

Perseverance – the Mars rover – part 4

Exercise 1 – Study the definitions of the verbs in red:

- To **avoid** a danger means to take action to be protected against it.
- To **dare** do something means to do something risky or dangerous.
- To **encourage** someone to do something means to persuade a person to do something difficult or risky.
- To **face** a danger or an enemy means to confront and fight something or someone.
- To **give up** an effort, a plan or a project means to stop working on it.
- When things **go wrong**, you cannot achieve what you were trying to do.
- When you **struggle** to do something, you have to make an effort or work hard to overcome serious difficulties.
- If someone **supports** you, they help you or encourage you to do a difficult task.
- You **take risks** when you try to do something that could be dangerous.
- To **turn back** means to stop advancing and go back, or to stop walking or travelling and go home.

Exercise 2 – Drag the verbs in exercise 1 to fill in the gaps in the text:

avoid	dare	encourage	face
give up	go wrong	struggle	support
take risks	turn back		

At the February 2017 World Government Summit, the United Arab Emirates announced a plan to establish a settlement on Mars by 2117. That is really far into the future, and probably none of us will live to see it. But we can imagine what the colonisation of Mars will be like...

It is clear that the astronauts who will travel to Mars will _____ that no one has had to _____ before: once they start on a journey that could last two years they will not be able to _____. In order to establish a colony in Mars they will have to _____ with isolation, toxic soil, low temperatures, exposure to radiation... there are lots of things that could _____.

In order to _____ any dangerous situations, a lot of special equipment will be necessary, apart from the space ship to take those who _____ go on this trip. This means governments will have to actively _____ the colonization of Mars. Public financing to _____ the cost of such an ambitious project will be essential. Although some private corporations have shown great interest in it, they would probably _____ soon without the backing of government funds, because the cost of colonising Mars will undoubtedly be colossal.