



#### **Exercise 10. Read the passage and answer the following questions.**

## MERCURY

Among eight planets in our Solar system, Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun and it needs only 88 days to complete an orbit around the Sun. According to Greek mythology, Mercury is the messenger of Gods (Hermes). Mercury is a small planet that bears a strong resemblance to the Moon with its little larger size rocky surface and many bowl-shaped cavities. Because of its position in the Solar system, the temperature on the sunny side of Mercury can reach over 800 degrees but -300 degrees is the other side's temperature. Being cooler than only Venus, the hottest planet, the climate on Mercury is extremely severe which makes it hard to visit and explore. Two spacecraft have been sent to Mercury, the first was in 1974 and scientists had to wait three decades to visit Mercury the second time in 2004. Some people believe that there is no water in Mercury but some information collected from Radar showed that ice exists on the Northern pole of this planet. Small Mercury has no moons and no atmosphere because of its too little gravity (38% of the gravity of Earth). There is no report showing life's existence in Mercury yet.

1. How long does it take Mercury to orbit the Sun?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. In Greek mythology, who is the messenger of Gods?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. According to the passage, why is Mercury similar to the Moon?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the highest temperature on Mercury?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How many spacecraft have been sent to Mercury?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise 11. Read the passage carefully then answer the questions.**

How many planets are there in our galaxy? That's a tricky question to answer. Are there other planets that support life? That's exactly what the Kepler mission hopes to discover.

NASA launched the Kepler space telescope, designed to find habitable planets, in 2009. So far it has discovered five new Earth-sized planets beyond our Solar System. These planets are hotter than the Earth - much too hot for life as we know it. The Kepler team predict that they will need at least three years to find an Earth-like planet.

The simplest requirement for a planet to have life is for there to be liquid water so the distance from the planet's sun and therefore temperature is important. There also needs to be the correct amount of air. If a planet is as small as Mars (half the size of Earth) its weak gravity means that it can't hold on to air molecules. If a planet is Neptune-sized (four times bigger than Earth) it has very strong gravity and too much air. So size matters too.

The cost of the mission is approximately six hundred million dollars. It is scheduled to observe until 2013 but this could be extended. Will we be sad if we discover we are alone in our galaxy or happy if we find that we share it with other life forms?

1. What is the passage about?
  - A. Planets in our Solar System
  - B. The difference between Earth and other planets
  - C. Space exploration to find habitable planets
  - D. NASA's missions to explore the outer planets



2. The Kepler space telescope is looking for \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. new planets in our galaxy  
B. life on other planets  
C. liquid water on other planets  
D. Earth-sized planets in the Solar System

3. Kepler has found five planets that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. has water and air  
B. are similar to Earth  
C. are not too far away from the Earth  
D. are not in our Solar System

4. The Kepler team predict that they will need \_\_\_\_\_ to find an Earth-like planet.  
A. three years and possibly longer  
B. as much as three years  
C. no more than three years  
D. approximately three years

5. What are the primary factors that make a planet habitable?  
A. Liquid water and living things  
B. Size and distance from the Sun  
C. Hot temperature and weak gravity  
D. Strong gravity and too much air

6. How much does the Kepler mission cost?  
A. Exactly \$600 million  
B. About \$600 million  
C. More than \$600 million  
D. Less than \$600 million

7. Which of the following statements is NOT true?  
A. The planet can support life if it has water and air.  
B. A very small planet will not have enough air.  
C. Earth is four times as big as Neptune.  
D. Kepler mission is scheduled to end in 2013.

**Exercise 12. Turn the sentences into reported speech. (Yes/ no questions.)**

1. “May I ask you a few questions?”

→ The woman asked John \_\_\_\_\_

2. “Have you done your project about space exploration?”

→ The teacher asked me \_\_\_\_\_

3. “Will we be able to live on Mars in 2050?”

→ Debbie asked her father \_\_\_\_\_

4. “Are you having a barbecue tonight?”

→ I asked the Browns \_\_\_\_\_

5. “Do you like sci-fi films that feature extraterrestrial life?”

→ Jane asked Tom \_\_\_\_\_

6. “Did scientists find life on Mars many years ago?”

