


Five British candidates have made it through to the last 100 in the running for a one-way trip to Mars.

They'll now be tested to see how they'll cope on the Red Planet, before the final 40 are chosen. Maggie Lieu, a 24-year-old from Coventry, is one of the finalists.

1 Maggie's interview: **match** the journalist's questions to Maggie's answers below.



? Questions

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| <p>1 Do you believe in Martians?</p> <p>2 How did your family react that you're going to Mars?</p> <p>3 What's your to-do-list? What have you got to do within those ten years to prepare yourself?</p> | <p>4 Could you actually change your mind?</p> <p>5 How do you feel? Are you mentally prepared for this? [...] You're going to Mars and you're not coming back!</p> <p>6 Are you going to have the first baby on Mars? Are you not worried about bringing up a child on Mars?</p> |
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» Answers

- ☐ a) I don't think it's really sunk in yet because it's not until ten years time. At the moment, I'm just being overwhelmed with all the excitement.
- ☐ b) Yes, probably in the form of microbes.
- ☐ c) Everyone is really proud of me and really supportive.
- ☐ d) In the next ten years, it will be a lot of hard training. So we'll have to build up all the skills that we won't have available to us whilst around Mars like dentistry, medicine, repair skills, how to grow our own food and stuff like that. We will also have to learn how to work as a team because we're going to have 3 other people on the ship with



us and we have to spend a long time with them in isolated conditions.

to create a human settlement, it will eventually happen.

☐ e) No, I think it would be really amazing to be the first woman to give birth on Mars because no research has gone into the effects of gravity on a fetus, nobody knows if it will work. [...] When we first go to Mars, it's not really going to be a suitable place to bring up a child, but in order

☐ f) We've got ten years to drop out at anytime we want, but the people we'll train with in the next ten years are literally the only people that we're going to be interacting with, so if I fall in love with someone, it will probably be with one of them and they'll become my new family.