

View Rare Moon and Venus Conjunction Aug. 5 in Night Sky

Description

Venus, the brightest planet, will pass very close to a crescent moon in the twilight sky, creating a memorable sight that has inspired symbols on flags and famous poetry. However, observing this event on Monday evening, Aug. 5 will be quite challenging due to the moon's thin illumination of only 2 percent, making it hard to detect initially. Those in the eastern United States with a clear view of the sunset horizon may be able to witness this rare occurrence.

The close conjunction of Venus and the moon will require binoculars to spot, with Venus shining ten times brighter than the brightest star, Sirius. Despite the difficulty, observing the moon always provides a rewarding experience for skywatchers. For those interested in capturing this event through photography, various guides are available for photographing the moon and planets.

A 36-hour-old moon will be visible shortly before sunset, sitting above the west-northwest horizon. Using binoculars to locate the moon and Venus can enhance the viewing experience, especially as twilight deepens. Around half an hour after sunset, Venus will appear as a bright dot next to the moon's lower left rim, creating a stunning visual in the twilight sky.

Moving farther west, observers along the Pacific coast will witness the gap between the moon and Venus widen, with Venus positioned to the lower right of the moon. While this event may not be easily seen by all, preparation, a clear horizon, and binoculars can increase the chances of spotting this celestial display.

Instructor Joe Rao, affiliated with the Hayden Planetarium, Natural History magazine, and Farmers' Almanac, shares his insights on astronomy, guiding enthusiasts through the wonders of the night sky.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Conjunction** /kən'dʒʌŋkʃən/ (noun): The act of joining together or occurring at the same time.
2. **Illumination** /ɪ,lu:.mɪ'neɪ,ʃən/ (noun): The condition of being lighted; the provision of light.
3. **Twilight** /'twai,laɪt/ (noun): The light from the sky during the time just after the sun has gone down.
4. **Crescent** /'kres,ənt/ (adjective/noun): Having the shape of a crescent; an object shaped like a crescent.
5. **Observation** /,ɒbzər'veɪʃən/ (noun): The action or process of closely observing something or someone.
6. **Phenomenon** /fə'nɒmɪ,nɒn/ (noun): An observable fact or event; something unusual that can be seen.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. Which planet is described as the brightest in the text?

- Option: Mars
- Option: Venus
- Option: Saturn
- Option: Jupiter

2. What percentage of illumination does the moon have during the event?

- Option: 10%
- Option: 5%
- Option: 2%
- Option: 0.5%

3. What is recommended to use to spot the close conjunction of Venus and the moon?

- Option: Telescope
- Option: Naked eye
- Option: Binoculars
- Option: Microscope

4. Approximately how much brighter is Venus than the brightest star Sirius?

- Option: Three times
- Option: Five times
- Option: Ten times
- Option: Fifteen times

5. At what time of day does Venus appear next to the moon's lower left rim?

- Option: Morning
- Option: Midnight
- Option: Twilight
- Option: Afternoon

6. What can increase the chances of spotting the celestial display according to the text?

- Option: Using a telescope
- Option: Having a cloudy sky
- Option: Preparation clear horizon and binoculars
- Option: Staying indoors

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Venus 2. 2% 3. Binoculars 4. Ten times 5. Twilight 6. Preparation clear horizon and binoculars

Vocabulary quizzes

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

1. Which term describes something innovative and pioneering?

- Option: Reserves
- Option: Groundbreaking
- Option: Exclusivity
- Option: Opulent

2. Which word suggests a significant change or impact?

- Option: Compelling
- Option: Transformative
- Option: Prestigious
- Option: Seclusion

3. What term is associated with the sky or heavens?

- Option: Scarcity
- Option: Celestial
- Option: Manifestation
- Option: Intrigued

4. Which term refers to something complex and refined?

- Option: Catastrophic
- Option: Sophisticated
- Option: Observation
- Option: Complexity

5. Which term means the quality of being attractive or fascinating?

- Option: Opulent
- Option: Allure
- Option: Seclusion
- Option: Illumination

6. What term is used to describe something suggested or theorized?

- Option: Significant
- Option: Hypothesized
- Option: Twilight
- Option: Conjunction

7. Which word relates to the actions or conduct of individuals or organisms?

- Option: Behavior
- Option: Antisocial
- Option: Illumination
- Option: Twilight

8. What term signifies the action of supplying light or brightening something?

- Option: Exclusivity
- Option: Scarcity
- Option: Illumination
- Option: Intrigued

9. Which term refers to supplies or resources kept for future use or requirements?

- Option: Compelling
- Option: Reserves
- Option: Redefining
- Option: Opulent

10. What term indicates something involving or causing a disastrous event?

- Option: Catastrophic
- Option: Prestigious
- Option: Exclusivity
- Option: Seclusion

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

11. The luxury brand maintained an air of _____ limiting access to its products to a select few.

12. The creatures of the forest emerged at _____ as day turned into night.

13. The sudden storm was a clear _____ of the power of nature.

14. The _____ of the issue required a team of experts to unravel its intricacies.

15. The artist sought _____ in a remote cabin to find inspiration for their next

masterpiece.

16. The scientist conducted careful _____ of the behavior of the birds in their natural habitat.

17. The Northern Lights are a natural _____ that captivates all who witness them.

18. The innovative technology was _____ the way people interacted with each other.

19. The discovery of the ancient ruins was a _____ moment in archaeological history.

20. The widow was still _____ the loss of her husband finding it hard to move on.

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

21. The palace was decorated in a grand and lavish style befitting its royal inhabitants.

22. During the drought there was a of fresh water causing hardship for the villagers.

23. The mysterious phone call left her wondering who could be on the other end.

24. The alignment of the planets in was a rare astronomical event.

25. The of the path with lanterns made the garden look magical at night.

26. The moon shone brightly in the clear night sky.

27. The of the political situation required careful analysis to understand.

28. Scientific of the stars led to groundbreaking discoveries in astronomy.

29. The new educational program had a impact on student performance.

30. Winning the award was a achievement for the young actress.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Groundbreaking 2. Transformative 3. Celestial 4. Sophisticated 5. Allure 6. Hypothesized
7. Behavior 8. Illumination 9. Reserves 10. Catastrophic

Gap-Fill: 11. exclusivity 12. twilight 13. manifestation 14. complexity 15. seclusion 16. observation
17. phenomenon



18. redefining 19. significant 20. grieving

Matching sentence: 1. opulent 2. scarcity 3. intrigued 4. conjunction 5. illumination 6. crescent 7. complexity
8. observation 9. transformative 10. prestigious

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL5

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