

Phonetics of the Cosmos

Phonetics · Practice Test · 15 Questions

1. Which planet's name is derived from the Roman god of war, and its name starts with a voiceless bilabial stop sound?

- A) Jupiter
- B) Mars
- C) Saturn
- D) Venus

2. The largest planet in our solar system, 'Jupiter', begins with a voiced velar stop sound. What is this sound?

- A) The 'j' sound as in 'jump'
- B) The 'j' sound as in 'measure'
- C) The 'g' sound as in 'go'
- D) The 'ch' sound as in 'church'

3. The 'Moon', Earth's natural satellite, starts with a voiced alveolar nasal sound. What is this sound?

- A) The 'm' sound as in 'man'
- B) The 'n' sound as in 'no'
- C) The 'ng' sound as in 'sing'
- D) The 'l' sound as in 'love'

4. The star 'Sun', our solar system's center, begins with a voiceless alveolar sibilant. What is this sound?

- A) The 's' sound as in 'sun'
- B) The 'z' sound as in 'zoo'
- C) The 'sh' sound as in 'ship'
- D) The 'th' sound as in 'thin'

5. The planet 'Venus', named after the Roman goddess of love and beauty, starts with a voiced labiodental fricative sound. What is this sound?

- A) The 'v' sound as in 'vine'
- B) The 'w' sound as in 'water'
- C) The 'f' sound as in 'fire'
- D) The 'th' sound as in 'this'

6. The dwarf planet 'Pluto' has a name starting with a voiceless bilabial stop. What is this sound?

- A) The 'p' sound as in 'play'
- B) The 'b' sound as in 'boy'
- C) The 'm' sound as in 'moon'
- D) The 'f' sound as in 'fly'

7. The planet 'Earth' has a name starting with a vowel sound produced with the tongue tip near the alveolar ridge. What is this sound?

- A) The 'er' sound as in 'earth'
- B) The 'ee' sound as in 'see'
- C) The 'oo' sound as in 'food'
- D) The 'ay' sound as in 'say'

8. The planet 'Saturn', known for its rings, starts with a voiceless alveolar stop. What is this sound?

- A) The 's' sound as in 'saturn'
- B) The 'z' sound as in 'zebra'
- C) The 't' sound as in 'top'
- D) The 'd' sound as in 'dog'

9. The gas giant 'Neptune' begins with a sound made with the tongue tip touching the alveolar ridge. What is this sound?

- A) The 'n' sound as in 'nose'
- B) The 'm' sound as in 'mouth'
- C) The 'l' sound as in 'lips'
- D) The 'r' sound as in 'run'

10. The planet 'Uranus' has a name starting with a vowel sound produced with the tongue high and forward. What is this sound?

- A) The 'yoo' sound as in 'you'
- B) The 'uh' sound as in 'up'
- C) The 'ah' sound as in 'father'
- D) The 'aw' sound as in 'law'

11. The red planet 'Mars' begins with a voiced alveolar trill, or a flap sound in some dialects. What is this sound?

- A) The 'r' sound as in 'red'
- B) The 'l' sound as in 'light'
- C) The 'w' sound as in 'way'
- D) The 'y' sound as in 'yes'

12. The planet 'Mercury' starts with a voiced postalveolar affricate sound. This is the 'ch' sound as in 'church'.

- A) True, it starts with the 'ch' sound.
- B) False, it starts with a 'k' sound.
- C) False, it starts with an 'm' sound.
- D) False, it starts with a 'g' sound.

13. The term 'Galaxy' begins with a voiced velar stop. What is this sound?

- A) The 'g' sound as in 'galaxy'
- B) The 'j' sound as in 'gem'
- C) The 'k' sound as in 'kite'
- D) The 'ch' sound as in 'loch'

14. The word 'Comet' begins with a voiceless velar stop. What is this sound?

- A) The 'k' sound as in 'cat'
- B) The 'g' sound as in 'go'
- C) The 'c' sound as in 'cent'
- D) The 's' sound as in 'star'

15. The vastness of the 'Universe' starts with a vowel sound made with the mouth open and the back of the tongue lowered. What is this sound?

- A) The 'uh' sound as in 'universe'
- B) The 'ee' sound as in 'see'
- C) The 'oo' sound as in 'moon'
- D) The 'ay' sound as in 'say'