

Name _____

Naming the Cosmic Wanderers: How Comets Get Their Names

Short Answer

1. Why did the tradition of naming comets after their discoverers become less practical over time?
2. What role does the International Astronomical Union (IAU) play in the comet-naming process?
3. Describe the significance of the technical designation given to comets upon discovery.
4. What guidelines does the IAU provide for naming comets, and why are these guidelines important?
5. How does the naming of comets contribute to their identity and historical significance?

