

Chapter 1 - The Earth in the Solar System

1. Answer the following questions briefly

- How does a planet differ from a star?
- What is meant by the 'Solar System'?
- Name all the planets according to their distance from the sun.
- Why is the Earth called a unique planet?
- Why do we see only one side of the moon always?
- What is the Universe?

Answer.

a. The difference between a planet and star is given below:

Planet	Star
Some celestial bodies do not have their own heat and light. They are lit by the heat and light of the stars. These bodies are called as planets.	Some celestial bodies are very big and hot. They are made up of gases and they have their own heat and light. These celestial bodies are called stars.
Example - Earth, Mercury, etc.	Example - Sun

- The sun, eight planets, satellites and some other celestial bodies known as meteoroids and asteroids form the solar system.
- The planets arranged as per their distance from the sun are - Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.
- The earth is a unique planet of the solar system because:
 - Conditions favourable to support life are probably found only on the earth.
 - The earth is neither too hot nor too cold. It has water and air, which are very essential for our survival.
- We always see only one side of the moon because the moon moves around the earth in about 27 days and it takes exactly the same time to complete one spin.
- Millions of galaxies together form the Universe. A galaxy is a huge system of billions of stars, and clouds of dust and gases.

2. Tick the correct answer.

- The planet known as the "Earth's Twin" is
 - Jupiter
 - Saturn
 - Venus
- Which is the third nearest planet to the sun?
 - Venus
 - Earth
 - Mercury
- All the planets move around the sun in a
 - Circular path
 - Rectangular path
 - Elongated path
- The Pole Star indicates the direction to the
 - South
 - North
 - East

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(e) Asteroids are found between the orbits of

- (i) Saturn and Jupiter (ii) Mars and Jupiter (iii) The Earth and Mars

Answer.

- a. (iii) Venus
- b. (ii) Earth
- c. (iii) Elongated path
- d. (ii) North
- e. (ii) Mars and Jupiter

3. Fill in the blanks

- (a) A group of _____ forming various patterns is called a _____.
- (b) A huge system of stars is called _____.
- (c) _____ is the closest celestial body to our earth.
- (d) _____ is the third nearest planet to the sun.
- (e) Planets do not have their own _____ and _____.

Answer.

- (a) A group of **stars** forming various patterns is called a **constellation**.
- (b) A huge system of stars is called a **galaxy**.
- (c) **Moon** is the closest celestial body to our earth.
- (d) **Earth** is the third nearest planet to the sun.
- (e) Planets do not have their own **heat** and **light**.