
ASTROLOGY PRACTITIONER COURSE

LESSON TWO

COMPONENTS



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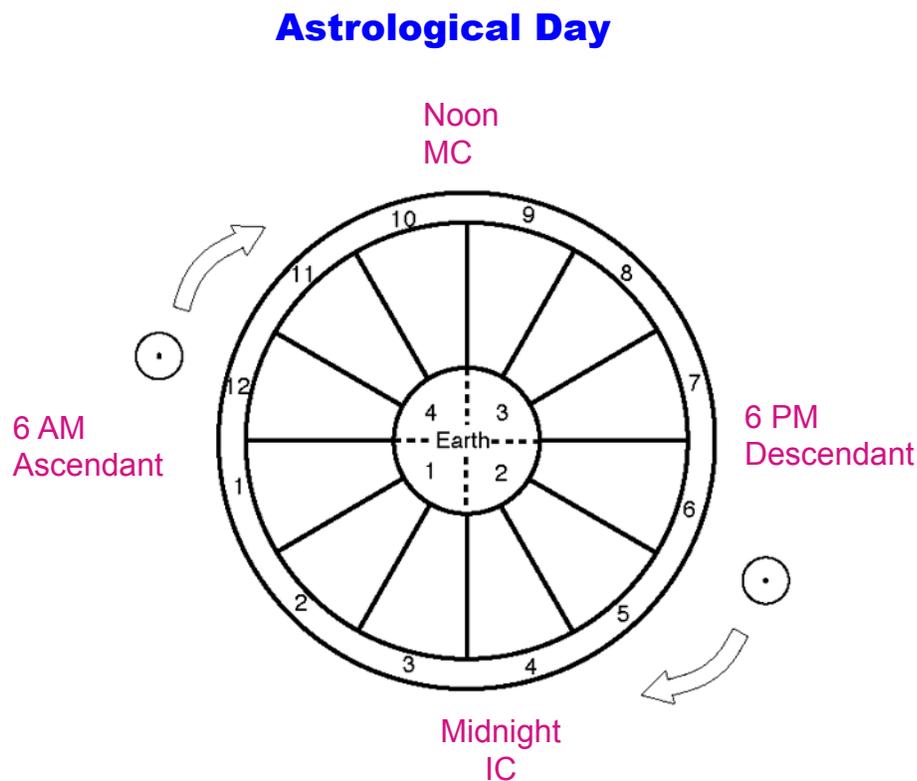
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COMPONENTS

In this lesson you will learn the different components that make up an astrology chart and how they interact and function. Planets, houses, cusps, ascendant, descendant, MC, IC, etc. are all terms you must be familiar with in order to read a chart. Reading a chart is called “delineating.” You will learn to delineate symbols contained in a chart and how the chart relates to actual astronomy occurrences in the space around us.

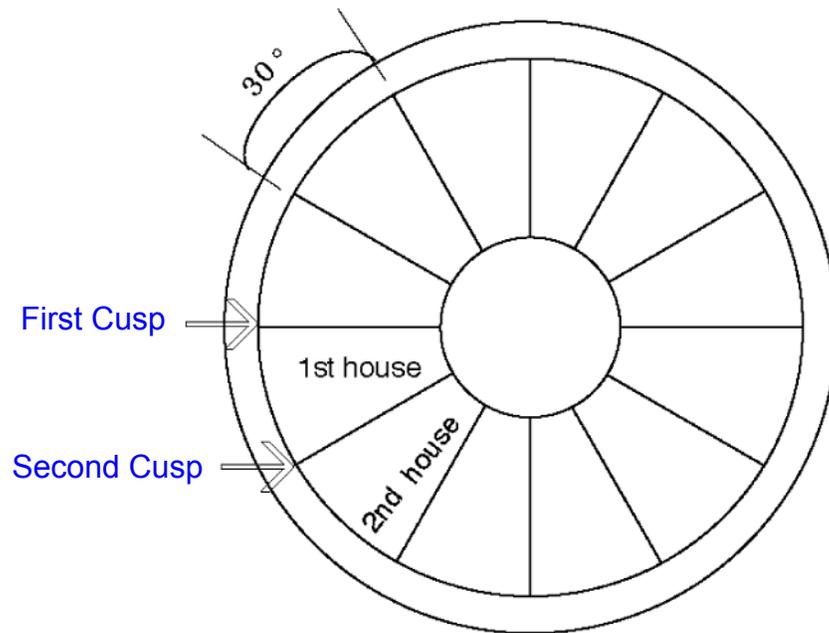
MAP

The astrology chart is a map of the stars and planets that surround the Earth at a particular moment in time. In illustration 2.1 see that the Earth is divided into four quarters. The horizontal dotted line marks the equator, the vertical dotted line marks the meridian. The space around the Earth is divided into twelve equal portions called HOUSES. The outer circle represents the 12 signs of the Zodiac which appear to circle the Earth in a celestial belt of 360°. The Sun appears to run through the Zodiac belt in a field of width called the ECLIPTIC. In a 24-hour period, the Sun circles the Earth around and through the houses.



2.1 Based on the Sun's relationship to the equator at 12 noon in the northern hemisphere.

Houses represent different departments and conditions in life and are each influenced by a sign of the Zodiac. The planets travel through the houses, Even though the actual area in the sky a Zodiac constellation occupies in space differs, each house is assigned 30°. The dividing lines between the houses are called CUSPS. The line on the Eastern equator is the CUSP OF THE FIRST HOUSE, or the ASCENDANT. The next line, going in a counter-clockwise direction, is the cusp of the second house, the next line is the cusp of the third house, and so on.



