

ASTRONOMY - KEY

1. In which ways did ancient people rely on the stars, the moon and the planets in everyday life? **they planted crops and held ceremonies depending on the position of sun and planets; used stars and the sun to navigate and guide them**
2. What do astronomers do? **observe faraway planets and stars, watch events that happen in space, examine the structure of our universe**
3. Why couldn't people in earlier times see what we can see today? **they did not have the instruments (telescopes) that we have today**
4. What did ancient astronomers think about the position of the Earth, the sun and other objects in the sky? **the Earth was the centre of the universe and all objects revolved around it**
5. Who was the first to show that the sun was the centre of the solar system? **Nicolas Copernicus**
6. What did Galileo invent? **the first telescope**
7. What did Isaac Newton prove? **how gravity works**
8. What did astronomers discover between Mars and Jupiter? **an asteroid belt**
9. What did powerful telescopes help astronomers do? **find the outer planets of the solar system**
10. Why can telescopes in space see farther into the universe? **there is no atmosphere**
11. Where are the world's largest telescopes located? **on top of high mountains; where the weather is very clear**
12. What do unmanned spacecraft send back to astronomers? **rocks and samples**
13. What is a light year? **the distance light can travel in one year = 6 trillion miles or 9.4 trillion km**
14. What is the name of the star nearest to our solar system? How far away is it? **Proxima Centauri = 4 light years away**