

**Quiz****Name**

1. Copernicus spent many hours at dusk on cloudless days looking at the sky from his vantage point  $E$  in the city of Torun in Poland. Each time, the Sun  $S$  had just descended below the horizon and the planet Mercury  $M$  was visible as a faint point of light. He could measure the angle  $\angle MES$  and he did so again and again at different times of the year. The largest value that he obtained for this angle was  $23^\circ$ . What could he deduce from this measurement about the distance  $SM$ ?

i. Draw a "birds-eye" view of the triangle  $\triangle MES$  along with a part of the orbit of Mercury at the moment Copernicus made the measurement of  $23^\circ$ .

ii. Discuss what Copernicus could conclude about the distance  $SM$ ?

2. In the figure below  $O$  and  $P$  are fixed points that are a distance  $d$  apart. The point  $E_1$  lies on a circle with center  $O$ . The angles  $\alpha_1$  and  $\beta_1$  are determined by the position of  $E_1$ . What condition must the angles  $\alpha_2$  and  $\beta_2$  satisfy so that  $E_2$  lies on the same circle. (The answer is the essence of Kepler's correction of Copernicus's study of Earth's orbit.)

