

Answers: Neptune

Marking guidance - Value reasoning as well as the selected answer

1 to 4 | Identify

1. Ice giant.
2. Accept a correct location or orbital relationship.
3. Rotation: 16 h 6 min; orbital period: 164.8 years.
4. Temperature: $\approx -200\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$; also accept a correct environmental feature.

5 and 6 | Read and compare

5. Each figure needs its unit and measured quantity.
6. The explanation should preserve the meaning of this comparison: Sunlight takes more than 4 hours to reach it.

Teaching point

A rounded figure is still a useful estimate. The size of a drawing does not prove that its proportions are correct. A comparison must state its reference.

Answers: check and explain

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7. A. Triton

Triton is Neptune's largest moon and follows a retrograde orbit.

8. A. Voyager 2

Voyager 2 flew past Neptune in 1989.

9. C. More than 4 hours

At a distance of about 4.5 billion kilometres, sunlight takes more than four hours to reach Neptune.

10. B. Ice giants

Neptune is an ice giant, slightly smaller but more massive than Uranus.

11 to 13 | Quantities and models

- 11. Accept two units from the table correctly linked to their quantities.
- 12. Bodies can be enlarged or distances compressed for readability, but this must be stated.
- 13. Accept accurate similarities and differences supported by a fact sheet or scientific source.

Answers: investigate and write

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14 | Observation or fact

Accept an accurate sentence describing a checkable characteristic or figure. Do not accept an opinion presented as a fact.

15 | Scientific question

The question should be investigable through observations, measurements, comparisons or a mission. Reward precise, testable wording.

Mini-mission | Suggested marks out of 10

Description of the environment: 0-2.

Three correctly used scientific terms: 0-2.

Clear exploration objective: 0-2.

Plausible mission and coherent account: 0-2.

Between 5 and 7 clear sentences: 0-2.

Adaptation

Accept spoken explanations when appropriate. For further challenge, require data and distinguish observation, interpretation and conclusion.

Sources and limitations

NASA Science: <https://science.nasa.gov/neptune/facts/>

Online fact sheet: <https://systeme-solaire-3d.fr/en/neptune>

Values are rounded. The artistic view changes sizes and distances for readability. Check dated information before reusing it.