

Solar System Discoveries and Firsts

Astronomy · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Who was the first person to step onto the surface of the Moon?

A) Neil Armstrong

B) Buzz Aldrin

C) Yuri Gagarin

D) John Glenn

2. Which scientist used a telescope to discover the four largest moons of Jupiter?

A) Isaac Newton

B) Galileo Galilei

C) Nicolaus Copernicus

D) Edwin Hubble

3. What was the first artificial satellite to orbit the Earth?

A) Explorer 1

B) Vostok 1

C) Sputnik 1

D) Hubble

4. Who was the first human to travel into space?

A) Alan Shepard

B) Neil Armstrong

C) Yuri Gagarin

D) Valentina Tereshkova

5. Which planet was the first to be discovered using mathematical predictions rather than direct observation?

A) Neptune

B) Mars

C) Saturn

D) Venus

6. What was the name of the first spacecraft to land on Mars?

A) Curiosity

B) Viking 1

C) Pathfinder

D) Sojourner

7. Which woman was the first to fly in space?

- A) Sally Ride
- B) Peggy Whitson
- C) Valentina Tereshkova**
- D) Kalpana Chawla

8. Which space telescope was launched in 1990 to provide clear views of the solar system and deep space?

- A) James Webb
- B) Hubble**
- C) Kepler
- D) Chandra

9. What was the first probe to visit the outer solar system and exit into interstellar space?

- A) Voyager 1**
- B) Pioneer 10
- C) New Horizons
- D) Cassini

10. Who proposed the heliocentric model, placing the Sun at the center of the solar system?

- A) Ptolemy
- B) Aristotle
- C) Nicolaus Copernicus**
- D) Johannes Kepler

11. Which planet was discovered by William Herschel in 1781?

- A) Uranus**
- B) Neptune
- C) Saturn
- D) Mars

12. What was the first spacecraft to successfully land on Venus?

- A) Mariner 2
- B) Venera 7**
- C) Magellan
- D) Vega 1

13. The first human-made object to reach the surface of the Moon was part of which mission series?

- A) Apollo
- B) Luna**
- C) Surveyor
- D) Ranger

14. Which planet was famously demoted from its status as a major planet in 2006?

- A) Ceres
- B) Eris
- C) Pluto**
- D) Mercury

15. What was the name of the first private spacecraft to carry humans to the International Space Station?

- A) Dragon**
- B) Starliner
- C) Orion
- D) Soyuz