

Name _____

Moons of Planets: Celestial Companions in the Night Sky

Open-Ended Response Questions

1. Imagine you are an astronaut on a mission to explore one of the irregular moons in our solar system. Describe what you might encounter and study on this moon, and explain why irregular moons are of particular interest to scientists.
2. Discuss the significance of the concept of tidal locking in the context of moon-planet relationships. How does tidal locking influence the way we observe and study these celestial bodies?
3. Moons can have a profound impact on their parent planets. Choose one role or influence of moons on planets (e.g., stabilizing climates, creating tides) and elaborate on its importance in our understanding of planetary systems.
4. Compare and contrast regular moons and irregular moons in terms of their origins, characteristics, and orbital behavior. Provide examples of each type of moon from our solar system.

