

**BIG QUESTION 1**

# Where are we in the universe?

**UNIT  
1**

Write down three things that you can find in space.

Do you know the names of any astronauts?

Would you like to be an astronaut? Why? / Why not?

## Get Ready

### Words

**A** Read and write.

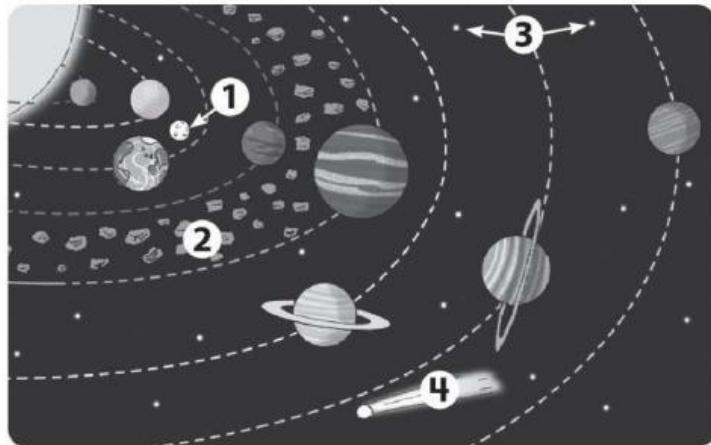
moon asteroids comet stars

1 moon

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

**B** Read and circle the correct answer.

1 You can use this to look at stars.  
 a moon b telescope c galaxy

2 This can take you away from Earth.  
 a spacecraft b comet c meteorite

3 A place where you can look at objects in the night sky.  
 a meteorite b universe c observatory

4 All of space, including the solar system and billions of galaxies.  
 a asteroids b comet c universe

5 A rock that falls to Earth from space.  
 a comet b meteorite c galaxy

**C** Circle **True** or **False**.

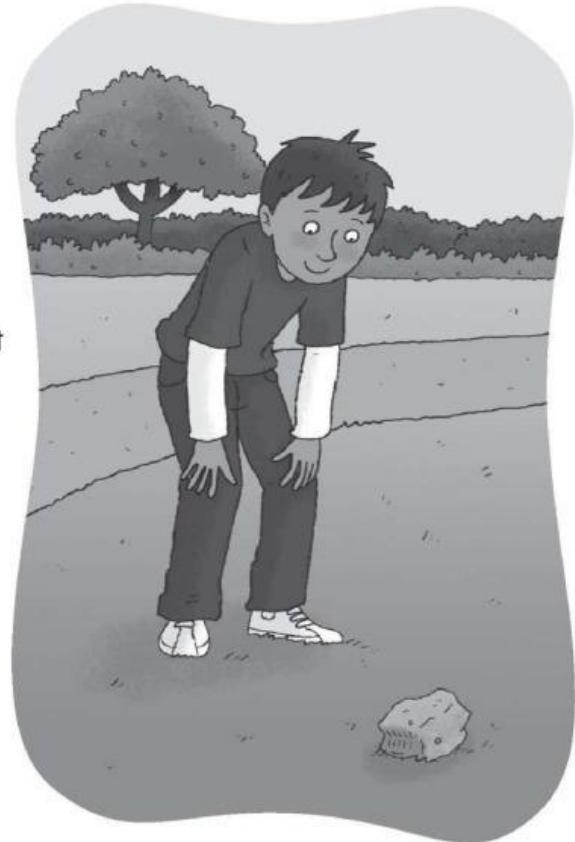
- 1 A galaxy has many stars in it.
- 2 You use a telescope to look at things close to you.
- 3 Earth has more than one moon.
- 4 Astronauts travel in a spacecraft.
- 5 There are meteorites on Earth.
- 6 The universe has many galaxies in it.
- 7 An asteroid is made of gas.
- 8 An observatory is for studying plants.
- 9 The sun is a star.
- 10 A comet moves through space.
- 11 Our solar system has only one planet.

**True** **False**

**D** Read the paragraph. Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

telescope    spacecraft    observatory    universe    meteorite

Marco wanted to be an astronaut someday and travel though the universe in a spacecraft. One day, Marco found a large, shiny, black stone in the park. He showed it to his father, who is a scientist. His father said that the stone could be a meteorite. He asked Marco to bring the stone to the observatory where he worked every night. "We'll show it to the other scientists," he said. "You can also look through the telescope there." Marco was excited.



# Read

**A** Read. What does Stanley do with George and Amanda?

**B** Read again. Remember to make pictures in your mind. Think about how these pictures change as you read.

## Stanley's Super Spacecraft

In the year 2099, every child on Earth had his or her own **spacecraft**. Of course, they were small and couldn't travel out of the **solar system**. This was fine for everyone except Stanley. He was curious about the whole **universe**, so he worked on his spacecraft until it could go anywhere!

His friends, George and Amanda, were not excited about Stanley's super spacecraft.

"Who wants to see the universe?" George asked. "Our solar system is big enough."

