

ORBITAL MOTION, NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL SATELLITES

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Some information on the orbit of the eight planets about the Sun is shown in the below table.

Planet	Average distance from Sun (million km)	Time taken to orbit Sun (years)
Mercury	58	0.24
Venus	108	0.62
Earth	150	1
Mars	228	1.88
Jupiter	780	12
Saturn	1430	29
Uranus	2880	84
Neptune	4500	165



Show that the orbital speed of the Earth around the Sun is approximately equal to 30 km/s.

[4 marks]



The asteroid belt is located between Mars and Jupiter.

A particular asteroid takes 5.2 years to orbit the Sun, and travels at a speed of 17.2 km/s. Calculate its distance from the Sun.

Distance = _____ km

[4 marks]

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