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Discovering Planets

Unit
1

A What are the names of the planets in the solar system? Discuss your answers.



Listening Skill

Finding the main ideas

Main ideas are the most important ideas. One way speakers show the main ideas is by using introductory phrases such as *What I'm trying to show is ...* and *So the important thing is ...*. Another way is to emphasize key words by pausing and saying them in a slightly different tone.



B Listen to the lecture and check [✓] the correct answer.

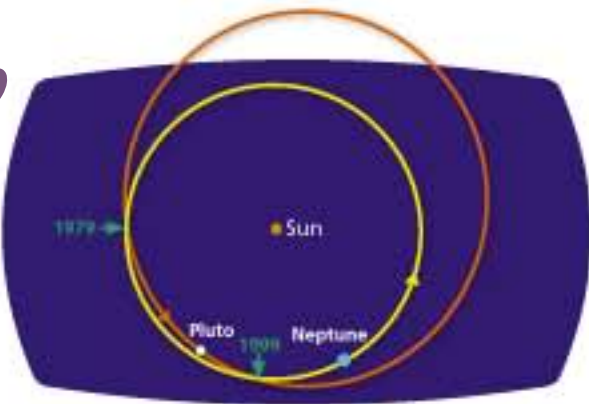
- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Which phrase in Part A introduces the sentence "... we only started to learn more about planets after the invention of the telescope."</p> <p>a Early astronomers could see <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>b With the invention of the telescopes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>c What I'm trying to show is that <input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>2 Which sentence in Part B is emphasized?</p> <p>a But, even with telescopes, it is hard to see planets that are very far away. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>b Spacecrafts called orbiters get much better pictures and information. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>c That's because orbiters can get very close to the planets. <input type="checkbox"/></p> |
|--|--|

Listening

Write a sentence about the pictures.



the solar system



circling the Sun

Handwritten lines for writing a sentence about the pictures.

Listen to the lecture and take notes.

Part A Note-taking template with fields for 'Phrase/Key words:' and 'Main Idea:'.

Part B Note-taking template with fields for 'Phrase/Key words:' and 'Main Idea:'.



Take notes effectively by abbreviating words or using symbols. For a list of common note-taking shortcuts, go to pages 70-72.



Practice

Write or circle the correct answer(s), using your notes to guide you. Then listen again to the lecture to check your answers.

Practice notebook page with Part A questions: 1. What is the main idea? 2. Which phrase introduces the main idea? with multiple choice options.

Practice notebook page with Part B questions: 1. What is the main idea? 2. Which two details support the main idea? with multiple choice options.

Pronunciation Focus

Ideas in contrast

Speakers stress some words to show the contrast or difference between two ideas. The stressed words are usually those that introduce the second idea, such as but, although or however.

Both dwarf planets orbit other planets. However, dwarf planets don't have a clean orbit.

Listen to the statements and write the second idea.

- 1 Eris is the official name of the dwarf planet 2003 UB313.
2 Astronomers re-classified Pluto as a dwarf planet in 2006.

Integration



6 Listen to the lecture and circle the details. Then write the main idea.



- a The Roman goddess of love and beauty is Venus.
- b Uranus is a god from Greek mythology.
- c Mars is the god of war.
- d The biggest planet is named after the king of the Roman gods.

Main idea: _____



Pretend that you have discovered three new dwarf planets. Choose a name for each and explain your choice.

	Name	Reason
Dwarf planet 1 – icy blue – very bright		
Dwarf planet 2 – orange-red – flashes a lot		
Dwarf planet 3 – white – moves very fast		



Tell the class about your new dwarf planets.