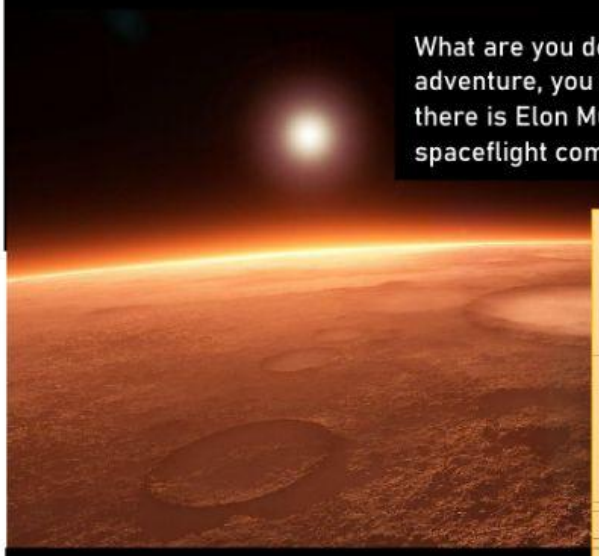
YOUR FLIGHT LEAVES IN 15 YEARS!

What are you doing in 15 years? If you don't have any plans and you enjoy travel and adventure, you might want to consider a trip to Mars. The man who's going to get you there is Elon Musk, the billionaire founder and CEO of space X, the private spaceflight company.



Musk wants to start a colony on "the red planet." To do this, he's initially going to send a small group of around 10 people there. They'll take equipment to create oxygen from the planet's atmosphere, which mostly consists of carbon dioxide. They'll also build transparent domes where they'll be able to grow crops and start farming the planet's surface. **1** _____

2 _____ According to Musk, a ticket to Mars will cost $500,000. Musk calculates that there will be eight billion humans on planet Earth by the time of colonization starts, and possibly one person in 100,000 would be prepared to go. Consequently, if all 80,000 colonists pay for their seat, $40 billion will be raised. This will cover the $36 billion the project is likely to cost.

As long as he can develop reusable rockets to make the six-month journey to and from Mars, Musk believes he'll be able to make the project profitable. If he manages to do it, this won't be the first of Musk's achievements. In 2012 he sent the first privately owned rocket to the international Space Station.

3 _____ However, it looks as if this is going to be his biggest challenge yet.

4 _____ Since their bodies will go through dramatic changes without gravity, no one knows for sure what will happen to the pioneers. Neil Armstrong described stepping onto the moon as "one giant leap for

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There are four sentences missing from the article. Write the letters (a-d) in the correct place in the article.

A	What's more, the entrepreneur developed the Tesla Roadster, the World's first electric sports car.
B	Surprisingly, one of the biggest problems facing Musk is how to keep his colonists healthy on the long trip.
C	Unfortunately, if you want to be one of these new space pioneers, you'll have to start saving now.
D	Once a self -sufficient base has been stablished, spacecraft will transport up to 80,000 people to live on Mars.

Answer the following questions:

1. What's the planet Mars often called?
2. What does its atmosphere mostly consist of?
3. Approximately how long does it take to get there?

Choose T (true) or T (false), according to the text.

1	80,000 people would pay for a ticket to Mars, according to musk.	**T**	**F**
2	A team of 10 people will prepare the planet to be inhabited.	**T**	**F**
3	Taking people to Mars will be the first Musk's achievement.	**T**	**F**

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