

Astronomy Observing Form

Please complete at least 2 of these forms, preferably at times separated by more than a month so that you can see how planets and the Moon change position. Before you can do this form, you need to use Stellarium (or another star map) to label the constellations on your constellation map. Also, write the names of the stars next to the 6 biggest dots on each map. Have those 4 constellation maps on hand along with a pencil, clipboard, and dim light.

Name: _____
Date: _____
Time (Eastern): _____
Observing location: _____

Ia) What are the 5 brightest stars that you can see in the sky and in which constellations are they located?

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|---------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| 1) Star name: | _____ | in Constellation: | _____ |
| 2) Star name: | _____ | in Constellation: | _____ |
| 3) Star name: | _____ | in Constellation: | _____ |
| 4) Star name: | _____ | in Constellation: | _____ |
| 5) Star name: | _____ | in Constellation: | _____ |

Ib) Draw a check mark next to the above 5 stars on your star map.

IIa) Mark objects on your constellation sheets which appear in the sky but NOT on your star map. These should be the Moon and planets (Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, or Saturn). Carefully draw a small square on one of your constellation sheets at the approximate location of the object. Write the date next to that object.

IIb) Describe up to three of the objects that you see:

- 1) Which planet/moon do you think it is? _____
Which constellation is it in? _____
What does it look like (color, twinkling, brightness compared to nearby stars)?

- 2) Which planet/moon do you think it is? _____
Which constellation is it in? _____
What does it look like (color, twinkling, brightness compared to nearby stars)?

- 3) Which planet/moon do you think it is? _____
Which constellation is it in? _____
What does it look like (color, twinkling, brightness compared to nearby stars)?
