

SPACE QUIZ

Celebrate the International Year of Astronomy by testing your space knowledge

Last week was the 40th anniversary of man walking on the moon. Take this quiz to find out what else you know about our first steps in space exploration.

1. The planet Mars was named after:

- a) A chocolate bar
- b) The Roman god of war
- c) The Mars Global Surveyor
- d) The Roman Empire

2. Which of these countries has NOT launched a robotic spacecraft?

- a) Russia
- b) Japan
- c) US
- d) Afghanistan

3. What was the name of the twin rovers that landed on Mars in January 2004?

- a) Mind and Soul
- b) Bubble and Squeak
- c) Spirit and Opportunity
- d) Mars and Earth

4. What do most astronauts usually do with their sleeping bags?

- a) Hook them up to a wall in line with a ventilator fan.
- b) Nothing, astronauts don't use sleeping bags in space.
- c) Tie them all together to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide.
- d) Roll them up and place them into a cupboard.

5. Which statement about the space suit is false?

- a) The helmet is multi-layered.
- b) The suit contains 10 layers of material within less than 0.5cm thickness.
- c) The space suits are white, as white reflects heat therefore preventing the astronaut from becoming over-heated.
- d) The Inner Cooling Garment is designed to remove excess body heat.

6. Who was Australia's first astronaut?

- a) Neil Armstrong
- b) Andy Thomas
- c) Paul Scully-Power
- d) Buzz Aldrin

7. On what date did John Glenn become the first astronaut to capture a space picture?

- a) January 14, 1950
- b) June 25, 1964
- c) April 11, 2008
- d) February 20, 1962

8. How many satellites are in orbit?

- a) About 1200
- b) Exactly 100
- c) Almost 900
- d) Just one

9. Which of the following is NOT considered space junk?

- a) Hatch covers
- b) Rocket bodies
- c) Lenses
- d) Bird droppings

10. What was the name of the Soviet satellite launched into space on October 4, 1957?

- a) Spik
- b) Sputnik
- c) Spave
- d) Sarah

11. Why did the seven pilots selected for the Mercury program in 1959 have to be no taller than 180cm?

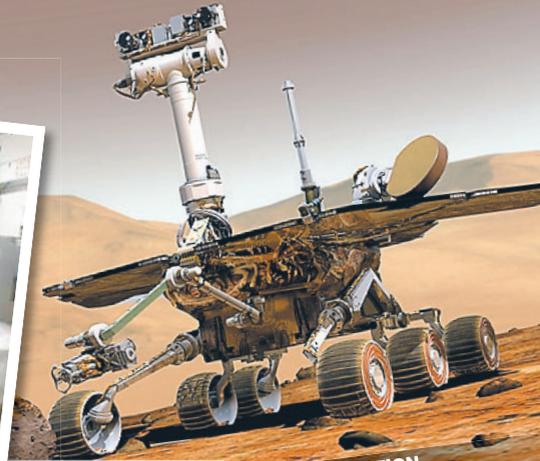
- a) So that they could fit into the capsule



DEEP SPACE STATION 43



JAPAN AEROSPACE EXPLORATION AGENCY ASTRONAUT KOICHI WAKATA



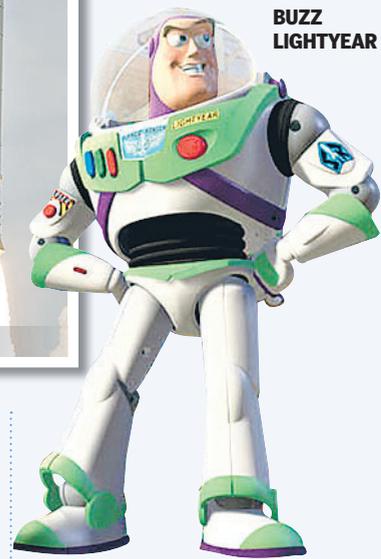
MARS EXPLORATION ROVER MISSION



ARTIST CONCEPT OF AN IRIDIUM SATELLITE IN EARTH ORBIT



SPACE SHUTTLE ENDEAVOUR



BUZZ LIGHTYEAR

- b) So they were all about the same height
- c) So nobody felt too tall
- d) Because anybody over 180cm tall would feel claustrophobic

12. What is Wernher von Braun considered to be?

- a) The smartest man on earth
- b) Father of the US space program
- c) The discoverer of penicillin
- d) The man who invented the space shuttle

13. What does NASA stand for?

- a) National Astronauts and Space Academies
- b) Navigational Astronaut equals Successful Adventure
- c) National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- d) Nice and Successful Astronauts

14. Which sentence is a famous quote that represents a definitive moment in 20th century space travel?

- a) We are one, but we are many.
- b) That's one small step for man, one great leap for mankind.
- c) That's one giant leap for man, one small step for mankind.
- d) On a clear day, you can see forever.

