

Unit 1 Humans in Space

'I see Earth. It's so beautiful!'

These are the first words spoken by a human in space. On 12 April 1961 Yuri Gagarin became the first human in space when he flew around the Earth in a spacecraft called *Vostok 1*. He was only twenty-seven at the time. The spacecraft flew at a speed of over 27,000 kilometres an hour, more than 300 kilometres above the Earth. The flight lasted 108 minutes.

Gagarin volunteered to become one of the first Soviet astronauts in 1959. As part of his training, he had to sit in a room without sound or light for twenty-four hours! The flight of *Vostok 1* made him famous all around the world, and he became a hero in the Soviet Union. He never went into space again, but he helped train other astronauts until he died in a plane crash in 1968.

There were six *Vostok* flights. While the first lasted less than two hours, *Vostok 2* stayed in space for more than twenty-five hours. It flew around the Earth seventeen times! Later *Vostok* flights lasted even longer and *Vostok 6* took the first woman, Valentina Tereshkova, into space on 16 June 1963.

No one was certain if the astronauts who went on these flights would come back alive. But they did, and our ideas about space were changed forever.

Vocabulary

Spacecraft	=	ยานอวกาศ
Volunteer	=	เลือกที่จะทำโดยสมัครใจ, อาสาสมัคร
speed	=	ความเร็ว
space	=	อวกาศ
Astronaut	=	นักบินอวกาศ
noise	=	เสียง
hero	=	วีรบุรุษ

Examples

1. spacecraft (n.): The astronauts travel into space by a **spacecraft**.
2. speed (n.) : A rocket flew at a **speed** of over 20,000 kilometres an hour.
3. astronaut (n.) : George wants to be an **astronaut**. He will travel into space.
4. hero (n.) : Superman is my favourite **hero**.
5. volunteer (v.) : She **volunteers** to help her mother do housework.
6. space (n.) : When you go to **space**, you cannot hear and see anything.
7. noise (n.) : When I say, you can hear my **noise**.

Exercise

Vocabulary

A. Complete each sentence with the correct word or phrase. จงทำประโยคให้สมบูรณ์โดยใช้คำหรือวลีที่ถูกต้อง

Spacecraft speed hero astronaut plane crash

1. Many people say that UFOs are _____ from other planets.
2. The train was travelling at a _____ of 180 km an hour.
3. Neil Armstrong was the first _____ to walk on the moon.
4. Qantas is the safest airline in the world. It has never had a major _____.
5. In the film The Matrix, Keanu Reeves plays the _____, Neo.

B. Choose the correct word or phrase with the same meaning as the blue words in each sentence.

จงเลือกคำหรือวลี ที่มีความหมายเดียวกันกับคำสีฟ้าในแต่ละประโยค

noise

the area beyond the Earth where the stars and planets are

continued

offered

practice

1. When my uncle died, I **volunteered** to help my aunt around the house. Now I cut her grass once a week.

Answer: _____

2. **Space** is huge, empty and lonely. Our planet is just a small blue rock floating in it.

Answer: _____

3. That film **lasted** a long time! I fell asleep in the middle of it.

Answer: _____

4. I heard a strange **sound** outside my window, but it was only the cat!

Answer: _____

5. Without **training**, you'll never become an Olympic swimmer.

Answer: _____

In other words

A. What is the main purpose of the passage? ข้อใดคือใจความหลักของเนื้อหา

1. To describe the first time humans walked on the moon.

2. To tell Yuri Gagarin's life story.

3. To describe the first flights in space.

B. Match each heading to the correct paragraph in the passage. จงจับคู่หัวข้อกับย่อหน้า

1. Paragraph ____ The life story of a hero.

2. Paragraph ____ A message from space.

3. Paragraph ____ The history of the Vostok flights.

General understanding

Circle T for true or F for false for each of the following statements. ให้วงกลม T ถ้าเป็นจริง และวงกลม F ถ้าเป็นเท็จ

1. Yuri Gagarin could not see the Earth from Vostok 1. (T/F)

2. Yuri Gagarin only travelled into space once in his lifetime. (T/F)

3. The Soviet Union never sent a woman into space. (T/F)

4. All the Vostok astronauts came back safely. (T/F)

In detail

Write short answers to the following questions. จงตอบคำถามสั้น ๆ

1. Who was the first human in space?

Answer: _____

2. How fast did Vostok 1 travel?

Answer: _____

3. What did Yuri Gagarin have to do as part of his training?

Answer: _____

4. How did Yuri Gagarin die?

Answer: _____

5. How many time did Vostok 2 fly around the Earth?

Answer: _____

6. Valentina Tereshkova was the first woman in space. What was the name of her spacecraft?

Answer: _____

In focus

Number the following sentences from 1 to 5 to put them in the correct order. เขียนหมายเลขเรียงลำดับ

เหตุการณ์ให้ถูกต้อง

a. ___ Vostok 2 stayed in space for more than twenty-five hours.

b. ___ Yuri Gagarin died in a plane crash.

c. ___ The first human in space travelled around the Earth in a trip lasting 108 minutes.

d. ___ Yuri Gagarin became a hero in the Soviet Union and famous throughout the world.

e. ___ Valentina Tereshkova was the first female astronaut.

Taking you further

Anagrams

คำที่ได้จากการสลับที่ตัวอักษร

Anagrams are sets of words which are made up of exactly the same letters, but in a different order.

For example:

‘dog’ is an anagram of ‘god’

‘hate’ is an anagram of ‘heat’

‘raw’ is an anagram of ‘war’

You can also make mini-anagrams by using some of the letters from a long word to make shorter words.

For example:

‘journey’ – our, you, on, no

‘history’ – is, or, his, hit, try, story

How many mini-anagrams can you find in the following words?

1. volunteer

Answer: _____

2. spacecraft

Answer: _____

