

Roman Empire's Cosmic Connections

World History · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. The Roman god Jupiter, king of the gods, shares his name with which celestial body that is the largest planet in our solar system?

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

2. Which Roman goddess of love and beauty, often associated with the planet Venus, lent her name to the second planet from the Sun?

- A) Juno
- B) Diana
- C) Minerva
- D) Venus**

3. The Roman god of war, Mars, has lent his name to which prominent red planet in our solar system?

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

4. The Romans observed celestial phenomena and developed calendars based on astronomical cycles. The concept of a 'year' in Roman times was primarily based on the orbit of which planet around the Sun?

- A) Earth**
- B) Mars
- C) Jupiter
- D) Saturn

5. Many Roman constellations were named after mythological figures. The constellation 'Orion' is named after a hunter in Greek mythology, a tradition continued by the Romans, and represents a prominent celestial pattern visible in which part of the sky?

- A) The North Celestial Pole
- B) The Equator
- C) The Southern Celestial Hemisphere
- D) The Zodiac**

6. The Roman Empire's understanding of the cosmos was influenced by earlier civilizations. The heliocentric model of the solar system, proposing planets orbit the Sun, was proposed by Aristarchus of Samos in the Hellenistic period, predating the Roman Empire. Which planet's orbit was central to this early heliocentric theory?

- A) Earth
- B) Mars
- C) Sun**
- D) Moon

7. The Roman god Saturn, father of Jupiter, lends his name to which ringed gas giant, the sixth planet from the Sun?

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

8. Roman astronomers and philosophers observed the movement of the stars and planets. The phenomenon of a 'shooting star' is scientifically known as a meteor, which is caused by what entering Earth's atmosphere?

- A) A small asteroid
- B) A comet fragment
- C) Space dust or a rock particle**
- D) A satellite reentry

9. The Roman concept of the 'heavens' often referred to the celestial sphere. The star Polaris, also known as the North Star, is significant because it appears to remain relatively stationary in the sky due to its proximity to which astronomical point?

- A) The Galactic Center
- B) The Ecliptic
- C) The Celestial Equator
- D) The North Celestial Pole**

10. While the Romans had sophisticated calendars and astronomical observations, the concept of distant galaxies, vast structures of stars far beyond our own Milky Way, was not understood in their era. Our own galaxy, the Milky Way, is named after a mythological event involving which Roman deity?

- A) Jupiter
- B) Mars
- C) Juno**
- D) Venus