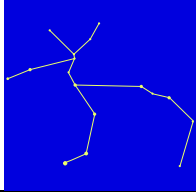
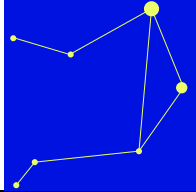
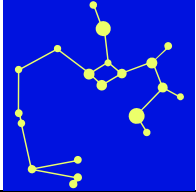
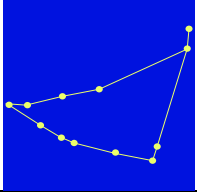
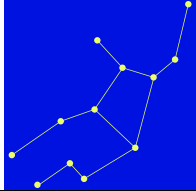
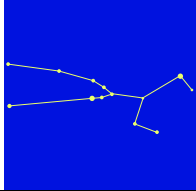
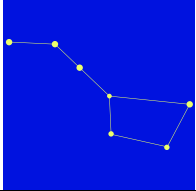
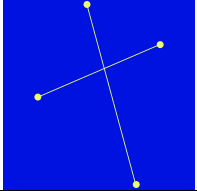
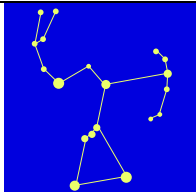
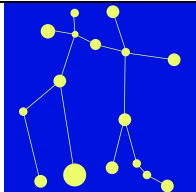
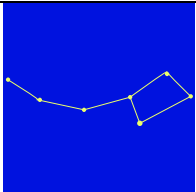
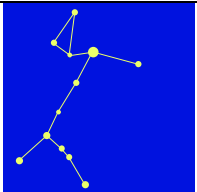
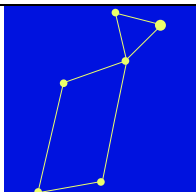
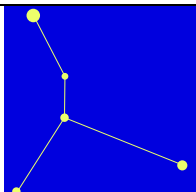
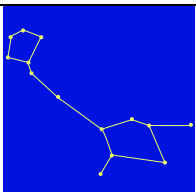
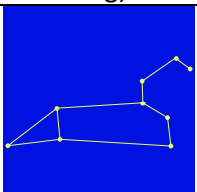
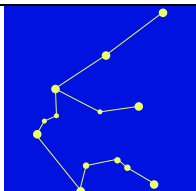
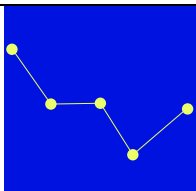
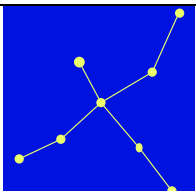
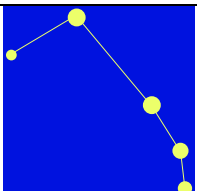


The Sky at Night

Ancient cultures were keen observers of the sky at night. The Middle East was the birthplace of astronomy, influencing Greek astronomical works. Although, observation of the stars by mankind had happened for millennia.

The ancients noticed that certain stars when grouped together appeared to form recognisable patterns or shapes that represented characters from myths or legends and historical events. So, they linked these stars together to form a pattern. Ancients also studied the motion of the stars in the night sky so they knew when it was time to plant crops and then harvest them; in effect a calendar.

Pictured below there are twenty named star groupings. The images are not to scale. These groupings have common names. Can you name them? To help, the names you can match up with are listed below.

			
Centaurus	Libra, the Scales	Sagittarius	Capricorn
			
Virgo	Taurus (The Bull)	The Plough (part of Ursa Major)	Crux
			
Orion (The Hunter)	Gemini	Little Bear (Ursa Minor)	Canis major (The Great Dog)
			
Lyra, the Lyre	Cancer	Cetus (The Whale)	Leo
			
Aquarius	Cassiopeia	Cygnus (The Swan)	Aries

Aquarius	Aries	Cancer	The Great Dog	Capricorn	Cassiopeia	Centaurus
Lyra, the Lyre	The Hunter	Sagittarius	The Bull	The Plough	Virgo	
The Whale	Crux	The Swan	Gemini	Leo	The Scales	Little Bear