

- 1 Read the essay quickly and choose the best title.
- Should we send people to Mars?
 - Is space exploration a good thing?
 - Which planet should we visit next?

1 *Many people believe* that the next step in space exploration is sending astronauts to Mars. It sounds exciting, but ² _____ it?

³ _____, we might discover things we need on Earth, like oil or gas. ⁴ _____, we already know that there is a lot of methane gas on Mars, and it can be used to make plastic. ⁵ _____ we could discover new forms of life. ⁶ _____ there is frozen water on Mars and possibly even running water. This may mean there are other forms of life there.

⁷ _____, a manned mission to Mars would be incredibly expensive, at over \$50 billion. The spacecraft would need to take food, water, oxygen and medical supplies, and these things would have to be launched into space. ⁸ _____ we could spend this money on solving the problems we already have on Earth. ⁹ _____, it's very dangerous. We don't know the effects of being in space and of weightlessness on the human body for such a long period of time. In ¹⁰ _____, the possible human cost is too great a risk.

¹¹ _____, while living on Mars might seem like a good idea, I think we have big problems to solve on Earth first.

- 2 Complete gaps 1–6 in the essay with phrases a–f.

- For example
- Many people believe
- It seems
- Another advantage is that
- is it worth
- On the one hand

- 3 Complete gaps 7–11 in the essay with phrases a–e.

- my opinion
- To sum up
- I believe
- On the other hand
- Moreover

- 4 Look at the essay in Exercise 1 again and number the parts of it 1–4.

advantages conclusion
disadvantages introduction

- 5 Match the sentence halves.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C To sum | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> The main |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> One reason for | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Finally, it could |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Nowadays more and | |

- disadvantage is a lack of technology.
- be a stepping stone for further space exploration.
- up, I believe space exploration is a good idea.
- doing this is to find another planet to live on.
- more people believe we should travel in space.

- 6 Complete the notes with the words and phrases below.

dangerous expensive new forms population
problems to save

Should we spend money on finding another planet to live on?

For:

- *might not be able* ¹ *to save* this planet
- *discover* ² _____ of life
- *growing* ³ _____ on Earth and limited space

Against:

- *too* ⁴ _____ - billions of dollars
- ⁵ _____ on Earth more urgent
- *too* ⁶ _____ - could die in space

WRITING TIME

- 7 Write an essay answering the question in Exercise 6.

1 Find ideas

Make notes for your essay. Think about:

- a short introduction and conclusion.
- your reasons for and against, and your final decision.

2 Plan and write

- Organise your ideas into paragraphs. Use the essay in Exercise 1 to help you.
- Write a draft of your essay.

3 Check

- Check language: have you used linkers of addition?
- Check grammar: have you used any conditionals?
- Write the final version of your essay.

Self-check

Vocabulary

- 1 Complete the sentences with the words below. There is one extra word.

comet engine galaxy gravity orbit
satellite star

- 1 The jet _____ makes it fly very fast.
- 2 The recent mission sent a _____ into space to improve communication systems in Europe.
- 3 There are billions of stars in our _____.
- 4 The Earth takes one year to _____ the Sun.
- 5 The Sun is a giant _____.
- 6 _____ is what makes things fall to the ground.

- 2 Write the correct word for each definition.

- 1 the word for 1,000,000: a m _____
- 2 someone who studies the stars:
a _____
- 3 an icy rock travelling through space with a 'tail' of gas: c _____
- 4 ours has eight planets in it:
s _____ s _____
- 5 the measurement of how wide something is:
w _____
- 6 something you use to look at the stars:
t _____
- 7 the measurement of how high something is:
h _____
- 8 the Earth is one of these: p _____

- 3 Choose the correct option.

- 1 The Sun is around 150 million kilometres *from / away* Earth.
- 2 The satellite is 30 metres *length / long*.
- 3 They travel at 10,000 kilometres *the / an* hour.
- 4 It costs seven thousand, five hundred *or / and* twenty pounds.
- 5 The space mission cost two point *eight / eight hundred* million euros.
- 6 How *height / high* can modern planes fly?

Grammar

- 4 Choose the correct option.

- 1 If we *have / had* the money, we'd buy a car.
- 2 If I'm not too tired after school, I usually *go / would go* cycling in the park.
- 3 I wouldn't *meet / have met* Anna if I hadn't gone to the party.
- 4 Louis *won't come / will come* to the picnic unless the weather is good.
- 5 I wouldn't call Ann if I *am / were* you.
- 6 If my team *would win / wins* the championship, I'll dance in the street!
- 7 If we *had left / left* earlier, we wouldn't have missed the bus.
- 8 You break the sound barrier if you *travel / had travelled* faster than 340 metres per second.

- 5 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

I want to be an astronaut. I know it's very ambitious, but I'm sure if I work really hard, I ¹ _____ (achieve) my dream one day. If I have any free time, I ² _____ (study) Physics. When people ask me, 'What would you do if you ³ _____ (win) the lottery?', the answer is easy: I ⁴ _____ (travel) to space! I know I ⁵ _____ (not be) allowed to go unless I'm physically fit too, so I ⁶ _____ (play) sport. What about you? If you could do any job at all, what ⁷ _____ (you/do)?

Speaking

- 6 Choose the correct answer.

- 1 The last ___ you need to do is take the photo.
a thing b problem c check
- 2 After a ___ minutes, check your emails.
a some b few c time
- 3 It's important ___ the lights when you leave.
a turn off b turning off c to turn off
- 4 Try ___ park in that road after 9 a.m.
a not to b don't to c don't
- 5 That ___ easy.
a sure b not c seems

YOUR SCORE

Vocabulary: ___/20 Speaking: ___/5
Grammar: ___/15 Total: ___/40