

Ch. 3.4 The Inner Planets (Mercury & Venus)

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

MERCURY'S SURFACE: (p. 96 and video 1:51 - 4:40) Describe Mercury's surface and why its craters have not changed much since its formation.

MERCURY'S ATMOSPHERE: Explain why Mercury has virtually no atmosphere.

MERCURY'S TEMPERATURE: Explain how having little atmosphere plays a role in Mercury's night being so cold.

VENUS'S ATMOSPHERE: (pp. 97-98 and 4:40 - 8:30) Describe Venus's atmosphere.

VENUS'S SURFACE: Describe Venus's surface and tell the name of the mission that gathered much of this information.

VENUS'S ROTATION: Explain the current hypothesis of why Venus rotates in the opposite direction of most planets and moons.

VENUS'S ROTATION: Explain what is meant by Venus's day is longer than its year.