2.2 Each house is assigned 30° of a 360° circle. The dividing lines between the houses are called CUSPS. The line on the Eastern equator is the CUSP OF THE FIRST HOUSE, or the ASCENDANT. The next line, going in a counterclockwise direction, is the cusp of the 2nd house, and so on.

Planetary Glyphs



Sun



Moon



Mercury



Venus



Mars



Jupiter



Saturn



Uranus



Neptune



Pluto

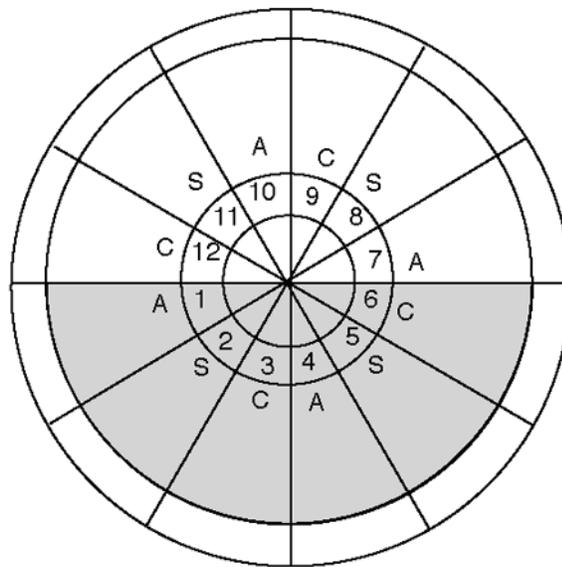


Chiron

The Ascendant is the cusp (dividing line between the houses) of the 1st house. Houses 1-6 are known as NOCTURNAL HOUSES because they are below the horizon. Houses 7-12 are DIURNAL (day) because they are above the horizon. Remember, the chart is a map with the earth in the center. The line from the 1st - 7th cusps is the line of horizon. That's why the Zodiac sign on the Ascendant is sometimes called the Rising Sign. It is where the Zodiac sign rises over the horizon at the time of birth.

Houses 1,4,7, and 10 are ANGULAR because they fall on the four cardinal points (East, West, North, South). Houses 2, 5, 8, and 11 are SUCCEEDENT because they follow (succeed) angular houses. Houses 3, 6, 9, and 12 are CADENT. The word *Cadent* comes from Latin for "fall" or "sink." Each sign of the Zodiac is associated with one house. They are said to RULE that house, or be the NATURAL RULER of that house.

Diurnal



Nocturnal

2.3 A= Angular; S=Succeedent; C=Cadent.

The Twelve Houses and their Rulers

House	Ruler	Symbol	House	Ruler	Symbol
1	Aries	♈	7	Libra	♎
2	Taurus	♉	8	Scorpio	♏
3	Gemini	♊	9	Sagittarius	♐
4	Cancer	♋	10	Capricorn	♑
5	Leo	♌	11	Aquarius	♒
6	Virgo	♍	12	Pisces	♓

Of the signs of the Zodiac, odd numbered signs are considered to have a masculine and positive energy. Even numbered signs are considered feminine. Masculine and feminine identities refer to the Chinese concept of Yin and Yang. Masculine, Yang, is radiating outward, active, aggressive, solid, dry, light in color. Feminine Yin signs are receptive, passive, dark, moist, radiating inward.

ELEMENTS AND QUALITIES

Each sign is associated with an **ELEMENT**. Elements are fire, earth, air, and water.

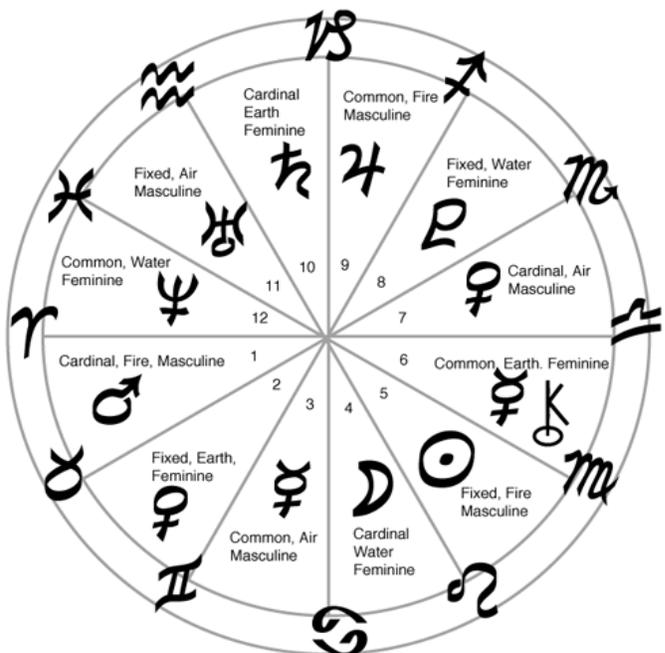
- Fire signs are bold and fiery, moving and fast.
- Earth signs are practical, down-to-earth
- Air signs are intellectual and emotionally detached
- Water signs are emotional and moody

Each sign is also associated with a **QUALITY**. Qualities are **CARDINAL**, **FIXED**, and **COMMON**. Common is sometimes called **MUTABLE**.

