READING ACTIVITIES

2.1. Explain which is the main difference between:

- the inner and the outer planets
 - The inner planets are the four planets *closest to the Sun*, **while** the outer planets are the four planets *farthest from the Sun*.

The inner planets are *small* and *rocky* planets, **while** the outer planets are *big* and *gaseous*.

The inner planets have *thick* and *light atmospheres*, **while** the outer planets have *thick* and *dense atmospheres*.

The inner planets have *few* satellites, **while** the outer planets have *many* satellites.

asteroids and comets

Asteroids are *small rocky* bodies **while** comets are bodies of *ice, dust* and *gas*.

Asteroids are in the *Asteroid Belt* and the *Kuiper Belt*, **while** comets come from the *Oort cloud*.

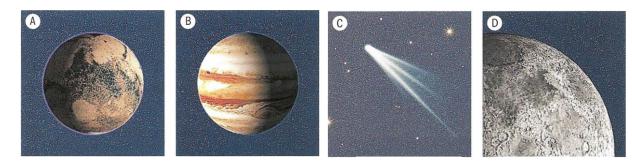
planets and dwarf planets

Planets are big round rocky or gaseous bodies that are alone in their orbit, **while** dwarf planets are small and round rocky bodies which *have not cleared their orbit* around the Sun of other similar bodies.

2.2. Look at the following chart about the main characteristics of the planets of the Solar System and answer the questions:

- a. Which planet is the smallest in the Solar System? The smallest planet in the Solar System is **Mercury**.
- b. Which planet has the least satellites? The planets which have the least satellites are **Mercury** and **Venus**.
- c. Which planet has a horizontal axis? The planet which has a horizontal axis is **Uranus**.
- d. Which planet is the farthest to the Sun? The farthest planet from the Sun is **Neptune**.
- e. Which planet has an atmosphere with oxygen? The planet which has an atmosphere with oxygen is **the Earth.**
- f. Which planet has the lowest surface temperature? The planet which has the lowest surface temperature is **Neptune**.
- g. Which planet has the highest surface temperature? The planet which has the highest surface temperature is **Venus**.
- h. Which planet has the biggest rings? The planet which has the biggest rings is **Saturn**.

2.3. Identify the following pictures:



It is Mars.

It is Jupiter.

It is a comet.



It is the