"That's true," agreed Amanda. "Yesterday I went shopping on Mars and then flew around some **asteroids** for fun. I even chased a **comet**."

"Just hop in," said Stanley. "Today I will take you on an amazing journey."

They got into Stanley's spacecraft.

Soon the three friends were flying past the **moon**.

"Now, watch this," said Stanley. He pushed a red button.

*Whoosh!* went the spacecraft. George and Amanda grabbed their seats tightly and

looked out the window. The sun was just a speck of light. Around it were billions of **stars** in the shape of a disk.

"That's our Milky Way **galaxy**," said Stanley. He pressed a blue button.

*Whooooosh!*

The spacecraft flew farther into space. Suddenly they saw billions of tiny galaxies all around them.

"Welcome to the universe," said Stanley. Amanda gasped. "I will remember this day forever. Thank you, Stanley."

"It's amazing, Stanley. Thank you," George said. "Can we stop at the moon for a pizza on our way back? I'm really hungry."

"Of course!" said Stanley. His super spacecraft raced back to the moon.



**Think** Describe the pictures in your mind of the solar system and Milky Way galaxy.

**Think** Describe how the pictures in your mind changed as you read the story.

# Understand

## Comprehension

**A** How did the pictures change in your mind as Stanley flew further from Earth? Write in the chart.

First	Next	Finally
Earth was a beautiful blue ball behind Stanley's spacecraft.		

**B** Answer the questions.

1 Do George and Amanda have their own spacecraft? How do you know?

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2 What did Amanda do the day before she flew with Stanley?

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3 How did Amanda feel about her day in Stanley's spacecraft? Why do you think she felt that way?

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**C** **Words in Context** Read and write.

vast    dwell    specks    disk

1 Most stars seem like \_\_\_\_\_ of light.  
2 There is nothing more \_\_\_\_\_ than the universe.

3 The Milky Way is shaped like a \_\_\_\_\_.  
4 Astronauts travel through space, but they \_\_\_\_\_ on Earth.

**D** **About You** Do you think Stanley's story could be true someday? Why? / Why not?

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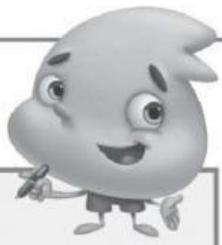
## Grammar in Use

### A Study the grammar.



#### Learn Grammar

#### Predictions with Will



I **will** take you on an amazing journey.

Amanda **will** remember this day forever.

**She'll** want to go on another adventure with Stanley.

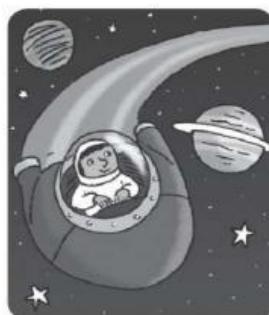
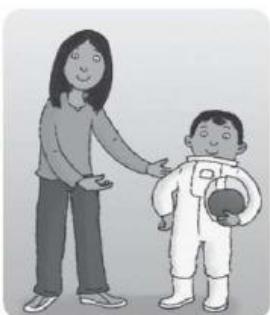
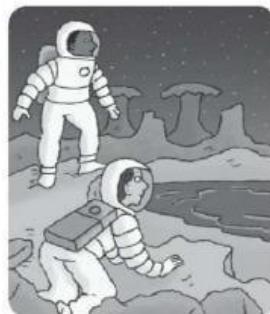
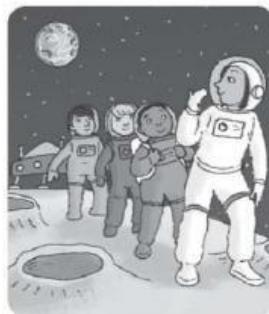
**They'll** go even further into space the next time they travel.

#### Tip

she'll = she will  
they'll = they will

### B Underline the word *will* in each sentence. Circle the verb after it. Then match.

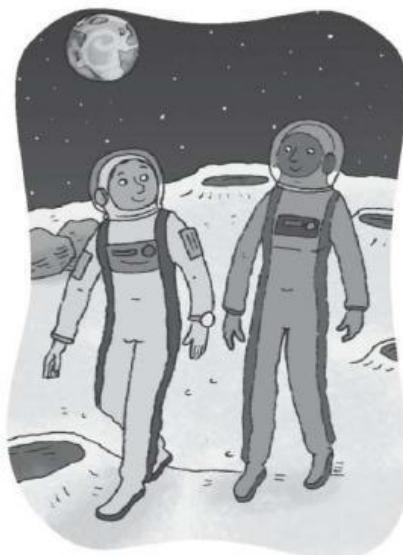
- 1 My little brother says he will **be** the first person to walk on Mars.
- 2 Astronauts **will** find water on a planet someday.
- 3 Another bright comet **will** appear in the sky sometime soon.
- 4 Each child **will** have his or her own spacecraft in the future.
- 5 Students **will** take field trips to the moon someday.
- 6 Scientists **will** build even bigger telescopes in the future.

 a b c d e f

**C** Complete the sentences using *will* and the verbs in the box.

let take fly travel invent wear

- 1 Astronauts will travel to other planets in our solar system someday.
- 2 Scientists invent a spacecraft that can travel outside of our solar system.
- 3 Bigger telescopes will let us look deeper into space.
- 4 Spacecraft will fly through space at very high speeds.
- 5 People will take trips to the moon as tourists someday.
- 6 Astronauts will wear lighter spacesuits so they can move easily.