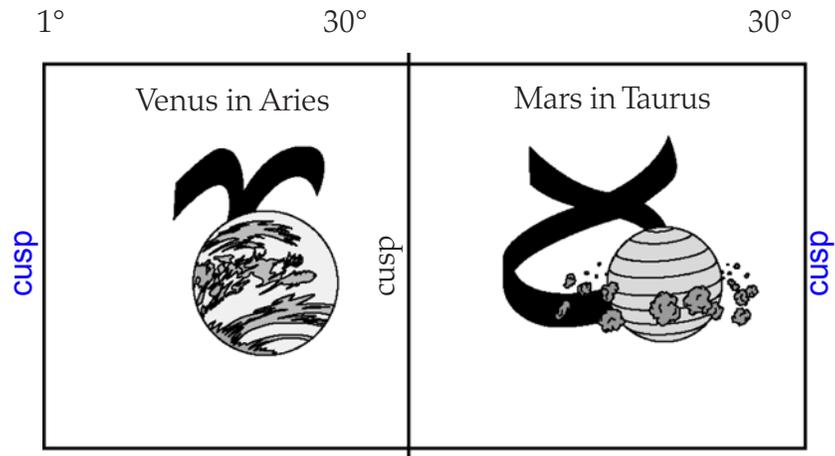
- Cardinal signs have an inaugurating, pioneering quality
- Fixed signs have a fixed, established quality
- Common/Mutable signs have an adaptable quality.

FIRE	EARTH	AIR	WATER
CARDINAL	ARIES	CAPRICORN	LIBRA
FIXED	LEO	TAURUS	AQUARIUS
COMMON	SAGITTARIUS	VIRGO	GEMINI
			PISCES

2.5 Elements, gender, and qualities of the Zodiac signs

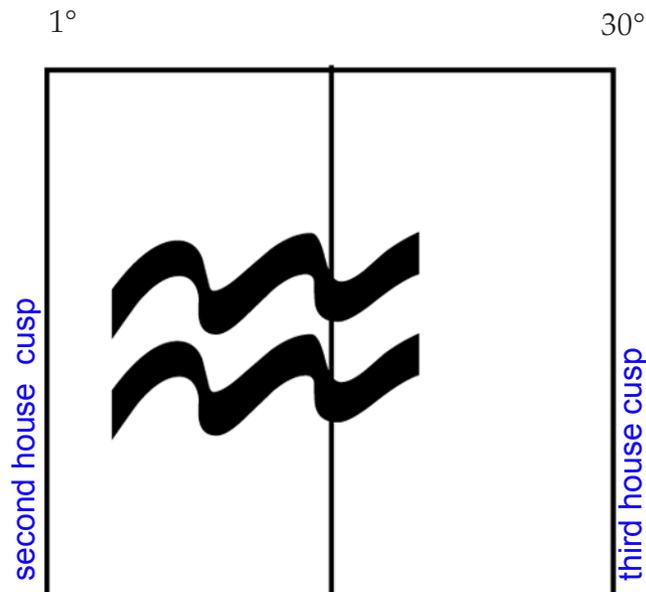


The Sun, Moon, and planets appear to move against the background of the Zodiac within the Ecliptic. As they move in front of a constellation sign, they are said to be IN those signs. Therefore Venus moving across the constellation Aries would be IN Aries. See the illustration below.



Zodiac Belt with planets moving across the signs of Aries and Taurus

As the Earth turns, different signs appear at the horizon and the whole Zodiac belt seems to move around the Earth, and around the astrological chart. So at different times of the day. The signs are said to be IN certain houses, or RULE different houses. More about that later. See the illustration below.



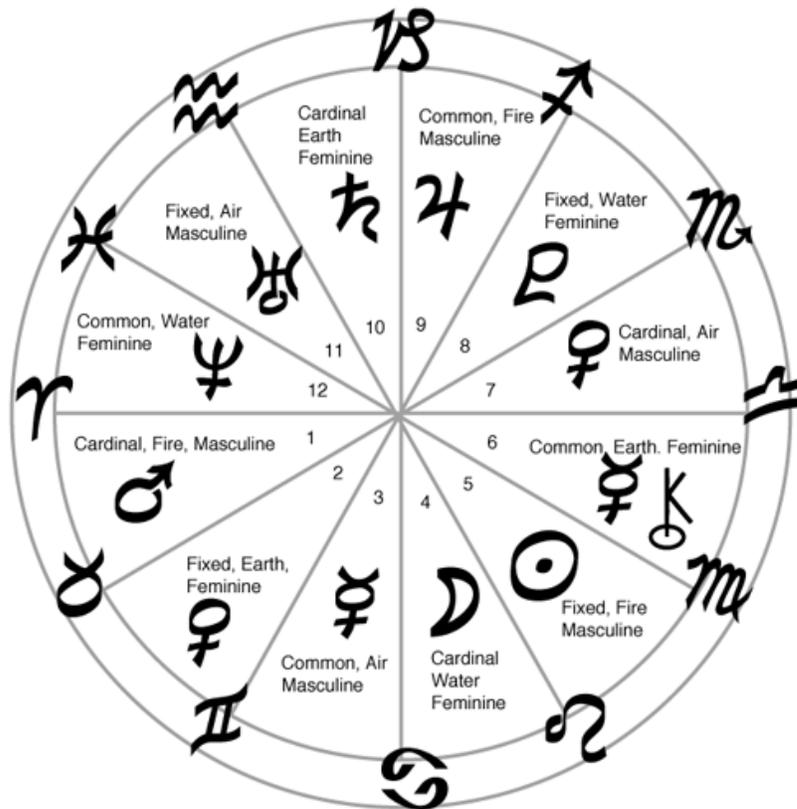
Aquarius in the 2nd house at about 15°

Each planet has a sign that it is associated with. It is said to be the NATURAL RULER of its sign or signs. However, there is still controversy over which sign Chiron rules.

