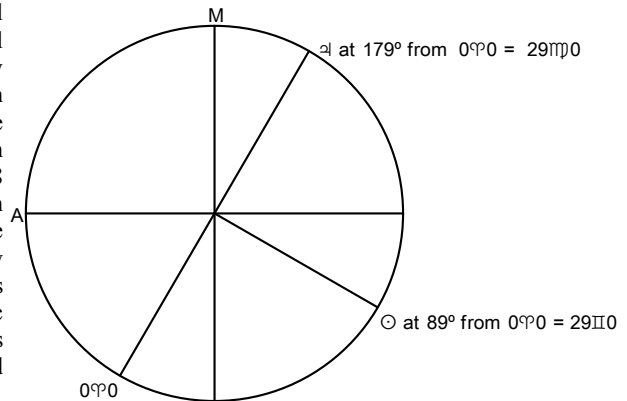


A minimum summary of classic Western (≈Ptolemaean) astrology

ZODIAC AND LUNAR MANSIONS

The ‘planets’ including ☉ and ☾ (Sun and Moon) all more or less orbit in the ecliptic plane. By a perspectival illusion, the border of the ecliptic appears to be formed by twelve optical clusters of fixed stars, which together form the zodiac. Astronomical convention has been to allocate 1/12 or 30° of the zodiac’s 360° to each sign. To an observer on earth (synodic lunation) it takes the (about 28 days to complete its course along the ecliptic; so one can calibrate the zodiac so as divide it in 28 equal portions, one to be occupied by the moon on each day between one New Moon and the next. (Astronomically, the lunation takes about one day less i.e. sidereal lunation, but in synodic lunation there is the additional effect of the earth’s movement around the sun.) These 28 points are called lunar stations or mansions, and in addition to their astro-



nomical significance they have played an enormous role in astrology, having been personified, saturated with demonic attributions, brought to bear on the interpretation of heavenly bodies passing along them, etc. One standard way of naming the lunar mansions is by reference to the head, body (belly) or tail of the zodiacal sign in which they find themselves. This symbolism may also be the origin of the designation Dragon’s Head ♀ and Dragon’s Tail ♂, for ascending and descending lunar node.

SIGNS

the first sign begins at the point where ☉ is at the spring equinox, and from there one counts counterclockwise

♈	(Aries) energetic, passionate, direction, head
♉	(Taurus) slow, phlegm, citizen, practical, neck, throat
♊	(Gemini) restive, vagrant, mediate, book, commerce, science, arms, hands, breath
♋	(Cancer) slowly butting, diplomat, music, breast
♌	(Leo) constant force, leader, education, spinal column, heart
♍	(Virgo) weak irregular movement, melancholy, subordinate, intestines

♎	(Libra) lively, quiet, mediator, realist, leader of associations, loins, kidneys
♏	(Scorpio) slow but constant, doctor, metaphysics, leader, sexual organ, throat, nose
♐	(Sagittarius) vagrant, idealist, monist, sports, legs
♑	(Capricorn) slowly butting, ambition, steward, natural science, politics, knees, skin
♒	(Aquarius) constant slight movement, humane, intuitive, sense of community, lower legs
♓	(Pisces) slight uneven movement, phlegm, altruist, feeling, inspiration, feet, womb

HOUSES

the first house begins at A (Ascendant), and from there one counts counterclockwise; houses **only** coincide with signs if 30°

house system is adopted (i.e. no allowance is made for geographical latitude) and if ASC is at 0°P 0

1	bodily, psychological and intellectual constitution
2	finance, mobile property
3	siblings
4	parents, heredity
5	animal instincts, offspring
6	subordinates, working relationships, illnesses

7	association, marriage, the counterpart
8	death
9	higher spiritual life, morality
10	profession, social position
11	friends
12	seclusion, self-denial, purification

PLANETS

☉	Sun: life force, will to power, father, heart, eyes
☾	Moon: fertility, assimilation, mother, metabolism
♿	Mercury: mediation, intellect, commerce, science, literature, nervous system
♀	Venus: sexuality, veins, kidneys, throat, luxury, art
♂	Mars: accumulation of heat, muscular force, courage, nose, force, gall, sexual organs, technique, struggle

