

# FROM EARTH TO SPACE!

## MEANS OF AIR TRANSPORT

### 1. Hot Air Balloon – A Peaceful and Beautiful Experience.



Flying in a hot air balloon is a very calm and peaceful way to travel through the sky. Unlike airplanes, hot air balloons move slowly and gently. When the balloon rises, there is no loud engine noise. The only sound you hear is the soft whoosh of the flame as it heats the air inside the balloon. This hot air makes the balloon go up.

As you float higher, the world below begins to look smaller. Everything looks like a beautiful picture from above. People and cars look tiny, almost like toys. The feeling is quiet and relaxing, like you are dreaming while awake.

The balloon moves with the wind, so you cannot control the direction exactly. You do not know where you will land. Hot air balloon rides usually happen in the early morning or late afternoon, when the air is calm. The view at sunrise or sunset is truly amazing. Flying in a hot air balloon is not about going fast or far. It's about enjoying the moment, feeling peaceful, and seeing the world from a new view.

### 2. Airplane – Fast, Safe, and Popular.

Today, many people travel by airplane. It is one of the fastest and most popular ways to go from one place to another, especially over long distances. People take flights for holidays, work, or to visit family and friends.



At the airport, passengers go through several steps: they check in, pass through security, and wait at the gate. After boarding, the plane moves to the runway and then takes off. Takeoff can feel a little scary and exciting because the plane speeds up quickly and lifts off the ground.

Once in the air, the plane flies high—usually around 10,000 meters above the ground. From the window, you can often see clouds and land below. Inside the plane, you can read, watch a movie, eat a meal, or take a nap. Flight attendants help keep everyone safe and comfortable.

Planes travel much faster than cars or trains, so they are very useful for long trips. A flight that takes a few hours would take many days by car. Modern airplanes are also very safe and are checked carefully before each flight. Flying by plane may be routine for many people, but it still feels exciting to rise above the clouds and arrive in a new place so quickly.

### 3. Spaceship – A Journey Beyond Earth.

Flying in a spaceship is a very special and rare experience. Only astronauts, scientists, or specially trained people can go to space. It is not like flying in an airplane or a hot air balloon—it is much more powerful and extreme.



To leave Earth, a spaceship needs a rocket. Rockets are very strong and burn a lot of fuel. When a rocket launches, it makes a loud noise and shakes everything around. The speed must be very high—over 28,000 kilometers per hour—to escape Earth’s gravity.

After the rocket leaves Earth, the spaceship enters space. In space, there is no air, and there is no gravity. Astronauts float around inside the spaceship because there is no force pulling them down. They eat, sleep, and move differently in this strange new environment.

Space travel is difficult, but it helps scientists learn about our universe. It can also teach us more about Earth and how to take care of it. In the future, more people might have the chance to fly into space, but for now, it is still a dream for most.

#### **PART A: After reading the three texts, answer the following questions.**

1. What’s a difficulty we might face while flying in a hot air balloon?

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2. When do hot air balloon rides happen and why?

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3. What steps do passengers take before flying?

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4. What are the benefits of airplane flights?

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5. Who can fly in spaceships now?

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6. What happens to astronauts in spaceships that is different in space?

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7. Why is it important to travel to space?

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**PART B: Now match the sentences to the correct means of public transport!**

1. We would fly in this to visit a foreign country fast and comfortably for holiday.



2. We would fly in this to take pictures and touch the clouds on a calm day.



3. This means of transport can travel the highest of all and needs the most fuel to fly.

