

Chapter 25 The Solar System

Section 25.3 The Inner Solar System**(pages 803–809)***This section describes the terrestrial planets found in the inner solar system.***Reading Strategy (page 803)**

Summarizing Copy the table on a separate sheet of paper. Write all the headings for the section in the table. Write a brief summary of the text for each heading. For more information on this Reading Strategy, see the **Reading and Study Skills** in the **Skills and Reference Handbook** at the end of your textbook.

The Terrestrial Planets	
I. The Terrestrial Planets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four planets closest to the sun • Small, dense, with rocky surfaces
II.	a.
III. Venus	b. Thick atmosphere, very hot surface, many volcanoes

The Terrestrial Planets (pages 803–804)

1. Identify the four terrestrial planets.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
2. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about the terrestrial planets.
 - a. They all are relatively small and dense.
 - b. They all have rocky surfaces.
 - c. They all have thick atmospheres.
 - d. They all have a crust, mantle, and iron core.

Mercury (pages 804–805)

3. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about Mercury.
 - a. It is the closest planet to the sun.
 - b. It is the smallest of the terrestrial planets.
 - c. It is geologically dead.
 - d. It is the slowest-moving planet.
4. Is the following sentence true or false? Mercury has a large number of craters, suggesting that the surface has been largely unchanged for billions of years. _____

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Venus (page 805)

5. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about Venus.
 - a. It rotates in the direction opposite to which it revolves.
 - b. It is the brightest object in Earth's night sky besides the moon.
 - c. It rotates once every 24 hours.
 - d. Its rotation rate is very fast.
6. Describe the effect that carbon dioxide in Venus's atmosphere has on its temperature. _____

Earth (pages 805–806)

7. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about Earth.
 - a. Its atmosphere is very thin and composed mostly of carbon dioxide.
 - b. It supports millions of different species of living things.
 - c. It has a suitable atmosphere and temperature for liquid water to exist.
 - d. Its core has cooled down to the point where it is geologically dead.
8. Why does Earth's surface continue to change? _____

Mars (pages 807–808)

9. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about Mars.
 - a. The largest volcano in the solar system is on Mars.
 - b. Iron-rich rocks on Mars's surface give it a reddish color.
 - c. It has a thick atmosphere that keeps the planet warm.
 - d. The surface of Mars is colder than Earth's surface.
10. Is the following sentence true or false? Mars shows evidence of once having liquid surface water. _____

Asteroids (page 809)

11. Small, rocky bodies in space are called _____.
12. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about asteroids.
 - a. Most small asteroids have irregular forms.
 - b. The asteroid belt formed when a giant planet was shattered by a collision with a meteoroid.
 - c. Most asteroids are found in the asteroid belt between Earth and Mars.
 - d. Most asteroids are less than 1 kilometer in diameter.
13. What do scientists hypothesize about how the asteroids formed? _____