Planetary Rulerships

<i>Mars rules Aries</i>	<i>Venus rules Libra</i>
<i>Venus rules Taurus</i>	<i>Pluto rules Scorpio</i>
<i>Mercury rules Gemini</i>	<i>Jupiter rules Sagittarius</i>
<i>Moon rules Cancer</i>	<i>Saturn rules Capricorn</i>
<i>Sun Rules Leo</i>	<i>Uranus rules Aquarius</i>
<i>Mercury rules Virgo</i>	<i>Neptune rules Pisces</i>

NOTE: Saturn was originally considered the ruler of Aquarius until the discovery of Uranus. Mars was originally the ruler of Scorpio until the discovery of Pluto. Jupiter was originally the ruler of Pisces until the discovery of Neptune. Chiron is considered the ruler of Virgo, although some believe it is Sagittarius.



Components of the astrological chart: Houses, rulers, qualities, elements, gender.

Expressed in a chart, the signs and planets move around the chart in a clockwise direction.

If your Sun is in Aries, and you were born at 6 a.m., you will have Aries on the ascendant. If you have your Sun in Aries and were born at 4 a.m., the sign on the Ascendant will move to give you Pisces on the ascendant and your Sun most likely in the 2nd house.

If you were born at 2 a.m. and your Sun is in Aries, you would have Aquarius Ascendant. If you were born at noon and your Sun is in Aries, you would have Cancer Ascendant. In other words, the Ascendant is always the 6 a.m. marker. As the signs appear to move around the Earth, they fall into different houses.

The signs, because they seem to move across the sky in a uniform fashion, always maintain their order of Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius, Pisces. As they move around the chart, they will rule subsequent houses (even though the house's natural ruler still has influence).

The birth time determines what signs will be on the cusps and in what degree. (See the paragraphs above). The Planets all seem to move at different velocities. Therefore they will not maintain a particular order, only a hierarchy of velocity, although Mercury is always closest to the Sun.

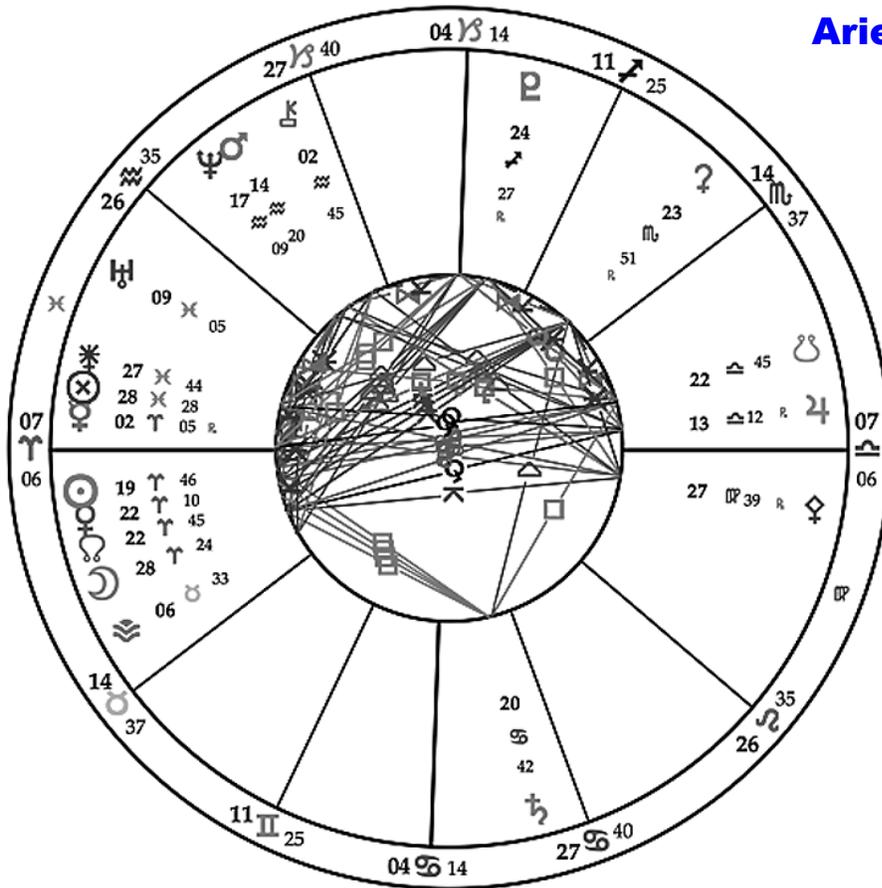
Planetary Motion

If you have high speed Internet connection, [click here](#) to view a video of the planetary motion. (PDF lessons only)

If you are viewing the printed version of the lessons, go to:
<http://www.metastudies.com/samples/movies/planetarymotion.mov>

