

Man on the Moon! Part 2: *Away!* – Level 3 Cloze activity. Name _____

technical	century	marvellous	mankind	rumbling	space-suit	foot
experiments	accelerating	engines	enormous	entertained		

... 2, 1, zero, all engines running, **LIFT-OFF!** In moments the base of the _____ rocket and its supporting structure was shrouded in smoke, and impossibly bright fire burst underneath. The _____ could be heard miles away, from the observation areas that had been set up to hold thousands of people. Soon, the roar became deafening as about seven million pounds of thrust generated by the powerful _____ of 'stage one' started to take full effect. Slowly at first the Saturn five rocket and its precious payload of astronauts began to lift into the Florida sky. The great tower beside the rocket broke off its many umbilical lines, and fell away to allow the thundering spacecraft room to fly. Before long, Apollo eleven was under way, quickly _____ to near 'escape velocity' – in this case, needing all three stages to gradually get to roughly 39000 kilometres per hour (many times faster than any aeroplane).

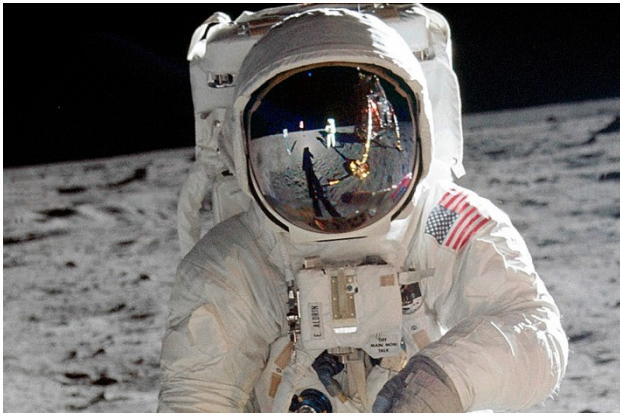
Apollo eleven spent just a few minutes in Earth's atmosphere. Soon, the last stage was ready to orbit and use the Earth itself as a sort of gravitational 'slingshot' to help fling the remaining spacecraft towards the Moon. Once underway, it would take nearly four days of 'coasting' through space. On the way, the astronauts _____ the millions of people watching their TVs, by performing _____ and routine tasks in their little space ship and sending the images back to Earth. Once nearby, the Moon's own gravity caught the spacecraft, and with some help from the small rockets on board, it got into a stable orbit. Then it was time to separate again. Collins would stay on board the command module *Columbia*, while Armstrong and Aldrin travelled down to the 'Sea of Tranquillity' in the lunar lander known as *Eagle*.

After some time, regularly peppered with _____ reports from the astronauts, the eagerly waiting people of Earth heard Armstrong's crackling confirmation. "Houston, ah... Tranquillity base here. The Eagle has landed". After some checks it was soon time to actually leave the lander and for the first time in history have a human set _____ on another world. Neil Armstrong was the first to emerge, fully clad in his _____. A short climb down the ladder brought him to ground level. He turned, paused and took time to say perhaps the most famous phrase in modern history. "It's one small step for (a) man, one giant leap for _____"

Man was finally on the moon! At this exact point in time, countless millions of people cheered and yelled and cried, all over the world. Something truly _____ had just happened and for perhaps the first time in history it was shared at the same time with everyone. This was perhaps the best moment of the twentieth _____ – perhaps even modern history. Everyone old enough would remember exactly where they were and what they were doing on the 20th of July 1969 – the day man stood on the Moon!

Man on the Moon part 2 - Comprehension:

(you are allowed to re-read the story)



Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin uses a selfie stick to get this picture of himself with Armstrong and *Eagle* in the reflection.

1. What were the two parts of Apollo 11 called? _____ and _____

2. Which American state is the Kennedy Space Centre in? _____

3. How long did it take to get to the Moon?

4. The Saturn 5 rocket goes faster than any plane: **True / False**

5. Which American city does Armstrong refer to when the *Eagle* landed? _____

6. Vocabulary. Find meanings for these two words:

Tranquility: _____

Confirmation: _____

7. High level thinking: Why do you think they kept Michael Collins on *Columbia*?

8. Do you think they might have got wet when they landed in the 'Sea of Tranquility'?
yes / no : Why _____

9. How come they didn't need a huge rocket to get back to Earth? :

10. How do you think the astronauts got on crammed into a spacecraft the size of a people mover for 8 days? _____

More random facts:

Find out more: http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/apollo/apollo11.html

- Cape Canaveral was renamed 'Cape Kennedy' from 1963 until 1973 after President John F Kennedy, but was returned to its original name in 1974. The Kennedy Space Centre kept its title.
- The Saturn 5 remains the tallest, heaviest, and most powerful rocket ever brought to operational status and still holds records for the heaviest payload launched and largest payload capacity to low Earth orbit of 118,000 kilograms.



Dave Moran 2015

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