## LESSON 2

## C. READING

**IX Read the passage. Choose the best answer.**

### What is NASA?

Would you like to be an explorer? Would you like to help with future missions to other planets and outer space? Then maybe you should work for NASA. NASA is an (1) ..... It is a word formed from the (2) ..... letters of other words. N.A.S.A. stands for National Aeronautics and Space Administration. NASA is in charge (3) ..... exploring space. This U.S. agency was started in 1958. At that time, the United States and the Soviet Union were in a space (4) ..... Each country wanted to be the first to explore space and to (5) .....a man on the moon. The Soviet Union won a victory (6) ..... September 13, 1959. Its Luna 2 was the first man-made (7) ..... to land on the moon. NASA won the final victory on July 20, 1969, when the astronauts from Apollo 11 were the first people to (8) ..... on the moon.

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | A. word | B. phrase | C. shortcut | D. acronym |
| 2. | A. first | B. beginning | C. initial | D. all are correct |
| 3. | A. in | B. of | C. with | D. on |
| 4. | A. tournament | B. contest | C. competition | D. race |
| 5. | A. take | B. give | C. put | D. make |
| 6. | A. in | B. on | C. at | D. both B & C |
| 7. | A. object | B. machine | C. thing | D. stuff |
| 8. | A. run | B. walk | C. touch | D. drive |

**X Read the passage.**

**1 Fill in the blank with a suitable word.**

Pluto was (l) ..... in 1930.At that time, there wasn't really a definition for what a planet was. We didn't know as much about space (2) ..... we do now. In the summer of 2006, scientists of the International Astronomical Union, met to discuss the naming of new objects in the solar (3) ..... Then they agreed to remove Pluto from the list of planets. It is now (4) ..... as a "dwarf planet". Why Pluto is (5)

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..... from other planets? Pluto is less than half the size of any other planet. It is very different (6) ..... the other gas giants, the nearest planets to it. The first four planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars) are rocky planets (7) ..... solid surfaces. The next four planets are gas giants. Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune are huge planets with small rocky, metal cores surrounded (8 ..... huge balls of gas. These four planets do not have a solid surface. After these four planets, it comes to Pluto. It is about one-sixth the (9) ..... of Earth and about 1/100 the size of Jupiter. It is (10) ..... of rock and ice. Pluto is like a comet, not a gas giant.

2 **Decide if the statements are true (T) or false (F).**

1. Pluto has been known to mankind since the 19th century. .....
2. Any other planet is bigger than Pluto. .....
3. Venus is one of the gas giants. .....
4. Mars and Saturn are different in terms of their surfaces. .....
5. Earth is 6 times as large as Pluto. .....

## F. WRITING

XV **Rewrite the following sentences based on the given words.**

1. It is possible that there are other forms of life on other planets.

→ There ..... (might)

2. Do you think that you may borrow this precious astronomy book from the library in 2 weeks?

→ Do you think that ..... (allowed)

3. "Do the aliens eat the same types of foods and drinks like humans?", the little boy asked.

→ The little boy asked ..... (whether)

4. My friend asked me "Is it possible for any normal people to fly into the space?"

→ My friend asked me ..... (if)

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5. "What might the inhabitants of Mars look like?", Tommy wondered.

→ Tom wondered ..... (what)

**XVI Write an email (100-120 words) to your friend about what you imagine about the life of the inhabitants on Jupiter.**

***You should base on the suggestions below:***

- What might the inhabitants of Jupiter look like?
- What might they be like?
- What might they eat and drink to maintain their life?
- How might they communicate with each other?
- How might they travel?
- What might their social life be like?
- ……..

Dear .....,

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Love,

..... (Your signature)

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