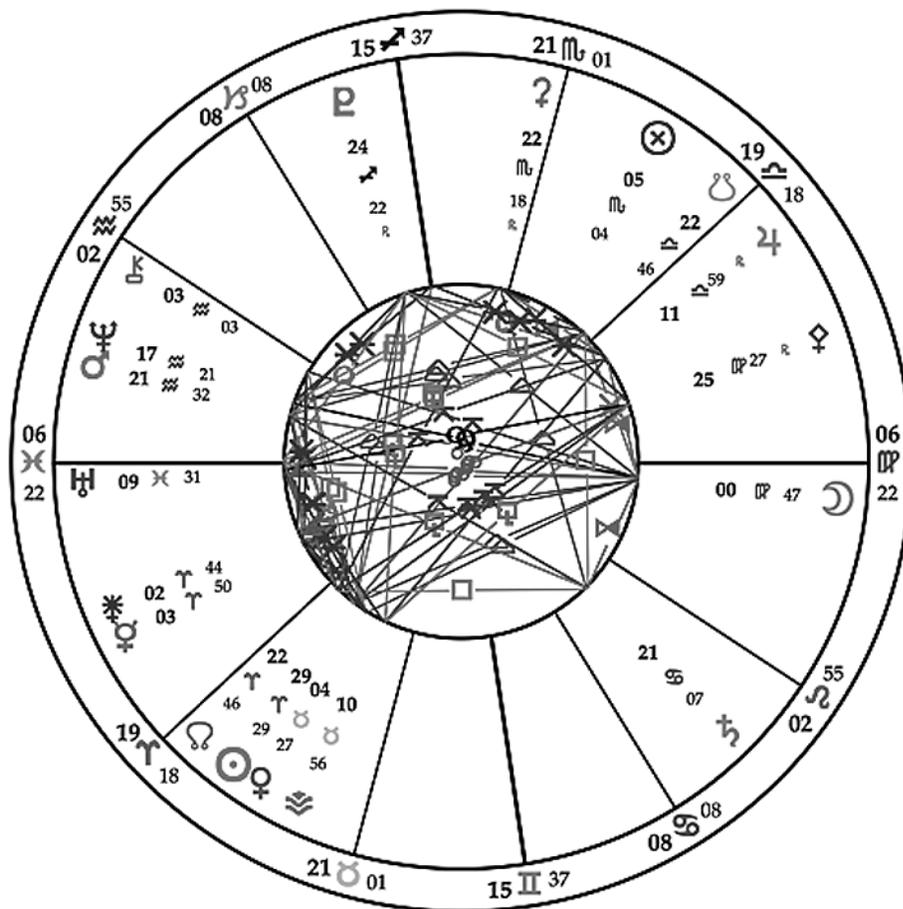
<u>Planet</u>	<u>Daily Motion</u>	<u>Time in a Sign</u>
Moon	13:11:00	2.5 days
Mercury	1:23:00	Variable days
Venus	1:12:00	Variable month
Sun	0:59:08	1 month
Mars	0:33:28	Variable month
Jupiter	0:04:59	1 year
Saturn	0:02:00	2.5 years
Uranus	0:00:42	7 years
Neptune	0:00:22	14 years
Pluto	0:00:13	23-25 years
Chiron	unknown	Variable, 2-4 months

