| Name | Date | Period |
|------|------|--------|
|------|------|--------|

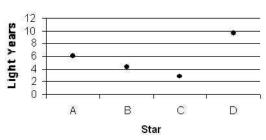
UNDERSTANDING ASTRONOMY GRAPHS, DIAGRAMS, AND CHARTS

Directions – complete each of the following to help you understand the information graphs, charts, and diagrams provide.

GRAPH

- 1. What does A, B, C, and D repesent on the x axis?
- 2. What is measured on the y-axis?
- 3. If a satellite was sent out into space, which star would it reach in 6 years? Explain your answer?

Distance to Stars from the Sun

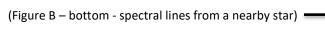


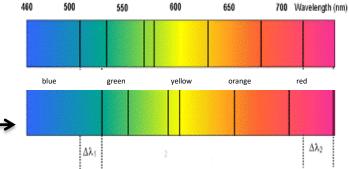
4. If a space probe will launched into space will only work properly for 5 years, what stars would the probe be able to reach and collect data? Explain your answer.

DIAGRAM

Measurements of light from a nearby star were made. Doppler analysis was performed and the spectral lines in Figure B were observed.

(Figure A – top - spectral control)





- 1. What do the numbers above figure A represent?
- 2. What is the difference between figure A and B?
- 3. If figure A is the control, what is figure B showing?

CHART

| | Mercury | Venus | Earth | Mars | Jupiter |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Distance from Sun (millions of km) | 57.9 | 108.2 | 149.6 | 227.9 | 778.3 |
| Year | 88 days | 224.7 days | 365.2 days | 687 days | 11.86 yrs |
| Day | 59 days | 243 days retrograde | 23 hr 56 min 4 sec | 24 hr 37 min | 9 hr 55 min 30 sec |
| Diameter (km) | 4,880 | 12,100 | 12,756 | 6,794 | 142,800 |
| Atmosphere (main components) | Virtually none | Carbon dioxide | Nitrogen Oxygen | Carbon dioxide | Hydrogen Helium |
| Satellites | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 16 |
| Rings | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |

- 1. What information is this chart showing?
- 2. What planet has the largest diameter?
- 3. Which planet has the shortest year?
- 4. Which planet has the longest year?
- 5. Which planets do not have moons?
- 6. Why might Mercury not have an atmosphere?
- 7. Which planets have similar atmospheres?