

## Pierre-Simon de Laplace

1. When did Pierre-Simon de Laplace live?
2. Where was he from?
3. Explain why everyone knows that Laplace is an extraordinary man.
4. What was his greatest work and how many volumes was it?
5. How old was Lagrange when Fourier attended his lectures?
6. List honors awarded to Pierre-Simon Laplace.
7. Describe Laplace's relation to Napoleon. Was he loyal?
8. As one often-quoted anecdote goes: Laplace once explained astronomy to a puzzled Napoleon:
  - a) How did Napoleon confront Laplace about his astronomical work?
  - b) How did Laplace reply?
9. What Laplace wrote on "new stars", i.e. about supernovae, in Exposition du systeme du monde in 1796?