♃	Jupiter: increasing, liver, fat, swelling, expansion, journey, higher studies, finance, the law
♄	Saturn: shrivelling, bones, skin, spleen, kidney stone, lumps, hearing, concentration, ambition, bottom, conservation
♅	Uranus: revolution, finer nervous system, intuition, speed, occultism
♆	Neptune: the occult, music, chaos, intoxication, inspiration, psi, fraud

♅	Pluto: beginning and end, secrecy, turning point
immaterial points include	
⊗	Pars Fortunae = $A + \text{♃} - \text{♋}$
A	Ascendant) parents, heredity

M	(Medium Coeli) prime of life
♊	(Caput Draconis, ascending node: end of intersection ecliptic/lunar orbit); interpretation varies
♋	(Cauda Draconis, descending node: end of intersection ecliptic/lunar orbit); interpretation varies

ASPECTS

Aspect = the longitudinal angle between any two astrological elements; I have coded below: \$ = major aspect; # = minor aspect. One speaks of incoming and outgoing aspects, depending on the position (cf 0° 0) of the faster moving of the two planets involved; and of increasing or decreasing aspects, e.g. if on subsequent moments of time the angle is 85°, 87°, 90°, 92°, the ☐ aspect is at first increasing to full, and then decreasing.

♌	conjunction, 0° (=360°/∞, conceivably 360°/1) (strong: intensification of planetary contents)\$
♍	opposition, 180° (=360°/2) (hard: equilibrium or separation)\$
♎	inconjunct (quincunx), 150° (=360°/(12/5)) (fairly strong: vague discomfort, tension)#/\$
♏	biquintile, 144° (=360°/(5/2)) (mild, weaker than quintile: creative)#
♐	sesquiquadrate, 135° (=360°/(8/3)) (hard: expulsion, elimination)#
♑	trigon, 120° (=360°/3) (mild: harmony, whatever comes automatically)\$

☐	square, 90° (=360°/4) (hard: obstacles to be overcome, tension, conflict)\$
Q	quintile, 72° (=360°/5) (mild: self-expression and sensation)#
✳	sextile, 60° (=360°/6) (mild: hesitation, assistance from others)\$
∟	semi-square, 45° (=360°/8) (hard but less than square: irritation)#
⊥	semi-quintile, 36° (=360°/10) (?)#
∟	semi-sextile, 30° (=360°/12) (mild: small inconveniences)#

PLANETARY DIGNITIES

	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	element	dynamics	gender
♈	4	0	0	-5	5	1	-4	0	0	5	fire	cardinal	m			
♉	0	4	3	5	-5	0	2	-4	0	-4	earth	fixed	f			
♊	0	0	5	2	0	-5	3	1	0	0	air	common	m			
♋	0	5	0	0	4	4	-5	0	4	0	water	cardinal	f			
♌	5	0	0	0	2	1	-5	-5	0	2	fire	fixed	m			
♍	0	0	5	-4	0	-5	2	0	-5	0	earth	common	f			
♎	-4	0	1	5	-5	0	4	1	0	-5	air	cardinal	m			
♏	0	-4	0	-5	5	3	0	4	3	4	water	fixed	f			
♐	3	0	-5	0	2	5	0	0	0	2	fire	common	m			
♑	0	-5	3	1	-4	4	5	0	-4	0	earth	cardinal	f			
♒	-5	0	1	2	0	0	5	5	0	0	air	fixed	m			
♓	0	2	-4	4	1	5	0	0	5	0	water	common	f			
								≈♈	≈♉	≈♊						
	b	b	n	b	m	b	m	m	m	n						
	fast						slow									

+5 rejoicing; +4 exaltation; +3 as diurnal ruler of triplicity; +2 as nocturnal ruler of triplicity; +1 as participant of triplicity; 0 peregrine (alien); -4 cadent; -5 dejected; b=benefic, m=malefic, n=neutral