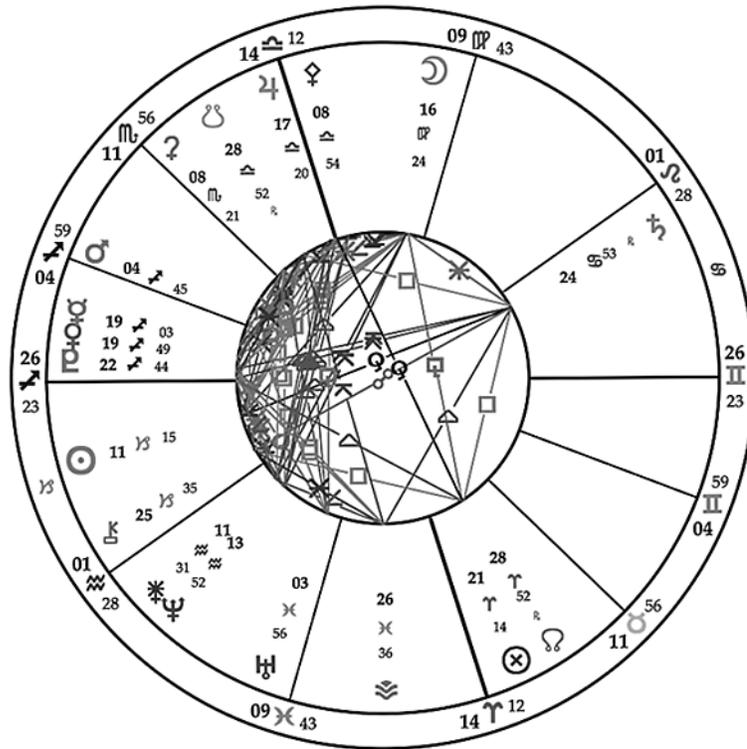
Aries 6 am birth



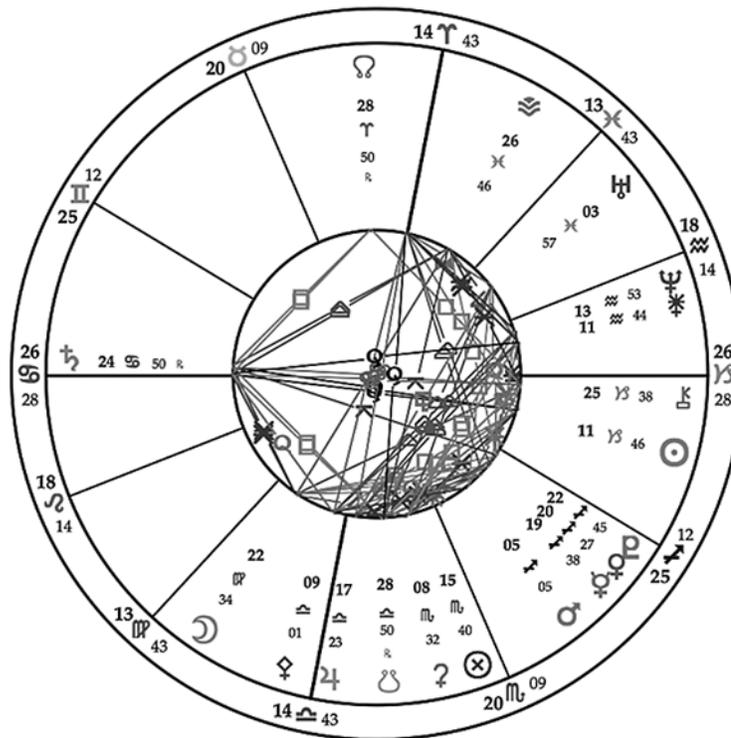
Note:
4:00 am could also be Aquarius ascendant
with Pisces intercepted in the 1st house
(more about interceptions later). It depends
on where the birth is and on what date.

