# Solar System Milestones

Astronomy · Practice Test · 15 Questions

**1. Who was the first person to use a telescope to systematically observe the heavens, leading to the discovery of Jupiter's four largest moons?**

A) Galileo Galilei
B) Johannes Kepler
C) Tycho Brahe
D) Nicolaus Copernicus

**2. Which space mission achieved the first soft landing on another planet, Venus, in 1970?**

A) Venera 7
B) Mariner 5
C) Vega 1
D) Pioneer Venus

**3. In 1610, which astronomer published 'Sidereus Nuncius', detailing the phases of Venus?**

A) Galileo Galilei
B) Isaac Newton
C) Christiaan Huygens
D) Giovanni Cassini

**4. Which was the first man-made object to leave the solar system, officially entering interstellar space in 2012?**

A) Voyager 1
B) Pioneer 10
C) New Horizons
D) Voyager 2

**5. What is the name of the first asteroid ever discovered, identified by Giuseppe Piazzi in 1801?**

A) Ceres
B) Pallas
C) Vesta
D) Juno

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

A) Neptune
B) Uranus
C) Pluto
D) Mars

**7. In 1930, Clyde Tombaugh discovered which celestial body, which was later reclassified as a dwarf planet?**

A) Pluto
B) Eris
C) Makemake
D) Haumea

**8. Which mission was the first to successfully complete a flyby of Pluto in 2015?**

A) New Horizons
B) Voyager 1
C) Cassini-Huygens
D) Galileo

**9. Who was the first astronomer to identify that planets orbit the Sun in elliptical paths rather than perfect circles?**

A) Johannes Kepler
B) Isaac Newton
C) Edwin Hubble
D) Claudius Ptolemy

**10. Which planet's moons were the first objects discovered orbiting a body other than the Earth or the Sun?**

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

**11. What instrument, first launched into orbit in 1990, revolutionized our understanding of the solar system by providing clear images from above the atmosphere?**

A) Hubble Space Telescope
B) James Webb Space Telescope
C) Spitzer Space Telescope
D) Kepler Space Telescope

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**12. The first close-up images of Mercury were sent back in 1974 by which NASA spacecraft?**

A) Mariner 10
B) Messenger
C) BepiColombo
D) Pioneer 11

**13. Which spacecraft was the first to enter orbit around Saturn, providing detailed data about its rings and moons?**

A) Cassini
B) Voyager 2
C) Galileo
D) Pioneer 10

**14. Who was the first to propose the heliocentric model of the solar system in the 16th century, sparking a scientific revolution?**

A) Nicolaus Copernicus
B) Aristarchus of Samos
C) Tycho Brahe
D) Immanuel Kant

**15. Which moon of Saturn was the first to be discovered, identified by Christiaan Huygens in 1655?**

A) Titan
B) Rhea
C) Dione
D) Tethys

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