

Early Astronomy – Important Concepts

1. Contrast the “geocentric model” with the “heliocentric model.”

2. Explain why people accepted the geocentric model for so many centuries.

3. What was Copernicus’s contribution to understanding Earth’s place in space?

4. What was Kepler’s contribution to understanding Earth’s place in space?

5. What were five of Galileo’s contributions to Earth’s place in space?

6. Two important contributions made by Newton were “gravity” and “inertia.”

a) What is “gravity”?

b) What is “inertia”?

7. What is the difference between “mass” and “weight”?

8. How does your weight change as you fly upward in an airplane or ride up an elevator, and as you go back down?