



THE SPACE RACE



The Space Race

Today's shortcut explored how people and countries are racing against each other to reach, explore, and even live in space. Read through the questions before you listen, but don't pick up a pencil until the podcast is over!

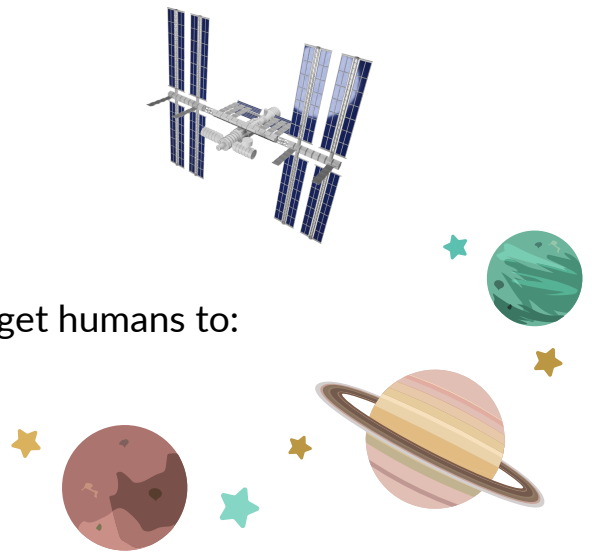
1. Which two countries came out of World War II both wanting to be the global superpower?

2. How was their relationship described?

- ☐ World War III
- ☐ Intense War
- ☐ Cold War

3. China and the USA are currently in a race to get humans to:

- ☐ Be space tourists
- ☐ Mars
- ☐ Earth's moon

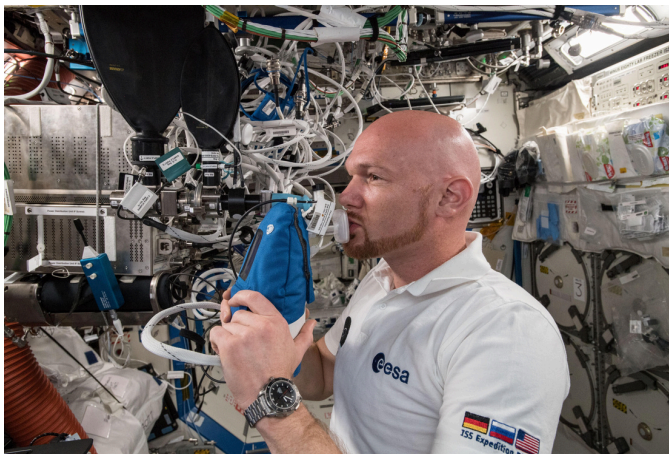


4. Name one of the billionaires currently involved in a space race. (Bonus points if you can name all three!)

5. Why do some people not like it that rich people are in a space race? Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Inventions in Space....

One argument for why people and nations should spend money on space exploration is that important scientific experiments and discoveries are made in space. Read through these examples, and answer the questions.



NASA

Medical Experiments

Researchers on the International Space Station are doing work on serious diseases. Here, astronaut Alexander Gerst is breathing into an ultra-sensitive gas analyser to check his airways. The study will help to plan safer, long-term missions to the Moon, Mars and beyond—and may also help doctors treat asthma patients on Earth.

Wireless Headphones



Developed by NASA to stop astronauts getting tangled in wires.

Camera Phones

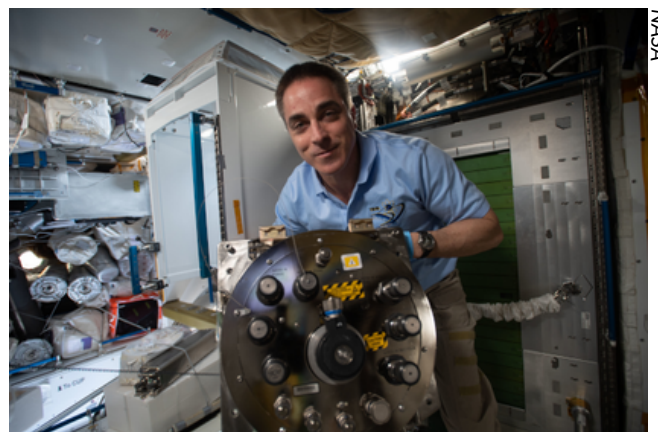


One third of all cameras contain technology developed in the 1990s, to make quality cameras small enough to put on a spacecraft.

Water Purification Systems

We all need water to survive—but where do you get it in space? NASA's water recovery system purifies and filters the station's water, recovering and recycling 6,000 litres each year—which is 93% of the water astronauts use in space. And yes, that means they wind up drinking their own wee. "It tastes like bottled water," Layne Carter, water subsystem manager for the ISS, told Bloomberg News.

Back on earth, many people lack access to clean water, so the different space technologies can be used in their communities.



ISS Commander Chris Cassidy installs part of the urine—that means wee—processing assembly in 2020.

NASA

Inventions in Space...

1. Which of the inventions do you think has the most benefit to people back on Earth? Why?

2. Would you drink recycled wee, if you were an astronaut? Why or why not?

Some primary and high school students are collaborating with scientists on the ISS, who conduct experiments for them. If you could design an experiment in space, what would it be? Draw a picture of astronauts doing your experiment on the space station. Be ready to explain it to your teacher.