Cosmic Lore and Celestial Science

Astronomy And Mythology · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which planet was named after the Roman god of the sea, consistent with its deep blue appearance?

A) Neptune
B) Uranus
C) Jupiter
D) Saturn

2. In Greek mythology, the constellation Orion is depicted as a hunter. Which star, representing his shoulder, is a massive red supergiant?

A) Rigel
B) Betelgeuse
C) Sirius
D) Vega

3. The term 'Planet' originates from the Greek word 'planetes'. What is the literal meaning of this word?

A) Wandering star
B) Bright light
C) Divine orb
D) Cosmic body

4. Mars was named after the Roman god of war. What is the primary physical reason for its reddish appearance in the night sky?

A) High volcanic activity
B) Iron oxide dust
C) Reflected light from the sun
D) Atmospheric methane

5. According to Norse legend, the 'Bifrost' is a burning rainbow bridge. What modern astronomical phenomenon is often compared to these celestial light displays?

A) Solar flares
B) Aurora Borealis
C) Comet tails
D) Nebulae

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6. Which moon of Jupiter, named after a figure in Greek mythology, is known to have a subsurface ocean beneath its icy crust?

A) Io
B) Callisto
C) Europa
D) Ganymede

7. The Pleiades star cluster is known as the 'Seven Sisters' in Greek mythology. How many stars are typically visible to the naked eye in this cluster?

A) 3
B) 7
C) 12
D) 20

8. Venus is named after the Roman goddess of love and beauty. What is the most prominent feature of Venus compared to other planets?

A) Highest surface temperature
B) Most moons
C) Largest ring system
D) Fastest rotation

9. In ancient Chinese folklore, who is the goddess who lives on the moon after drinking an elixir of immortality?

A) Mazu
B) Chang'e
C) Guanyin
D) Nuwa

10. The constellation Cassiopeia is named after a vain queen in Greek mythology. What distinct shape does this constellation form in the sky?

A) A straight line
B) A W or M shape
C) A perfect circle
D) A spiral

11. Mercury is the closest planet to the sun. In Roman mythology, Mercury was the god of what?

A) Agriculture
B) Commerce and travel
C) War
D) Thunder

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12. What is the name of the galaxy, appearing as a blurred 'cloud' in mythology, that is the closest major spiral galaxy to the Milky Way?

A) Triangulum
B) Andromeda
C) Sombrero
D) Whirlpool

13. Saturn is named after the Roman god of agriculture. Which iconic physical feature of Saturn was first observed by Galileo Galilei?

A) Atmospheric storms
B) Its rings
C) Its moons
D) Its magnetic field

14. In mythology, the Milky Way is often described as a river of light. What is the Milky Way scientifically classified as?

A) Elliptical galaxy
B) Irregular galaxy
C) Spiral galaxy
D) Quasar

15. The star Polaris is central to navigation. To which constellation does it belong, which is often called the 'Little Bear'?

A) Ursa Major
B) Ursa Minor
C) Draco
D) Cassiopeia

16. Pluto, once considered the ninth planet, is named after the Roman god of the underworld. In what year was it reclassified as a dwarf planet?

A) 1999
B) 2006
C) 2010
D) 2015

17. In many cultures, the 'Man in the Moon' is a common motif. What are the dark patches on the moon's surface actually made of?

A) Frozen water
B) Solidified lava
C) Sedimentary rock
D) Ancient dust

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18. Helios is the Greek personification of the sun. What is the sun primarily composed of?

A) Oxygen and nitrogen
B) Hydrogen and helium
C) Iron and nickel
D) Carbon and silicon

19. The constellation Scorpius contains a bright star named Antares. What does the name 'Antares' mean in Greek?

A) Rival of Mars
B) Heart of the Scorpion
C) Brightest star
D) King of the sky

20. Which giant gas planet is named after the king of the Roman gods, reflecting its massive size in the solar system?

A) Saturn
B) Neptune
C) Jupiter
D) Uranus

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