# **Holt Science Critical Thinking Answer Key**

#### TEACHER RESOURCES

## Answer Key

### Directed Reading A

#### SECTION: THE NINE PLANETS

- 1. B
- 2. C
- 3. D 4. C
- 5. solar system
- 6. The Saturn system is made up of the planet Saturn and the moons that orbit it.
- 8. D
- 9. 1 second 10. light minute
- 11. There are 8.3 light minutes in one
- astronomical unit.
- 12. D 13. C
- 14. the sun, Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, and the moon
- 15. C
- 16. B 17. the inner solar system
- 18. terrestrial planets
- 19. Mercury, Mars, Earth, Venus
- 20. Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto
- 21. They are large planets that are composed mostly of gases.
- 22. Pluto

#### SECTION: THE INNER PLANETS

- 2. The inner planets are smaller, denser, and rockier than the outer planets.
- 4. period of rotation
- 5. because its period of rotation is so slow 6. C
- 7. D
- 8. A
- 9. B
- 10. A 11. D
- 12. B
- 13. C 14. C
- 15. D

- .16. because Venus is only slightly smaller, less massive, and less dense than Earth
- 17. prograde
- 18. retrograde
- 19. Earth is located at just the right distance from the sun to keep its water from freezing and cool enough to keep its water from boiling away.
- 20. Answers may vary. Sample answer: the atmosphere, land, ice, the oceans, and life
- 21. C
- 22. B
- 23. C
- 24. Mars is a cold planet because it has a thin atmosphere that cannot trap heat, and it is located much farther out from the sun.
- 25. Olympus Mons
- 26. The difference in the chemical composition of Mars has kept the Martian crust from shifting like Earth's so the Martian volcanic system keeps building up in the same spots.
- 27. The Twin Rovers mission was designed to help determine whether life ever existed on Mars and to help prepare for human exploration missions to Mars.

#### SECTION: THE OUTER PLANETS

- 1. gas giant
- 2. A
- 3. B 4. C
- 5. B
- 7. As depth and pressure increase, hydrogen gas turns into liquid form. Deeper still, the liquid hydrogen changes into a liquid, metallic state.
- 9. Saturn's rings, moons, and atmosphere
- 10. C 11. B
- 13. Early in its history, Uranus may have been struck by a massive object that tipped it over on its side.

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