→ Val asked me \_\_\_\_\_

7. “Are aliens or UFOs real?”

→ Many people wondered \_\_\_\_\_

8. “Can we go to the National Museum tomorrow?”

→ Sally asked her best friend \_\_\_\_\_

9. “Do you know NASA has found two new planets?”

→ Duc asked Trang \_\_\_\_\_

10. “Were you here yesterday?”

→ She wanted to know \_\_\_\_\_ →

**Exercise 13. Turn the sentences into reported speech. (Wh-questions.)**

1. “Where will we live in 20 years’ time?”

Jane asked me \_\_\_\_\_

2. “How was your trip to Toronto?”

I asked Peter \_\_\_\_\_

3. “Why didn’t Judy wait for fireballs last night?”

Sue asked \_\_\_\_\_



4. "How many planets are there in the solar System?"

The teacher asked us \_\_\_\_\_

5. "How many days does it take to get to Mars from Earth?"

Elliot wanted to know \_\_\_\_\_

6. "What are you staring at?"

I asked Sally \_\_\_\_\_

7. "Who discovered the planet Neptune?"

Joe asked his teacher \_\_\_\_\_

8. "How long have you been living on the International Space Station?"

He asked the astronaut \_\_\_\_\_

9. "When will humans go to Venus?"

The students wanted to know \_\_\_\_\_

10. "Where are you going this summer holiday?"

I asked Sally and Andy \_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise 14. Rewrite the sentences without changing the meaning of the original sentences.**

1. Reading scientific books is one of my interests.

I'm \_\_\_\_\_

2. Unless he phones her immediately, he won't get any information.

If \_\_\_\_\_

3. The garage is going to repair the car for us next week.

We are going to \_\_\_\_\_

4. The news was so wonderful that she decided to have a celebration.

It was \_\_\_\_\_

5. It's very difficult to leave here after such a long time.

It isn't \_\_\_\_\_

6. I always see him working in the garden on Sundays.

He takes \_\_\_\_\_

7. 18 people came although we had expected only 16.

Two extra \_\_\_\_\_

8. Jerry's salary as an accountant is two thousand dollars a month.

Jerry makes \_\_\_\_\_

9. We need a week to think about it.

We need \_\_\_\_\_

10. The owners of newspapers are usually very rich.

The people \_\_\_\_\_

#### Exercise 15. Change the sentence from direct speech to indirect speech.

1. Mr. Smith said to me: "Where are you going on your vacation this year?"

→ Mr. Smith asked me \_\_\_\_\_

2. She said: "Did the mechanics finish repairing your car?"

→ She asked \_\_\_\_\_

3. She said: "Why has David been looking so miserable lately?"

→ She wanted to know \_\_\_\_\_

4. I asked my friend: "Did you have a car accident last month?"

→ I asked my friend \_\_\_\_\_

5. She asked me: "How old are you now?"

→ She asked me \_\_\_\_\_

6. He said to her: "Have you been to the town today?"

→ He asked her \_\_\_\_\_

7. John said: "How long does it take you to get to London, Mary?"

→ John asked Mary \_\_\_\_\_

8. The policeman asked the little girl: "What's your name?"

→ The policeman asked the little girl \_\_\_\_\_

9. Mr. Green said to his secretary: "Who did you talk to a few minutes ago?"

→ Mr. Green asked his secretary \_\_\_\_\_

10. Paul said: "Can you swim, Mary?"

→ Paul asked Mary \_\_\_\_\_



11. He said: "Where can I find her in this town?"

→ He asked \_\_\_\_\_

12. She asked her son: "Do you know this story?"

→ She asked her son \_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise 16. Change the sentence from indirect speech to direct speech.**

1. He asked where his phone was.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. He wanted to know what I was doing.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. My sister asked me if Emily had talked to Jessica.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. She wanted to know if I was going to bed.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. He asked me if I had locked the door.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. She said she could play the guitar when she was seven.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. He said that he didn't like peanut butter.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Lily said that I should go to school early.

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Becky asked me to help her.

\_\_\_\_\_

10. The music teacher told us not to play the guitar in that room.

\_\_\_\_\_

