Name: _____ Date: _____

Class: _____ Teacher: _____

Elliptical Orbits and Kepler's Laws of Planetary Motion

Directions: This assignment requires online access for completion.
Go to the following website - **Johannes Kepler: The Laws of Planetary Motion**.

Read the entire page and then answer all questions in complete sentences basing your answers on your reading of the external web page. Place answers on the blanks provided. Note that the response for question 5 requires a short answer.

1. What was the important realization that Kepler came to regarding the shape of the orbits of planets?

_____

_____

2. How many points are necessary to draw an *ellipse*?

_____

_____

3. Define: *eccentricity*.

_____

_____

4. Between what range of numbers do eccentricities fall?

_____

_____

5. Finish this sentence:

A higher number means the ellipse is _____.

6. We say that the planets' orbits are ellipses, yet they appear to be circular when represented in drawings on paper. Why is this so?

_____

_____

_____

_____

7. State Kepler's *First Law of Motion*.

_____

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