

Quick Check

Venus: Beauty and Beast

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. Read this first sentence from the passage: *Venus is the brightest "star" in our night sky.* Why did the author put the word *star* in quotation marks?
 - (A) because Venus is a dazzling point of light
 - (B) because people have admired Venus for thousands of years
 - (C) because Venus is not a star, but looks like one in the night sky
 - (D) because Venus is the only star named after a goddess
2. In what way are Venus and Earth the most alike?
 - (A) distance from the Sun
 - (B) their size
 - (C) average daily temperature
 - (D) types of gas that make up the atmosphere
3. Which of the following sentences is an opinion about Venus?
 - (A) Venus is a bizarre world that is part beauty and part beast.
 - (B) Of the seven other planets, Venus is the nearest one to Earth.
 - (C) Venus is the only planet named after a female figure.
 - (D) Today, we know more about Venus than people in ancient times did.
4. What causes the extreme pressure at the surface of Venus?
 - (A) the weight of the surrounding atmosphere
 - (B) the droplets of sulfuric acid
 - (C) the massive mountain ranges
 - (D) the extreme high temperatures

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5. Why does the author include a description of the greenhouse effect?
 - Ⓐ to let readers know that Venus is a place that is ideal for growing plants
 - Ⓑ to encourage readers to build a greenhouse to help them understand the effect
 - Ⓒ to help readers understand why Venus has scorching hot temperatures
 - Ⓓ to remind readers that warm air and humidity are important in greenhouses
6. Venus does not have as many impact craters as the Moon because _____.
 - Ⓐ volcanoes are the result of the impacts on Venus and not craters
 - Ⓑ the Moon blocks anything from colliding with Venus
 - Ⓒ meteorites don't hit Venus as often as they hit the Moon
 - Ⓓ floods of lava have covered up many of the craters on Venus
7. Why does the author include the chart that compares Venus and Earth?
 - Ⓐ The chart includes information that helps readers see how all planets compare.
 - Ⓑ Venus's information is not the same when it is compared to a planet other than Earth.
 - Ⓒ Readers are able to better understand the information provided for Venus when compared to Earth.
 - Ⓓ Earth is the only other planet that scientists have collected this information about.
8. In the title, the author uses the words *beauty* and *beast* to compare Venus to _____.
 - Ⓐ itself
 - Ⓑ Earth
 - Ⓒ a Greek goddess
 - Ⓓ people in ancient times

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9. Which of the following best explains why telescopes were ineffective tools for scientists who wanted to learn about the surface of Venus?

- Ⓐ The hard, rocky surface of Venus is hot and dry.
- Ⓑ The clouds that surround Venus are opaque.
- Ⓒ Venus is closer than Earth to the Sun.
- Ⓓ Scientists launched space probes to Venus.

10. Why did the European Union launch the Venus Express?

- Ⓐ to learn about radar waves
- Ⓑ to study life on other planets
- Ⓒ to learn more about Venus
- Ⓓ to rescue the Akatsuki orbiter

11. **Extended Response:** Is it likely that humans will ever live on Venus? Provide at least three reasons from the text to support your answer.

12. **Extended Response:** Is “Venus: Beauty and Beast” a good title for the text? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Quick Check Answer Sheet

Venus: Beauty and Beast

Main Comprehension Skill: Author's Purpose

1. Ⓒ *Author's Purpose*
2. Ⓑ *Compare and Contrast*
3. Ⓐ *Fact or Opinion*
4. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
5. Ⓒ *Author's Purpose*
6. Ⓓ *Cause and Effect*
7. Ⓒ *Author's Purpose*
8. Ⓐ *Author's Purpose*
9. Ⓑ *Cause and Effect*
10. Ⓒ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
11. Answers will vary. Example: *No, it is not likely that humans will ever live on Venus. Humans could not withstand the extremely high temperatures on Venus. There is no water on Venus. The atmosphere of Venus is very heavy. The high pressure at the surface of Venus created by that heavy atmosphere would crush a human.*
12. Answers will vary. Example: *Yes, "Venus: Beauty and Beast" is a good title for the text. Venus is dazzling and beautiful to observe from far away. However, Venus would be a very hostile environment if experienced up close.*