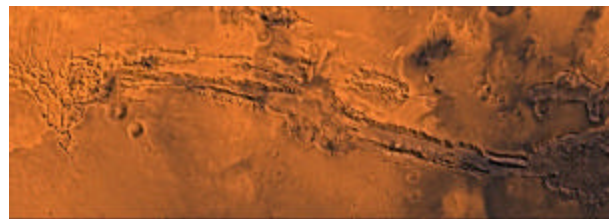




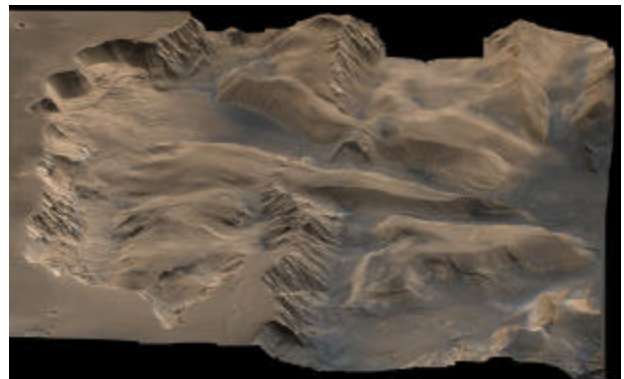
## Mars Geography: Valleys

By: Elisabeth Ambrose

The following picture is an image of the Valles Marineris, the great canyon of Mars. It is like a giant version of the Grand Canyon. The image shows the entire canyon system, which is over 3,000 km long, stretching over about one-third of the planet. The canyon averages 8 km deep and might have formed from a combination of plate tectonics and erosion. Several craters are also visible around the canyon.



Valles Marineris. NASA/JPL.



Oblique view of the Valles Marineris.  
NASA/JPL.

**The Benchmark Lessons were developed with the help of the following sources:**

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<http://www.edb.utexas.edu/missiontomars/index.html>

Benchmarks content author: Elisabeth Ambrose,  
Department of Astronomy, University of Texas at Austin  
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