. 500 thousand years
- b. 4.6 million years

- c. 500 million years
- d. 4.6 billion years
- e. 4.6 hundred years

**10) The dominant constituent of the Venus atmosphere is \_\_\_\_\_** (*can you remember the other constituent that forms a haze in the atmosphere?*)

- a. Oxygen
- b. Nitrogen
- c. Carbon dioxide
- d. Sulfur dioxide
- e. Water

**11) Which planet(s) rotates around its axis in a retrograde direction?**

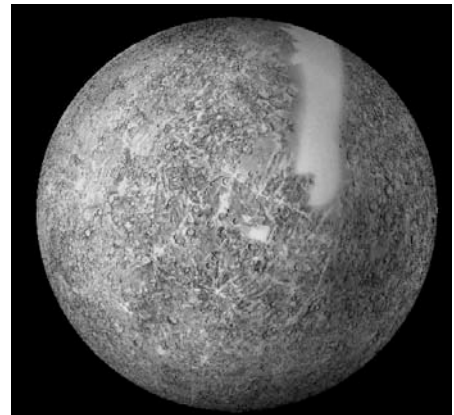
- a. Pluto
- b. Venus
- c. Uranus
- d. Neptune
- e. a, b, and c

**12) How many geologists have landed on the moon?**

- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 4
- d. 6
- e. 8

**13) Which planet is this?**

- a. Mercury
- b. Venus
- c. Moon
- d. Mars
- e. Earth



**Some questions to think about....**

**(these may show up in multiple choice format on your exam)**

- 14) What is one valid theory for how Earth's moon formed?**
- 15) Which spacecraft is currently visiting Saturn & its moons?**
- 16) Which spacecraft has *voyaged* out to snap pictures of the outermost planets?**
- 17) Which spacecraft visited Venus and mapped the entire planet?**
- 18) What evidence from Mars do we have for past water?**
- 19) What do craters tell us about the surface of planets?**
- 20) How do the planets compare in size – can you list them smallest to largest?**
- 21) What elements make up most of Jupiter & Saturn's atmosphere?**
- 22) What elements make up most of Neptune & Uranus's atmosphere?**
- 23) What are the qualifications for obtaining "planet status"?**
- 24) Is Pluto technically a planet according to these new qualifications?**