

Name _____

Date _____

The Planets: An Overview
Pages 626-629 and Class Notes

1) What percentage of the solar system (its mass) lies within the Sun?

_____ %

2) List the planets in order traveling outward from the Sun:

3) Our solar system formed from a cloud of hot dust and gas called

a _____

4) Our Star (Sun is its name) or any star cannot officially become a star

until _____ occurs.

5) What is nuclear fusion in the case of a star? _____

6) Over time, pieces of space debris (chunks of metal and rock) accrete to form larger pieces. These eventually collide with one another to become

_____.

7) If enough planetesimals collide and coalesce _____
can form which are planets in their first stages of development.

8) List two (2) differences between the Jovian planets and the terrestrial planets:

1) _____

2) _____

9) The compositions of the planets are categorized according to _____

10) The terrestrial planets are composed mostly of _____ while

the Jovian planets are composed mostly of _____ (list the

two main gases _____ & _____) and

_____ (list the three main ices _____

_____ and _____)

11) The Jovian planets have their particular atmospheric compositions due to

12) The terrestrial planets have such atmospheres because _____

13) A planet's ability to have an atmosphere is dependent on _____
and _____.

14) What is one reason you can think of as to why bodies like Mercury, Mars,
and our Moon lack an atmosphere? _____
