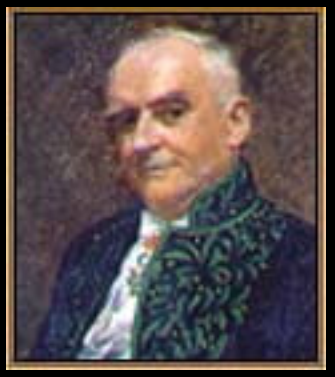
Danjon Scale of Lunar Eclipse Brightness

Around 1920, the French astronomer André-Louis Danjon devised a 5-point scale (0 to 4) for cataloguing the Luminosity "L" and color of lunar eclipses. Here is the scale:



L = 0 **Very dark moon, almost invisible.**

L = 1 **Dark gray or brownish moon; details on moon difficult to see.**

L = 2 **Deep red or rust-colored moon; can see some details. Very dark central shadow, while outer edge of umbra is relatively bright.**

L = 3 **Brick-red colored moon; details on moon are visible. Umbral shadow usually has a bright or yellow rim.**

L = 4 **Bright copper-red or orange colored moon; details easy to see. Umbral shadow has a bluish, very bright rim.**

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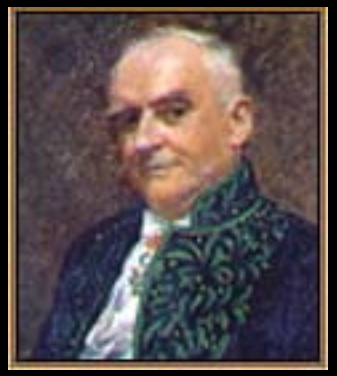

Eclipse Quiz:

Hone your skill at estimating the “L” values of seven different eclipses.

Each “test” slide is followed by the same slide with a best estimate highlighted.

If you can’t decide between two L values, say 2 and 3, you may split the difference and call it 2.5, for example.

When making estimates of a real eclipse, be sure to use your unaided eye (glasses or contact lenses are OK), and NOT binoculars or telescope.

Note the time (the appearance may vary over the course of the eclipse.

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C.	L = 2	Deep red or rust-colored moon; can see some details.
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