

READING COMPREHENSION: TASK 2

Read this text carefully and answer the questions according to the text.

FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON



Jules Verne could not have imagined that over a hundred years after writing his famous novel *From the Earth to the Moon* it would all come true with the landing of Apollo 11 on the Moon. Commander Neil Armstrong together with module pilots Edwin F. Aldrin and Michael Collins were on that successful first spaceflight to land humans on the Moon.

Although Aldrin was supposed to be the one to climb down the Eagle module first and set foot on the Moon, it was Neil Armstrong who, due to some small technical problems, had to descend first. That remarkable moment happened on the 20th of April 1969. The event was broadcast on live TV to a worldwide expectant audience who could hear Armstrong say, "It is one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." While his two companions were collecting lunar material to bring back to Earth, Collins flew the command module Columbia in lunar orbit. Twenty-one and a half hours after their landing, Armstrong and Aldrin returned to the Columbia and proceeded with Collins to return to our planet eight days after the beginning of the mission.

However, not everybody believes that Apollo 11 accomplished its mission. Since the 70s, some people have thought it was all a hoax organised by NASA to win the space race against the Soviet Union during the cold war. These conspiracy theories say that NASA and other organisations tricked the public and made them believe that the landings happened by manufacturing, modifying or destroying evidence. This would include photos with no stars in the sky, the image of the American flag moving in the wind on the lunar surface, the astronaut's footprints that still remain on the Moon surface, the Moon rocks collected by the astronauts as well as the radio and TV transmissions.

NASA has worked really hard to demonstrate the falseness of such conspiracy theories by giving new information provided by advanced technology. Since the late 2000s, the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter has taken high-definition photos of the modules and the tracks left by the astronauts of Apollo 11. In 2012, images showing five of the six Apollo missions' American flags still standing on the Moon were released. The exception is the flag of Apollo 11, which lies on the lunar surface because it was accidentally knocked down during take off.

Text adapted from <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/48774080>,
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo_11
and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/moon_landing_conspiracy_theories

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29 According to the text, *From the Earth to the Moon* is a...

- a. film.
- b. novel.
- c. TV series.

30 There were _____ astronauts on Apollo 11.

- a. three
- b. four
- c. five

31 Apollo 11 was so important because it _____ the Moon.

- a. went to
- b. orbited around
- c. took humans to

32 The astronauts descended _____ what had been planned.

- a. differently from
- b. according to
- c. faster than

33 The descent was watched live...

- a. only by Americans.
- b. only by Europeans.
- c. by all the world.

34 While Armstrong and Aldrin were on the Moon, Collins...

- a. piloted Columbia.
- b. commanded Eagle.
- c. collected lunar material.

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35 In the sentence, “some people think it was all a hoax organised by NASA”, what does ‘hoax’ mean?

- a. Game.
- b. Trick.
- c. Play.

36 Who has tried to demonstrate that the mission was real?

- a. NASA scientists.
- b. The US population.
- c. Conspiracy theorists.

37 To prove that conspiracy theories are false they...

- a. analyse existing documents.
- b. study secret archives.
- c. use new technology.

38 Put the content of the paragraphs in the correct order as they appear in the text.

A.
The mission of Apollo 11 could be a trick.

B.
There is evidence that the mission of Apollo 11 was real.

C.
The official story of the landing of humans on the Moon.

D.
Precedents in literature of the Moon landing.

- a. B → D → C → A
- b. C → D → B → A
- c. D → C → A → B

39 The text you have read is from a _____ and Wikipedia.

- a. news article
- b. NASA report
- c. conspiracy novel

40 The aim of the text is to...

- a. demonstrate the false landing on the Moon.
- b. teach about the different elements of Apollo 11.
- c. inform readers of the 1969 mission to the Moon.