

# UNIT 10: REACHING FOR THE SKIES

## IELTS Speaking Part 2: Long Turn (Cue Card)

Describe a place in space you would like to visit.

You should say:

- Where it is
- How you would go there
- What you would do there
- And explain why you would like to visit this place

at an altitude

for the sense

from above

in orbit

mind-blowing

take in

If I had the chance, I'd love to visit **the International Space Station (ISS)**. It's orbiting Earth (1)\_\_\_\_\_ of about 400 kilometers, so astronauts can see 16 sunrises and sunsets every day — which is absolutely (2)\_\_\_\_\_!

I'd go there on a commercial space flight, perhaps with SpaceX or another private company that offers **short stays** (3)\_\_\_\_\_. Once there, I'd like to experience **weightlessness**, look down at the Earth, and (4)\_\_\_\_\_ the breathtaking view of the continents and oceans.

I've always been fascinated by outer space and how fragile our planet looks (5)\_\_\_\_\_. Visiting the ISS would be a **dream come true** — not only for the adventure itself but also (6)\_\_\_\_\_ of **perspective** it would give me about life and the environment.

at its best

common goal

float in

home in space

interconnected

launching through

orbital tourism

reminder of

research facility

surreal to see

If I ever had the opportunity, I'd love to visit **the International Space Station**, which orbits about four hundred kilometres above the Earth's surface. It's a (7)\_\_\_\_\_ where astronauts from all over the world live and work together, and it's probably the closest thing humanity has to a (8)\_\_\_\_\_.

Ideally, I'd travel there on a **commercial space flight**, perhaps with SpaceX or another private company that offers (9)\_\_\_\_\_. The journey itself would be an incredible experience — (10)\_\_\_\_\_ the atmosphere and watching the Earth gradually shrink beneath me.

Once aboard the station, I'd love to (11)\_\_\_\_\_ **zero gravity**, look out of the observation window, and watch the sunrise over the curve of the Earth. It would be (12)\_\_\_\_\_ entire continents pass by in minutes and realise how fragile and (13)\_\_\_\_\_ our planet really is.

The main reason I'd want to visit the ISS is that it represents **human cooperation and innovation** (14)\_\_\_\_\_. Despite political and cultural differences, scientists from various nations have worked side by side to make it possible. Visiting it would not just be a personal dream come true but also a (15)\_\_\_\_\_ what humanity can achieve when we work towards a (16)\_\_\_\_\_.

blow my mind	call it home	captured my imagination	get over	venture into
giant leap	glued to the window	hop on a rocket	low gravity	make our way
roam around	set foot on	ticking something off	try my hand at	

If I had the chance, I'd love to (17)\_\_\_\_\_ **Mars**. It's the planet that has always (18)\_\_\_\_\_, partly because it's the most Earth-like world in our solar system, and partly because of the idea that one day, humans might (19)\_\_\_\_\_.

Ideally, I'd (20)\_\_\_\_\_ with a private company like SpaceX or Blue Origin. I imagine the journey would be nerve-racking but absolutely thrilling. I'd probably spend most of the flight (21)\_\_\_\_\_, watching the stars drift by as we (22)\_\_\_\_\_ through the vastness of space.

Once I landed, I'd love to (23)\_\_\_\_\_ the Martian surface, take photos of the red landscape, and maybe even (24)\_\_\_\_\_ collecting rock samples — just to feel like a real astronaut for a moment. Experiencing (25)\_\_\_\_\_ and seeing the Sun from a different distance would be something I'd **never** (26)\_\_\_\_\_.

What really draws me to Mars is the spirit of **exploration and discovery** it represents. Humanity has always wanted to **push the boundaries** and (27)\_\_\_\_\_ the unknown, and Mars is the next (28)\_\_\_\_\_. Visiting it would be more than just (29)\_\_\_\_\_ my **bucket list** — it would be a **once-in-a-lifetime adventure** that would (30)\_\_\_\_\_ and **change the way I look at** life on Earth.