



Student's name: _____

Listening

[Track 110] Listen to an interview with Dr Holly Wilson about going to Mars. Choose the correct ending (A, B or C). There is an example at the beginning (0).

0 The presenter says that Dr Holly Wilson is an expert on

A space.

B science.

C Mars.

1 In Dr Wilson's opinion, if we wanted to set up a space colony on Mars, we would

A not have to improve technology.

B be able to do it with 1970s technology.

C need more advanced technology.

2 Dr Wilson says the main reason why we don't go to Mars is that

A nobody wants to go to a place that is so dangerous.

B governments don't have any money to spend on big projects.

C it seems a better idea to spend money on other things.

3 Dr Wilson says that to set up a colony on Mars we need to get more support from

A scientists.

B politicians.

C ordinary people.

4 According to Dr Wilson, the majority of people think that exploring space is

A uninteresting.

B very interesting.

C not very interesting.

5 Dr Wilson thinks the chances of building a colony on Mars are

A unlikely.

B likely.

C impossible.

6 Dr Wilson says that people might pay for a space colony on Mars if the reason was

A political.

B scientific.

C economic.

7 Dr Wilson thinks that space tourism



- A** would be too expensive for people to do.
- B** wouldn't make enough money to support a colony.
- C** would be a good reason to build a colony.
- 8** Dr Wilson thinks that a Mars colony might be paid for by
- A** a government's military department.
- B** an international tourist agency.
- C** rich business people.
- 9** Dr Wilson says that
- A** Mars only has a few minerals.
- B** we don't know what minerals there are on Mars.
- C** there are a lot of minerals on Mars.
- 10** In Dr Wilson's opinion, there needs to be
- A** more major companies interested in finding Mars' minerals.
- B** more scientific research into the type of minerals on Mars.
- C** better technology in order to get minerals from Mars.

(10 points)

Reading

Today's Science Blog: tell us about the Moon

A

It's hard to imagine how life on our planet would be different if something like the Moon had never existed. If we didn't have a Moon, there would be no lunar tides, and a world where the seas didn't move would have a big effect on nature. There would also be no total solar eclipses – when the Moon moves in front of the sun – and we would notice that. More importantly, big rocks in space called asteroids which, for millions of years, have crashed into the Moon, would hit Earth instead. Everybody knows that asteroids have hit Earth and destroyed life – an asteroid killed the dinosaurs, for example. If there were more asteroids, perhaps the chance of life on Earth developing would be smaller. Perhaps there would be no us.

B

The Moon has played an important part in a lot of cultures. If it wasn't there, we would, I suppose, tell stories about different things, but it is true that many of our traditional stories are about the Moon. We talk about dreaming of the Moon, and aiming for the Moon, and we look at the Moon and think of love or mystery, of happiness or sadness. It is important to us.



We have always wanted to go there. That's why there was a race to the Moon between the USA and the USSR in the 1960s, and why we have a space industry today.

C

The Moon's gravity pulls most strongly on the side of the Earth closest to the Moon and least strongly on the side of the Earth farthest from the Moon. The Earth's gravity pulls, too and, as a result, material comes away from the surface of the Moon. If you lived on the Moon, you would see how strongly the pull of the Earth has an effect on the Moon's surface. Forces pull water from the Earth towards the Moon, particularly when there is a new Moon or a full Moon.

D

There are a number of theories. One is that the Earth and the Moon began life at the same time, and developed next to each other. Pieces of rock came together to make our planet, but some pieces of rock moved in the other direction and came together to make the Moon. Another idea is that the Moon was a piece of rock in space that was passing the Earth, but got caught in its gravity. There are, however, problems with both these theories. Most scientists think that a big rock hit Earth when the solar system was young and parts of our planet flew into space. These rocks then came together to make the Moon.

5 Read the science blog. Match the questions to the paragraphs (A–D) that answer each question. There is an example at the beginning (0).

0 Why are there high tides when there is a full Moon? C

1 What happened to the dinosaurs?

2 How was the Moon formed?

3 What would Earth be like with no Moon?

4 Is it possible the moon used to be part of the Earth?

5 How has the Moon helped our imagination?

6 When did people first try to go to the Moon?

7 How does gravity affect what happens on the Earth and on the Moon?

8 Do scientists agree on how the Moon started?

9 In what ways does the Moon protect Earth from disaster?

10 How does the Moon make us feel?

(10 points)