

Astronomical history

Student: Class:

Dreamtime story

1. Complete the sentences:

The Warlpiri Aboriginal people explained a eclipse as the result of the moon-man being threatened by the sun-woman who is pursuing him and catching up. The solar and lunar eclipse dreamtime stories demonstrate that aboriginal people had an understanding that eclipses were caused by a between the sun and the moon.

Ptolemy

2. Claudius Ptolemy (AD 85–165) developed a model of the universe.



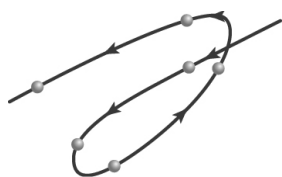
(a) Use the diagram to describe Ptolemy's model of the universe.

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(b) Where did Ptolemy place the stars in his model?

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(c) Ptolemy knew that Mars moved across the sky in a looping motion called retrograde motion. His model explained this motion using epicycles. Use the diagram below left to explain the idea of epicycles; label the diagram below right where necessary.



Retrograde motion

