



# New Discovery Challenges Perception of Mars' Red Color

## Description

Mars is known for its red color, but new research suggests water played a key role in making the planet red. Scientists previously thought dry oxidation caused Mars's red hue, but now they believe water was involved.

A mineral called ferrihydrite mixed with volcanic rock could be responsible for Mars's rust. This mineral forms quickly with cool water, and evidence suggests it played a role in the planet's reddish appearance.

Previous studies missed this mineral as a potential explanation for Mars's color. By analyzing data from spacecraft and Mars rovers, scientists found that ferrihydrite might be the reason behind the planet's redness.

Ferrihydrite likely formed while Mars still had water on its surface, changing our understanding of the planet's history. It's important to study Mars samples closely to confirm these findings and learn more about the planet's past water presence.

This research is published in Nature Communications.

## Vocabulary List:

1. **Oxidation** /ˌɒksɪˈdeɪʃən/ (noun): A chemical reaction that involves the loss of electrons often resulting in rust.
2. **Ferrihydrite** /ˌfɛrɪˈhaɪdraɪt/ (noun): A mineral composed of iron oxide and water significant in geological processes.
3. **Reddish** /ˈrɛdɪʃ/ (adjective): Having a color that is somewhat red; tinged with red.
4. **Responsible** /rɪˈsponsəbl/ (adjective): Being the primary cause of something; accountable for an action or outcome.
5. **Analyze** /ˈænəˌlaɪz/ (verb): To examine something in detail in order to understand it better or draw conclusions.
6. **Understanding** /ˌʌndərˈstændɪŋ/ (noun): The ability to grasp the meaning significance or nature of something.

## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. What is the mineral believed to be responsible for Mars's red color?



- Option: Hematite
- Option: Ferrihydrite
- Option: Magnetite
- Option: Quartz

2. How is ferrihydrite formed?

- Option: Through dry oxidation
- Option: With hot water
- Option: In cold water
- Option: By exposure to sunlight

3. What recent research suggests about the role of water in Mars's appearance?

- Option: Water played no role
- Option: Water caused dry oxidation
- Option: Water was involved in making Mars red
- Option: Water evaporated quickly

4. What publication features the research about Mars's red color?

- Option: Science
- Option: Nature Communications
- Option: Journal of Planetary Science
- Option: Mars Studies Quarterly

5. What evidence led scientists to identify ferrihydrite as a key element in Mars's color?

- Option: Data from satellites
- Option: Analysis of meteorites
- Option: Spacecraft and Mars rover data
- Option: Lab experiments

6. What was Mars believed to be red due to before the new research?

- Option: Ferrihydrite
- Option: Volcanic activity
- Option: Dry oxidation
- Option: Magnetic interference

### **True-False**

7. Previous studies identified ferrihydrite as a key element contributing to Mars's red appearance.



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8. Ferrihydrite likely formed on Mars when the planet was dry and arid.
9. The recent research on Mars was published in a journal called Nature Communications.
10. Dry oxidation is still considered the primary reason for Mars's red hue according to the new research.
11. Mars samples need to be studied further to confirm the findings about water's role in the planet's appearance.
12. The mineral ferrihydrite is known to form quickly in hot water conditions.
13. Ferrihydrite could be responsible for Mars's rust due to its quick formation in cool water, suggesting it played a role in the planet's reddish appearance.
14. Mars likely had water on its surface when ferrihydrite formed, reshaping our understanding of the planet's history. It's crucial to study Mars samples closely to confirm these findings and learn more about the planet's past water presence.
15. The recent research on Mars's red color highlights the significance of \_\_\_\_\_ in forming the planet's unique appearance.

### Gap-Fill

15. The recent research on Mars's red color highlights the significance of \_\_\_\_\_  
in forming the planet's unique appearance.
16. The discovery of ferrihydrite as a key reason behind Mars's redness emphasizes the need for further \_\_\_\_\_ to explore the planet's geological features.
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17. By analyzing data from spacecraft and Mars rovers, scientists found that \_\_\_\_\_ might be crucial to explaining Mars's reddish hue.



