

# The Enigma of Venus

1. What has Venus been covered in ?

2. What is the temperature at the surface of Venus ?

3. What is the major constituent of the atmosphere of Venus, and what are Venus' clouds made of ?

4. What had been detected by radio telescopes by 1958, and what did that observation imply about Venus ?

5. How long does it take Venus to rotate once around ?

6. What information about Venus' surface did Mariner 2 add to the conclusions of earlier radio telescope observations ?

7. What was the typical survival time of a Venera lander on Venus' surface ?

8. What major component of Venus' atmosphere is opaque to infrared radiation ?

9. What process put carbon into the Venusian atmosphere ?

10. What cycle helps keep the Earth cool ?

11. What was Magellan's main task at Venus ?

12. What is the reason for the lack of small craters on Venus ?

13. What does the sparse number of craters tell us about the surface of Venus ?

14. According to the data from Pioneer Venus, how does Venus' surface differ from Earth's

15. As far as we can determine, how long ago was the most recent volcanic activity on Venus' surface ?

16. What alteration to Earth's surface would produce tectonic conditions similar to those on Venus ?

17. What is the "smoking gun" being looked for to determine the cycle of volcanism on Venus ?

18. What would be required for a surface-based "seismic net" on Venus to be feasible ?

19. What element destroys oxygen molecules in the upper atmosphere of Venus ?

20. What is the "enigma" of Venus ?