ASTRONOMY	150 -	MIDTERM
ASINONOMI	100	

Oct 24, 2013 – Autumn 2013

Name:	

TA's Name & Section (2 pts): \_\_\_\_

Answer all questions in the space provided. If you have any questions, raise your hand. 100 points possible. No calculators or electronic devices of any type.

have a density of about

- (a) 3 atm
- (b) 3 km
- (c) 3 %
- (d)  $3 \text{ g/cm}^3$

2 (2 pts) A billion is \_\_\_\_\_ than a million.

- (a) a 100 times smaller
- (b) a 100 times larger
- (c) a 1,000 times smaller
- (d) a 1,000 times larger

3 (2 pts) A typical size for a world in the inner solar system is

- (a) 10's of meters
- (b) 1,000's of km
- (c) 1,000's of  $g/cm^3$
- (d) 10's of atm

4 (2 pts) The Albedo of basalt is about

- (a)  $3 \text{ g/cm}^3$
- (b) 0.10
- (c) 1 atm
- (d) 0.40

1 (2 pts) A world that is composed of only rock would 5 (2 pts) As you move up from the surface of the Earth, the atmospheric pressure

- (a) increases
- (b) decreases
- (c) remains unchanged

6 (2 pts) The atmospheric pressure on the surface of the Moon is

- (a) 1 atm
- (b) 0 atm
- (c) 90 atm
- (d) 0.006 atm

7 (2 pts) The mare surfaces of the Moon, Mars, and Mercury have an age of about

- (a) 3.5 Myrs
- (b)  $3.5 \text{ g/cm}^3$
- (c) 3.5 atm
- (d) 3.5 Byrs

8 (2 pts) A world that is undifferentiated would have a Moment-of-Inertia of about

- (a)  $3 \text{ g/cm}^3$
- (b) 4.5 Byrs
- (c) 1 AU
- (d) 0.4

9 (4 pts) What is the evidence that Mercury was geologically active in the past.
10 (4 pts) Currently, the planet Mercury has no atmosphere. However, when it was geologically active, it released gasses. What gasses would have been released?
11 (6 pts) Explain why Mercury did not hold onto its atmosphere even though its escape velocity is nearly the same as Mars'.
12 (4 pts) Explain why Mars has no oxygen $(O_2)$ in its atmosphere.
12 (4 pts) Explain why wars has no oxygen (O <sub>2</sub> ) in its atmosphere.

13 (8 pts) Explain why we think the Earth and Moon formed from the same collection of highly hear materials.	ted
14 (8 pts) Explain why you would <b>not</b> use a radioactive element with a half-life of 1,000 years to determ the age of a lunar rock.	nine
the age of a failer form	

15 (8 pts) Explain why a world twice as large as the Moon could have the same gravity as the Moon.
16 (8 pts) Explain why a world twice as large as the Moon would have more ghost craters than the Moon.

17 (4 pts) Describe the Crater Population on the surface of the Moon.
18 (4 pts) Describe the Crater Population on the surface of Venus.
19 (8 pts) The Earth has only a few impact craters visible on its surface. Yet we believe that in the past the Earth was covered by impact craters. Explain why we believe the Earth was heavily bombarded in the past?

20 (8 pts) Explain how both human and robot missions to the planets sampled materials from deep us a surface without having to waste time digging.	nder
21 (8 pts) If you know an asteroid is going to hit the Earth, explain why you do <b>not</b> want to break it	into
many pieces (blow it up).	11100