

A Asteroids typically remain solid, even when near the Sun.

B We do know that Earth has been hit many times in the past by asteroids and comets whose orbits bring them into the inner Solar System.

C The biggest difference between comets and asteroids, however, is what they are made of.

D On the other hand, the majority of comets are in the farthest reaches of our Solar System.

E But recently, astronomers have seen some asteroids that have tails, such as asteroid P/2010 A2.

F They are both celestial bodies orbiting our Sun, and they both can have unusual orbits, sometimes straying close to Earth or the other planets.

G Comets have very extended and long orbits, which often exceed 50,000 AU (Astronomical Unit) from the Sun.