15. What was the date of man's first step on the moon, according to NASA?

- a) July 20, 1969
- b) July 22, 1969
- c) April 15, 1969
- d) July 20, 1967

16. Which of the following space pioneers was born on June 6, 1932?

- a) Gene Cernan
- b) Jim Irwin
- c) Dave Scott
- d) Neil Armstrong

17. When does man expect to visit the moon again?

- a) 2010
- b) 2020
- c) Next week
- d) Never. Been there, done that!

18. More than 80 per cent of the moon is...

- a) Cheese
- b) Ancient, heavily cratered highland
- c) Basalt covered plains called maria
- d) Soft, lush grass

19. In comparison to Earth, the sun is...

- a) 10 per cent hotter
- b) 109 times larger
- c) About 149,600km away
- d) All of the above

20. Which of the following planets has an average temperature of about 465C?

- a) Mars
- b) Earth
- c) Saturn
- d) Venus

21. In our solar system there are...

- a) Eight planets
- b) Nine planets
- c) One planet
- d) 12 planets

22. "A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away" is the opening line of which movie?

- a) The Simpsons
- b) Superman
- c) Star Wars
- d) 2001: A Space Odyssey

23. Which author wrote almost 500 books over more than 60 years — many of which have become science-fiction classics?

- a) J.K. Rowling
- b) Isaac Asimov
- c) Dr Seuss
- d) Orson Welles

24. Which famous cartoon character is responsible for the following phrase: "To infinity and beyond"?

- a) Buzz Lightyear
- b) ET
- c) Superman
- d) Batman

25. The movie "The Dish" says which radio telescope facility received the first TV transmissions from the moon?

- a) Honeysuckle Creek, ACT
- b) Carnarvon, WA
- c) Mt Pleasant, TAS
- d) Parkes, NSW

26. In what year was it announced that Pluto was no longer a planet?

- a) 1994
- b) 2000
- c) 2006
- d) It still is considered a planet

27. What is the dwarf planet Makemake named after?

- a) A country
- b) A person
- c) A god
- d) A city

28. Which of the following statements best describes a light-year?

- a) It is a term used to describe the speed of sound.
- b) It is the last name of a fictional character in Toy Story.
- c) It is when summer lasts longer than usual.
- d) It is the distance that light travels in one Earth year.

29. Which piece of equipment has changed the way we view our galaxy and revealed the beauty and vastness of space?

- a) Binoculars
- b) The Hubble Space Telescope
- c) The ordinary telescope
- d) TV

30. Which of the following statements are true?

- a) The sun is a star.
- b) The sun is hotter than Earth.
- c) The sun is a planet.
- d) Earth is the closest planet to the sun.

31. What is the name of Australia's first satellite?

- a) AUSSIE
- b) NMTYS
- c) WRESAT
- d) None of the above

32. In what year did Australia's rocket program begin?

- a) 1957
- b) 2000
- c) 1992
- d) 2001

33. Where will you find the \$13 million SkyMapper telescope, which is completing the first systemic digital map of the southern skies?

- a) Royal Botanic Gardens
- b) In space
- c) Siding Spring Observatory
- d) Mt Stromlo Observatory

34. What space mission is planned for the year 2020?

- a) A visit to the sun
- b) A manned mission to the moon
- c) The launching of four spacecrafts
- d) The discovery of another planet

35. NASA's Marshall Flight Centre believes a giant lift could be built to make space travel easier. What material would be used to make that lift, according to the centre?

- a) Clay
- b) Glass
- c) Carbon
- d) Recycled plastic

36. When is the earliest predicted date for a manned mission to Mars?

- a) 2015
- b) 2090
- c) 2014
- d) 2030