

PHYS 178 – Assignment 3

Due: Monday 1 September 2008

This assignment contributes 2% to your final grade. Please write brief answers directly on the sheet in the spaces provided (and on the back if necessary). The assignment should be turned into the PHYS 178 assignment box on level 2 of E7B, just outside the doorway to E7A.

1. Explain why the atmospheric pressure at the surface of Venus is almost 100 times that on Earth.

2. Contrast the tectonic activity on Venus with that on Earth.

3. Briefly describe one piece of evidence for the existence of subsurface water on Mars.

4. Briefly describe a second piece of evidence for the existence of subsurface water on Mars.

5. Why is the atmosphere of Mars so tenuous compared to those of Venus and the Earth?