



The International Space Station (ISS)

1- Complete the text with the correct word.

LABORATORY –STATION – COOPERATION –
FOOD – EASY - EXPERIMENTS- MODULES –
SOLAR- PEOPLE- ARTIFICIAL

The International Space Station is the biggest¹ satellite created by humankind. It orbits more than 400 km above Earth. An international crew of six² live and work while traveling at a speed of 28,000 KM/h, orbiting Earth about every 90 minutes. At this speed, in 24 hours, the space³ makes 16 orbits of Earth, traveling through 16 sunrises and sunsets!

But what do the astronauts do on the Station? The ISS is considered the most special⁴ ever. The crew on the ISS perform scientific⁵ regarding biology, physics, technology and much more. A spacecraft can arrive at the space station as soon as four hours after launching from Earth, so it's relatively easy to receive⁶ and equipment for the crew living on the station.



Life on the station, is not⁷: regular activities such as eating, sleeping or going to the bathroom become really difficult at zero gravity. What about its structure? The ISS is similar to a puzzle: from its launch in 2011, several⁸ have been added. It keeps growing as the scientific community needs specific equipment for new experiments. The most characteristic part of the station are the huge.....⁹ panels which provide it with clean energy. Thanks to the reflection of the Sun on these panels, the ISS is easy to spot from Earth, even without a telescope.

The ISS is an example of international¹⁰ It works thanks to the hard work of experts from 17 countries. Every 3 months, three astronauts leave the Station and other three new astronauts arrive to keep researching and expanding human knowledge. The ISS is the proof that working together brings great results.

2- Answer

- a- How many astronauts living on the ISS?
- b- How many times does it orbit the Earth every day?
- c- What do astronauts do on the station?
- d- Why is life difficult at the station?
- e- How does the ISS get energy?
- f- How many countries have participated on this project?
- g- How long do astronauts stay there?