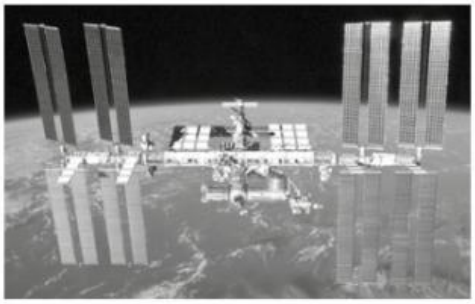
The International Space Station



Did you know that right now, there might be as many as six astronauts on board the International Space Station (ISS), high above the Earth?

The ISS is made of different parts called modules that are connected to each other. It has laboratories for science experiments, and an observatory with lots of windows called the Cupola. The ISS also has a telescope to help the scientists study Earth. While in space, the astronauts might also release small satellites.

The ISS needs lots of power to keep it running. To get power, the station has eight solar arrays, or panels. The solar arrays turn the sun's energy into electricity.

With all of these features on it, the ISS is about as big as a football field!

A Read and choose.

1 The author's purpose in writing this article is …

(a.) to tell us about the International Space Station.

b. to tell us about solar panels.

c. to tell us about astronauts.

2 In the article, another word for *solar array* is …

a. solar electricity.

b. solar panel.

c. solar laboratory.

3 The number of astronauts on the ISS is often …

a. six.

b. four.

c. ten.

4 Why did the author compare the ISS to a football field?

a. because the astronauts like to play on the ISS

b. to help you understand the size

c. because the ISS is almost a rectangle shape

5 Where do the scientists conduct experiments?

a. in laboratories

b. in the Cupola

c. in the solar arrays

6 In the article, *connected* means the same as …

a. on the internet.

b. stay in touch.

c. joined together.

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