

Activity Type

Speaking Activity: gap-fill, reading sentences, guessing (pair work)

Focus

The solar system

Planets

Superlatives

Aim

To complete facts about the solar system with superlatives and then used the sentences in a quiz.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two worksheets for each pair of students.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this fun planets activity, students complete facts about the solar system with superlatives and then used the sentences in a quiz.

Procedure

Divide the students into two groups (A and B) and give each student a corresponding worksheet.

Working alone or with another member of the group, students complete each solar system fact with one of the adjectives shown on the worksheet in its superlative form.

When the students have finished, check the answers with each group.

Answer key

Student A

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1. shortest | 6. driest |
| 2. smallest | 7. closest |
| 3. heaviest | 8. highest |
| 4. darkest | 9. most frequent |
| 5. hottest | 10. deepest |

Student B

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. fastest | 6. highest |
| 2. coldest | 7. wettest |
| 3. brightest | 8. longest |
| 4. furthest | 9. windiest |
| 5. largest | 10. lightest |

Next, have the students pair up with someone from the other group.

Tell the students not to show their worksheet to their partner.

The students then take it in turns to read their solar system facts to their partner who tries to guess the correct answer.

For each correct guess, students score a point.

The student with the most points at the end of the activity is the winner.

Student A

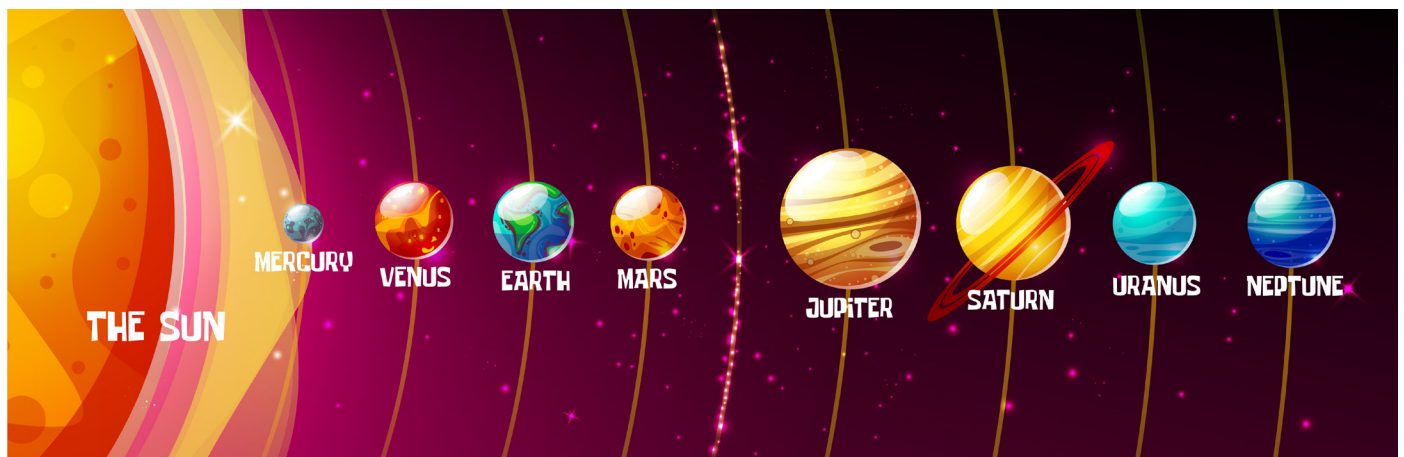
A. Complete each solar system fact below with one of the adjectives in its superlative form.

- heavy high short hot close
 deep dry frequent small dark

1. Lasting less than ten Earth hours, the planet with the day is...
2. Just 4,879 km in diameter, the planet is...
3. 300 times the weight of the Earth, the object in the solar system is...
4. Reflecting the least amount of light, the planet is...
5. With an average temperature of 465 degrees, the planet is...
6. With no rainfall or humidity, the planet is...
7. You wouldn't think it, but the planet to Earth is...
8. With 82 in total, the planet with the number of moons is...
9. With violent weather occurring regularly, the planet with the storms is...
10. With a depth of 2 km, the valley in the solar system is found on...

B. Now, read the facts to your partner and see if they can guess the correct answers.

Answer key				
1. Jupiter	2. Mercury	3. the Sun	4. Neptune	5. Venus
6. Venus	7. Mercury	8. Saturn	9. Neptune	10. Mars



Student B

A. Complete each solar system fact below with one of the adjectives in its superlative form.

light cold large bright high
wind far wet long fast

1. Orbiting at a rate of 47 km per second, the moving planet is...
2. With temperatures of -214 degrees, the planet is...
3. Sometimes visible from Earth, the planet is...
4. More than 4.5 billion km away, the planet from the sun is...
5. With a diameter of 1.4 million km, the object in the solar system is...
6. Mons, the volcano in the solar system, is found on...
7. With 70% water, the planet in the solar system is...
8. Lasting 243 Earth days, the planet with the day is...
9. With a constant breeze, the planet is...
10. Weighing significantly less than the rest, the planet is...

B. Now, read the facts to your partner and see if they can guess the correct answers.

Answer key				
1. Mercury	2. Neptune	3. Venus	4. Neptune	5. the Sun
6. Mars	7. Earth	8. Venus	9. Neptune	10. Saturn

