

Mars — The Red Planet

Name:

Date:

INQUIRY

China's Zhurong rover found evidence of ancient water on Mars. What does this mean for colonisation?

Discuss with your partner. Write your initial ideas below:

Key Vocabulary

Term	Definition
Atmosphere	Layer of gases around a planet. Mars: 95% CO ₂ .
Gravity	Mars = 38% of Earth's gravity.
Regolith	Rocky soil covering Mars's surface.

Part A — Mars Facts

1. Compare Mars and Earth: (a) distance from Sun (b) day length (c) gravity (d) average temperature (e) atmosphere composition. [5 marks]

2. A student weighs 55 kg on Earth. What do they weigh on Mars? (Mars gravity = 0.38 × Earth) [2 marks]

Show your working:

Part B — Water Evidence

3. Describe 3 pieces of evidence that Mars once had liquid water. Why is this important for potential colonisation? [4 marks]

Part C — Comparison

4. Why is Mars a better candidate for colonisation than Venus or the Moon? Compare at least 3 factors. [4 marks]