



The Astronomical League

A Federation of Astronomical Societies

Astro Note D6 – Pronunciation Guide to Solar System Objects

Introduction – The planets, moons, and features on these objects all have names. Some are often difficult to pronounce. Some of them are presented here.

Planets and Satellites

Mercury	MIRK-you-ree	Saturn	SA-turn
		Atlas	AT-lus
Venus	VEE-nus	Dione	dye-ON-ee
		Enceladus	en-SELL-ah-dus
Mars	MARZ	Epimetheus	ep-a-MEE-thus
Deimos	DYE-mos	Hyperion	hye-PER-ee-on
Phobos	FOE-bos	Iapetus	ee-AHP-eh-tus
		Janus	JAY-nus
Jupiter	JEW-pi-ter	Mimas	MYE-mus
Adrastea	ah-DRAHS-tee-ah	Pandora	pan-DOOR-ah
Amalthea	ah-mal-THEE-ah	Phoebe	FEE-bee
Ananke	AYE-nan-kee	Prometheus	pro-MEE-thee-us
Callisto	ka-LIS-toe	Rhea	REE-ah
Calypso	ka-LIP-soe	Telesto	tah-LES-toe
Carme	KAR-mee	Tethys	TEE-this
Elara	EE-lahr-ah	Titan	TYE-tun
Europa	you-ROE-pah		
Ganymede	GAN-eh-meed	Uranus	YOU-rah-nus
Himalia	HIM-ah-lee-ah	Ariel	AIR-ee-el
Io	EYE-oh	Miranda	mi-RAN-dah
Leda	LEE-dah	Oberon	OH-ba-ron
Lysithea	lis-ih-THEE-ah	Titania	tye-TAIN-ee-ah
Metis	MEE-tis	Umbriel	UM-bree-el
Pasiphae	pa-SIF-ah-ee		
Sinope	si-NOE-pee	Neptune	NEP-toon
Thebe	THEE-bee	Nereid	NAIR-ee-id
		Triton	TRY-ton

Dwarf Planets and Minor Planets

Ceres	SAIR-eez	Haumea	ha-OO-may-EE-ah
Pluto	PLOO-toe	Makemake	MA-kee-MA-kee
Charon	CAIR-uhn	Eris	EH-ris
Nix	NIKS	Juno	JEW-noh
Hydra	HAHY-druh	Pallas	PAL-us
Styx	STIKS	Vesta	VEST-ah
Kerberos	KUR-ber-uhs		

Surface Features

Mars

Aeolis	eye-OH-lis
Aeria	AIR-ee-uh
Aetheria	eye-THEE-ree-uh
Aethiopia	eye-THEE-oh-pus
Amazonis	A-muh-ZAHN-is
Arcadia	ar-KAY-dee-uh
Argyre	AIR-jir
Chryse	KRY-see
Cimmerium	sim-AIR-ee-um
Cydonia	sy-DOHN-ee-ah
Dia	DIA-ah
Diacria	die-ah-KREE-ah
Electris	ee-LEK-tris
Elysium	ih-LEE-zee-um
Eridania	eh-rid-AH-nee-ah
Erythraeum	air-ih-THRY-um
Hellas	HELL-us
Hesperia	hes-PAIR-ee-ah
Iapygia	yah-PIE-jee-ah
Lacus	LAH-kus
Meridiani	mair-id-ee-AH-nee
Mesogaea	mess-oh-GUY-ah
Ogygis	oh-JEE-jis
Oxia	OX-ee-ah
Sabaeus	sa-BYE-us
Solis	SOH-lis
Syrtis	SEAR-tis
Tharsis	THAR-sis
Tyrrhenum	tir-REEN-um

Moon

Aestuum	ice-TOO-um
Australe	oss-TRAY-lee
Crisium	KRY-see-um
Fecunditatis	feh-KUN-di-TAH-tis
Frigoris	fri-JOR-is
Humorum	HEW-mohr-um
Imbrium	IM-bree-um
Iridum	EAR-ih-dum
Mare	MAH-ray
Medii	MED-ee-yee
Mortis	MOHR-tis
Nebularum	neb-you-LAHR-um
Nectaris	nek-TAHR-is
Nubium	NEW-bee-um
Oceanus	oh-she-AH-nus
Palus	PAL-us
Procellarum	pro-sell-LAHR-um
Putridinus	pew-trih-DEEN-us
Roris	ROAR-is
Serenitatis	seh-REN-ih-TAH-tis
Sinus	SIGN-us
Smythii	SMITH-ee-yee
Somnii	SOM-nee-yee
Somniorum	som-nee-YOR-um
Spumans	SPOO-manz
Tranquillitatis	tran-KWIL-ih-TAH-tis
Undarum	un-DAR-um
Vaporum	vay-PORE-um
Zephyria	zef-EAR-ee-ah