**D** Read. Then write *P* (prediction) or *F* (fact).

- 1 Someday people will fly to other planets in spacecraft.
- 2 The sun will rise tomorrow morning at 6:30.
- 3 Scientists will build a city on the moon in the future.
- 4 Space tours will take people to the moon and back.
- 5 There will be a full moon this month.

P



**E** Unscramble the sentences.

- 1 system / fly / will / the / People / spacecraft / through / solar

People will fly spacecraft through the solar system.

- 2 through / will / Astronauts / universe / the / travel

- 3 will / ground / meteorites / hit / Small / the / tonight

- 4 fast / will / someday / Spacecraft / fly / very

# Communicate

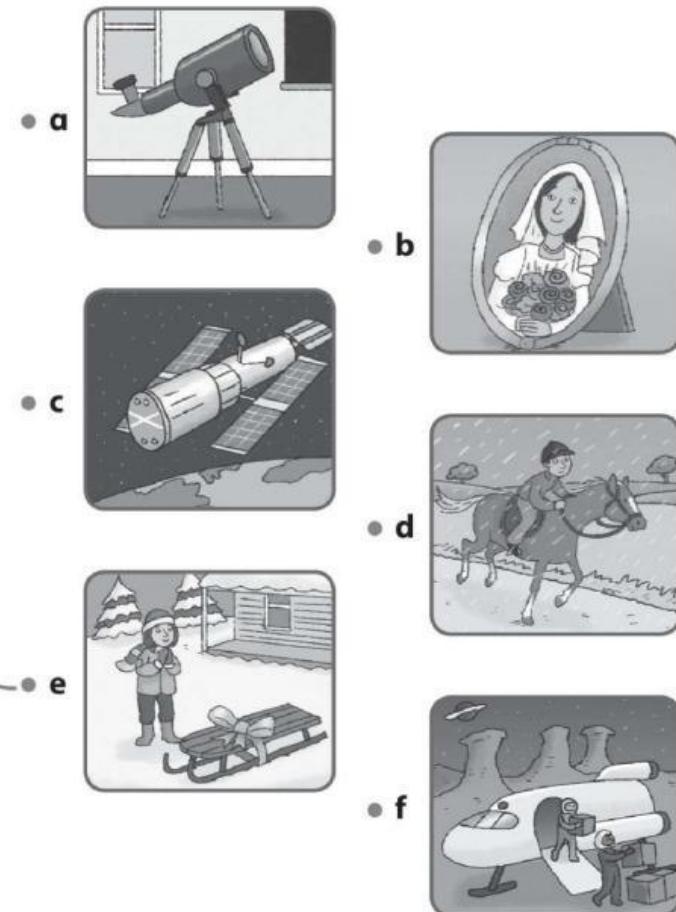
## Word Study

sleigh veil reins freight weigh eighty

A Z

### A Read. Circle the words with *ei* that have a long *a* sound. Then match.

- 1 Leah received a beautiful red sleigh for her birthday.
- 2 The new telescope at school is over eighty kilograms, so you can't lift it.
- 3 In the future, spacecraft may deliver freight to other planets.
- 4 The young woman wore a beautiful white veil on her head.
- 5 Esteban grabbed the reins and rode his horse through the rain.
- 6 Space observatories don't weigh anything once they are in space.



### B Complete the sentences with the words from the box above.

I saw an old photo of a Finnish man and his wife going to town on a large 1

carrying 2 chickens in cages. The man had the 3 in his

hand, and the horses were moving quickly. The chickens probably did not 4

very much. I think the horses seemed happy to be pulling such light 5.

## Writing Study

**A** Read. Underline the sentence that's incomplete. Then rewrite it to make it complete.

- 1 Sirius is a very bright star. Can see it easily in the night sky.  
It is also called the Dog Star.  
You can see it easily in the night sky.
- 2 The universe is vast. Difficult to imagine. It would take 100,000 years just to travel through the Milky Way galaxy at the speed of light.



3 Look up at the sky. Do you see that bright shiny object? It's a comet! Large icy object.

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4 My little brother, Jason, said he will go to the moon someday. Told me last night. He thinks the moon is made of cheese, and Jason loves to eat cheese!

**B** Write a paragraph about an object in the universe.

Read the example below. Write at least one prediction using **will**. Be sure to write complete sentences.

Asteroids are usually far away from Earth. They travel around the sun like planets. What do asteroids look like? They come in many shapes and sizes. Some look like giant potatoes! **Scientists will send astronauts to an asteroid someday.**