

Astronomy and Roman Mythology

(Optional Activity - 40 pts.)

I. The Planets

As each of the eight planets in our solar system (besides Earth, which is derived from Old English word *eorthe*) was discovered by scientists, it received the name of a Roman deity.

1. Give the five planets named after the twelve **Olympian gods**:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

2. Give the planet named after an **Olympian goddess**:

6. _____

3. Give the planet which is named after the very ancient **King of the Titans**, identified with the Greek *Cronus*, father of Zeus/Jupiter:

7. _____

4. Give the planet named after the great father, Father of the Sky, also the father of the Titans:

8. _____

The planets revolve around the *sun*. They belong to the *solar* system. What's the difference? The English word *sun* is from the Old English *sunne*, which means the same as it does now. Sometimes the Romans called the God of the Sun *Sol* instead of *Apollo*!

Go to <http://www.dl.ket.org/latin1/things/planets/> for more information about the planets.

II. Constellations and the Horoscope

Horoscopes became popular in newspapers in the 1930s. Each astrological sign is an actual constellation, and is assigned to a person depending on which one was in the sky when they were born.

1. Give the English meaning of these Latin names for the twelve astrological signs (horoscope)

9. Aries _____

10. Taurus _____

11. Gemini _____

12. Cancer _____

13. Leo _____

14. Virgo _____

15. Libra _____

16. Scorpio _____

17. Sagittarius _____

18. Capricorn _____

19. Aquarius _____

20. Pisces _____

2. Here are some other constellations, see if you can translate their meanings or identify the person:

21. Andromeda _____

22. Auriga _____

23. Pegasus _____

24. Cassiopeia _____

25. Hercules _____

26. Perseus _____

27. Ursa Minor _____

28. Ursa Maior _____

29. Caelum _____