



7th Grade English
Unit 2 Starry Home
Future of Space Exploration
Worksheets

Students Name: _____

TEXT QUESTIONS

Future of Space Exploration Could See Humans on Mars, Alien Planets

Nola Taylor Redd

DIRECTIONS: Respond to these questions. Use textual evidence to support your responses.

1. (a) **Make Inferences** What can you infer the author’s purpose is in writing the news article? (b) **Connect** Why might the author have included the subtitle “An inclusive journey” at the beginning of the article?

2. (a) **Interpret** What does Mae Jemison mean when she says ““The public was left out of space.””? (b) **Support** What details from the article support your response to Part A?

3. **Interpret** What does Mae Jemison mean when she says ““I believe that pursuing an extraordinary tomorrow will create a better world today””?

4. **Speculate** According to the article, The 100-Year Starship program includes scientists as well as artists and science-fiction writers. What contributions might artists and science-fiction writers make to a program focused on interstellar travel?

Future of Space Exploration Could See Humans on Mars, Alien Planets

Nola Taylor Redd

In order to communicate effectively, authors of nonfiction think about the best way to present information.

In “Future of Space Exploration Could See Humans on Mars, Alien Planets,” Nola Taylor Redd provides context and background information for her interview with Mae Jemison and Adam Steltzner. To help readers follow along, she arranges details from the interview in a logical order. Finally, to leave readers with something memorable, she concludes the article with a strong quotation from an interview subject.

DIRECTIONS: Answer these questions about “Future of Space Exploration Could See Humans on Mars, Alien Planets.”

1. In what part of the article does Redd explain what the 100-Year Starship project is? Why does she describe it in this part of the article?

-
2. Where in the article does Redd first quote Mae Jemison? Why does she quote her in this part of the article?

-
3. Why does Redd include the statement Jemison makes in paragraph 7?

-
4. Why does Redd conclude the article as she does?
-

Future of Space Exploration Could See Humans on Mars, Alien Planets

Nola Taylor Redd

A **verb** has four principal parts: **present**, **present participle**, **past**, and **past participle**. The chart below shows the four principal parts of the regular verb *wave*. It also includes the principal parts of some commonly misused irregular verbs. Notice that present and past participles include helping verbs such as *has*, *have*, *had*, *am*, *is*, *are*, and *were*. A verb together with its helping verb is called a **verb phrase**.

PRESENT	PRESENT PARTICIPLE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE
wave	(is) waving	waved	(has) waved
am, is	(is) being	was	(has) been
has, have	(is) having	had	(has) had
run	(is) running	ran	(has) run

A. DIRECTIONS: Underline the verb in each sentence. Then, identify the principal part of the verb: *present*, *past*, *present participle*, or *past participle*.

- _____ Neil Armstrong walked on the moon.
- _____ Mae Jemison is talking to people about space travel.
- _____ Mae Jemison has traveled to outer space.
- _____ Space exploration leads to knowledge and innovation.
- _____ Many people object to the space program.

B. Directions: Write the principal parts of each verb in the columns below.

	Present	Present Participle	Past	Past Participle
1. launch	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. fund	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. reach	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. explore	_____	_____	_____	_____

Future of Space Exploration Could See Humans on Mars, Alien Planets

Nola Taylor Redd

WORD LIST

colonize

planetary

interstellar

A. **DIRECTIONS:** In each of the following items, think about the meaning of the italicized word or phrase, and then answer the question.

1. If the United States were successful in being the first country to *colonize* the planet Saturn, would it be likely to establish laws similar to the ones found in the U.S.? Why or why not?

2. Would a series of bridges collapsing in a particular country be considered a *planetary* problem? Explain.

3. If Joan is going on an *interstellar* voyage with her family, will she come back with pictures of her and her family posing by monuments and landmarks found on Earth? How do you know?

B. **WORD STUDY:** The Latin suffix *-ary* means “belonging or relating to.” For example, the word *solitary* means “belonging or relating to solitude.” Below, add the suffix *-ary* to each base word provided, and use the new word in a sentence.

1. *exclusion*_____

2. *fragment*_____

3. *budget*_____

WORD STUDY ▶ **LATIN SUFFIX -ARY**

The **Latin suffix -ary** means “belonging to or relating to.” For example, the word *customary* means “belonging to or relating to a custom.” In some cultures, it is a custom for people to shake hands with one another when meeting for the first time, so one could say that shaking hands is a *customary* gesture.

A. DIRECTIONS: In each of the following items, think about the meaning of the italicized word. Then, answer the question.

1. If José has a *rudimentary* understanding of bicycle repair, would it be a good idea for him to open a shop that specializes in repairing bikes? Explain.

2. Would it be logical for Melissa’s grandmother to see a *pulmonary* specialist if she were having painful headaches? How do you know?

3. Kate, who plays in a softball league, disobeyed several rules of the team during a recent tournament. Is it likely that she’ll face *disciplinary* action? Why or why not?

4. A young child claimed that his *imaginary* friend Herbie was actually the person who spilled a box of cereal on the floor. Was his mother likely to believe him?

5. Would it be accurate to call insulting remarks about someone *tributary*? Why or why not?

B. DIRECTIONS: Select the correct word from the box on the right to complete each sentence.

1. Upon _____ review, the test didn’t look very hard. However, I soon realized it was much more difficult than I thought!
2. Having completed the task of putting out the fire, the fireman set out to find the _____ source.
3. _____ to popular belief, it doesn’t take seven years to digest chewing gum when you swallow it!
4. My position at the nursing home is _____, but no amount of money could buy the satisfaction that comes from helping others.

incendiary preliminary contrary voluntary
--

WORD STUDY ▶ LATIN SUFFIX -ARY

A. DIRECTIONS: Select the correct word to complete each sentence.

1. The temperature in the theater is my (primary/secondary) concern. Getting good seats is most important! _____
 2. Our principal, Mr. Liddy, was admitted to the (infirmary/military) after he fell on the icy steps. _____
 3. Many people say that Martin Luther King, Jr. was a true (visionary/secretary) because he dreamed of a future free of segregation. _____
 4. I always gain a few pounds during the winter because I'm a lot more (dietary/sedentary) when it is too cold to go outside. _____
-

B. DIRECTIONS: Use each of the following words in a complete sentence.

1. temporary _____
 2. complimentary _____
 3. necessary _____
 4. hereditary _____
 5. literary _____
-

C. DIRECTIONS: The month *January* is named after the Roman deity Janus, the god of beginnings and transitions. Using what you've learned about the suffix *-ary*, explain why this suffix was added to Janus's name to create the name of the month.