Aries 4 am birth



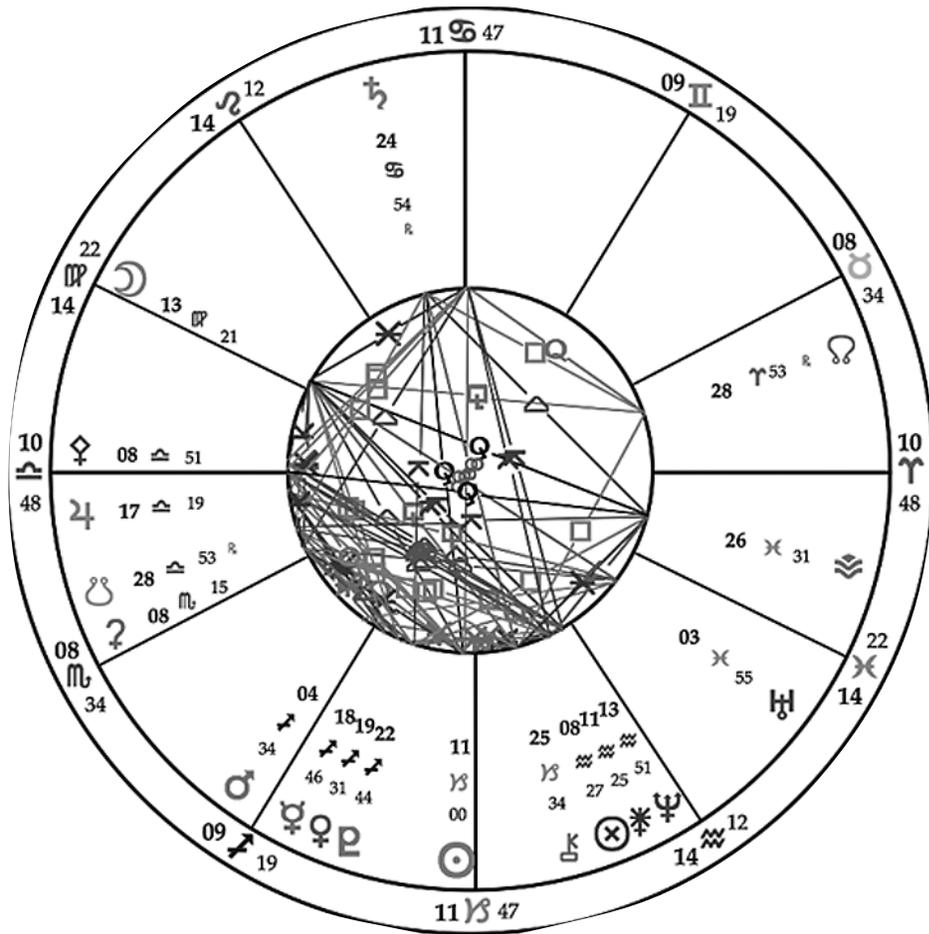


6 am birth

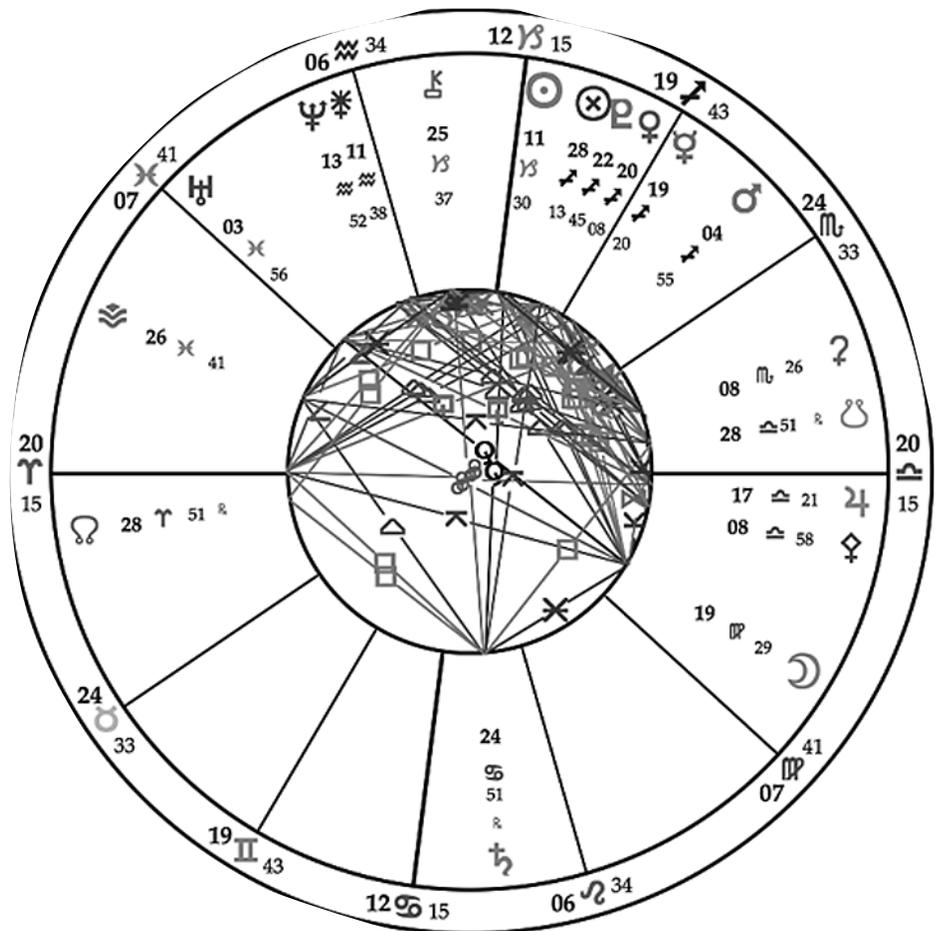


6 pm birth

12 am Birth



12 pm birth



Each planet has certain standings in the sign. As they move through the signs they are said to be:

DIGNIFIED in the sign they naturally rule

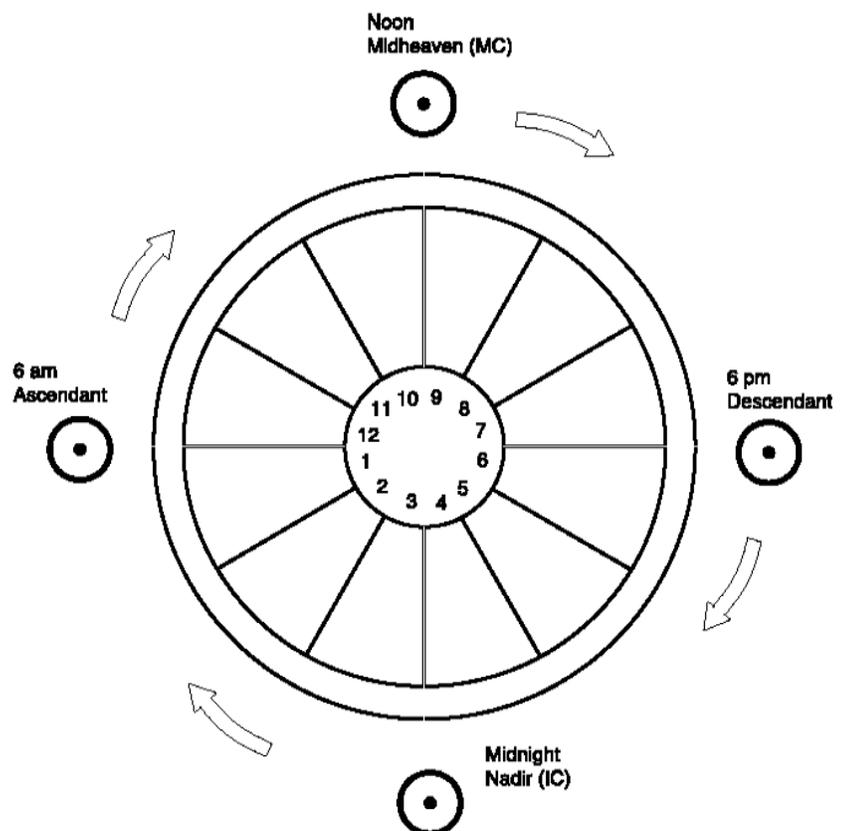
DETRIMENTED in their opposite sign (always 6 signs away)