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might be crucial to explaining Mars's reddish hue.

18. Studying Mars samples can provide valuable insights into the planet's past water presence, potentially unraveling its mystery through \_\_\_\_\_ examination.

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unraveling its mystery through \_\_\_\_\_ examination.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Ferrihydrite 2. In cold water 3. Water was involved in making Mars red 4. Nature Communications 5. Spacecraft and Mars rover data 6. Dry oxidation

**True-False:** 7. False 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. True 12. False 13. False 14. False 15. False 16. False 17. False 18. False

**Gap-Fill:** 15.

## Vocabulary quizzes

**Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )**

1. What is a compulsive need for and use of a habit-forming substance called?

Option: Dependency

Option: Leisure

Option: Excitement

Option: Responsibility

2. Which term describes the act of unfairly branding someone as disgraceful or unworthy?

Option: Celebratory

Option: Supportive

Option: Discriminatory

Option: Genuine

3. What word best describes something that is plentiful or in large quantities?

Option: Thirsty

Option: Sparse

Option: Rare



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Option: Plentiful

4. Which term describes something that is clearly seen or understood?

- Option: Hidden
- Option: Suspected
- Option: Concealed
- Option: Clear

5. What is the chemical process that involves the loss of electrons?

- Option: Reduction
- Option: Distillation
- Option: Filtration
- Option: Oxidation

6. What is the explosive death of a massive star called?

- Option: Black Hole
- Option: Nova
- Option: Supernova
- Option: Pulsar

7. What scientific technique is used to view objects that are too small to be seen by the naked eye?

- Option: X-ray
- Option: Sonar
- Option: Microscopy
- Option: Spectroscopy

8. Which term describes substances that contain carbon and are found in living organisms?

- Option: Artificial
- Option: Inorganic
- Option: Chemical
- Option: Organic

9. What refers to a relationship in which a person thing or idea is linked or associated with something else?

- Option: Division
- Option: Isolation
- Option: Connection
- Option: Fragmentation

10. Which term refers to the ability to comprehend or have an awareness of something?



- Option: Confusion
- Option: Ignorance
- Option: Understanding
- Option: Indifference

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. In the study \_\_\_\_\_ were asked to provide feedback on the new program.
12. Regular exercise is important for maintaining good \_\_\_\_\_ .
13. She enjoys \_\_\_\_\_ with friends on the weekends.
14. The volcanic \_\_\_\_\_ was visible from miles away.
15. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the situation made it difficult to make a decision.
16. As the team leader she was \_\_\_\_\_ for the project's success.
17. The development of new technology has the power to \_\_\_\_\_ industries.
18. The community came together to help in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the natural disaster.
19. Always be \_\_\_\_\_ when handling chemicals in the laboratory.
20. The team spent hours \_\_\_\_\_ the data to draw meaningful conclusions.
21. The artist specializes in \_\_\_\_\_ glass to create unique sculptures.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

22. The fireworks display was accompanied by colorful bursts of light and loud bangs.
23. Water is for all forms of life to survive.
24. The fingerprints found at the crime scene provided crucial for the investigation.
25. is a mineral that can trap contaminants in water.
26. Turning 18 years old is often seen as the beginning of .



27. The study included various from different age groups.
28. Meaningful can enhance relationships and foster understanding.
29. DNA analysis provided compelling linking the suspect to the crime.
30. The volcanic caused disruptions to air travel in the region.
31. The sunset painted the sky in a beautiful hue.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Dependency 2. Discriminatory 3. Plentiful 4. Clear 5. Oxidation 6. Supernova 7. Microscopy 8. Organic 9. Connection 10. Understanding

**Gap-Fill:** 11. participants 12. wellbeing 13. socializing 14. eruption 15. uncertainty 16. responsible 17. transform 18. aftermath 19. cautious 20. analyzing 21. vitrifying

**Matching sentence:** 1. explosions 2. essential 3. evidence 4. Ferrihydrite 5. adulthood 6. participants 7. conversations 8. evidence 9. eruption 10. reddish

## CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL2

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### Author

aimeeyoung99