Brightness and Distance
Background Worksheet

Name: 

Date: 

Define each one of the vocabulary words below:

1. brightness
2. galaxy
3. intensity
4. luminosity

Imagine a friend gives you a 70 Watt light bulb. Is 70 Watts the brightness of the light bulb or the luminosity of the light bulb? Explain!
When an astronomer observes a star, does she measure the intensity or the luminosity of the star? Explain!

Explain in your own words the difference between brightness and luminosity.