

LIVING IN SPACE

It is thought that by the end of the century there will be permanent settlements that will allow people to lead a normal life in space. Hundreds of astronauts will work and live in the space station, which will take ten years to build.

In some way, living on the moon will be easier than living on a space station. And it will be cheaper because people won't bring everything from the Earth by rockets. The space city will be like a gigantic glass wheel that will contain buildings, factories and special meeting-places. Inside it, people won't live differently from small towns on Earth. It will have air so that inhabitants can breathe, and they won't need to wear special space-suits inside the buildings.

Scientists also believe that they will obtain water from a large ice lake on the moon. People won't have to do housework because robots will do that for them. Food won't be a problem, as settlers won't need to eat. Instead, they will take a pill three times a day!

The first group of astronauts will live on the moon for six months and then they will return to Earth and another group will travel. This will be repeated until the first settlers can establish permanently in the new city. Life on the moon will only be the beginning. We hope they will use the knowledge we get there to plan expeditions to Mars, Mercury and even Neptune.

1) Read the text and answer these questions

- a) When is it thought that people will live in space?
- b) Will the space city have air?
- c) Where will people take water from?
- d) Will people do their housework? Why?

2) Read the text again. Decide if these sentences are true or false

- a) Nowadays, it is possible for people to live on the moon.
- b) People will wear special clothes inside the buildings.
- c) Astronauts will take water from the Earth.
- d) Robots will do the work of humans.
- e) This is the first step of NASA's latest plans