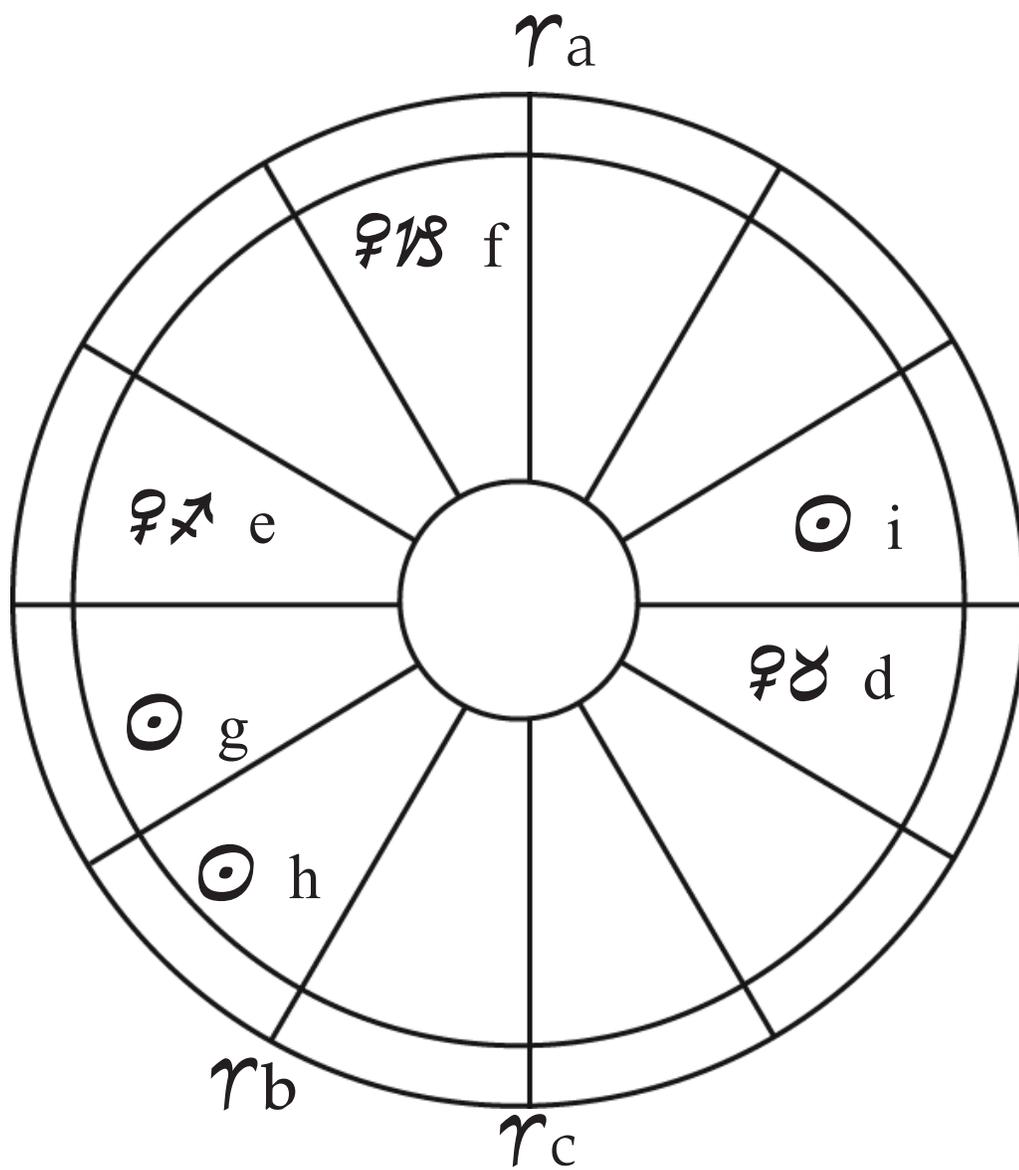
EXALTED in another sign

FALL in that opposite

Planet	Dignity	Detriment	Exaltation	Fall
Sun	Leo	Aquarius	Aries	Libra
Moon	Cancer	Capricorn	Taurus	Scorpio
Mercury	Gemini/Virgo	Sagittarius/Pisces	Virgo	Pisces
Venus	Taurus/Libra	Aries/Scorpio	Pisces	Virgo
Mars	Aries/Scorpio	Libra/Taurus	Capricorn	Cancer
Jupiter	Sagittarius	Gemini	Cancer	Capricorn
Saturn	Capricorn	Cancer	Libra	Aries
Uranus	Aquarius	Leo	Scorpio	Taurus
Neptune	Pisces	Virgo	Gemini	Sagittarius
Pluto	Scorpio	Taurus	Aquarius	Leo

The Sun establishes the chart. At 6 a.m. he will be on the ascendant; at noon, on the 10th cusp (MC); at 6 p.m. he is on the 7th cusp (descendant); at midnight he will be on the 4th cusp (Nadir or IC).





LESSON TWO ASSIGNMENT:

Answer the questions by e-mail: info@metastudies.com or anitaburns1@gmail.com. If you need to mail the answers, please send them typed (no handwritten, please) on a separate paper, to: MetaStudies Institute, Anita Burns, 1334 Sonora, Corona, CA 92882. Include your the lesson number, your name and email or return address (if sending by mail).

Include the lesson number, your name and return email or address, if returning by mail.

1. Looking at the chart on page 14, tell which correctly indicates Aries on the 3rd cusp (a, b, or c)
2. Looking at the chart on page 14, tell which correctly indicates Venus in an Earth sign, in the 6th house (d, e, or f)
3. If, in December 1982, Jupiter enters Sagittarius, what sign will it probably occupy in December 1985?
4. Looking at the chart on page 14, tell which correctly indicates where the Sun would be at 5 a.m. (g, h, or i)