

UNIT 15

SPACE CONQUEST

I. Circle the word that has a different sound in bold.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. conquest | cosmonaut | certainty | congratulate |
| 2. challenge | launched | achievement | psychological |
| 3. earth | with | birth | death |
| 4. space | tragic | astronaut | gravity |
| 5. feat | speed | leap | death |
| 6. flight | precise | orbit | desire |
| 7. shuttle | success | support | century |
| 8. off | of | if | fly |
| 9. tragic | challenge | congress | engineer |
| 10. cosmonaut | possible | honour | hero |

II. Fill in each blank with one appropriate word.

Neil Armstrong is an American (1) astronaut. He is known as the first man to walk on the (2) moon. Armstrong was born (3) on August 5th, 1930 in Wapakoneta in Ohio. From 1949 to 1952, he (4) worked as a pilot in the United States Navy. In 1962, he joined the NASA astronaut (5) programmes. On July 20th 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first human to step on the moon's (6) surface. Armstrong received his M.S from the University of Southern California in 1970. He resigned (7) from NASA a year later and from 1971 to 1979, he taught at the University of Cincinnati. In 1986, Armstrong was (8) appointed vice chairman of the committee that investigated the space (9) shuttle Challenger disaster. Armstrong is also well-known for (10) what he said as he stepped onto the surface of the moon: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

III. Choose the correct verb form.

- Our recent _____ in medicine is the development of laser in treating cancer.
a. achievements **b. achievement** c. achievers d. achieved
- Before Gagarin's _____ flight, there were still enormous uncertainties.
a. historical **b. historic** c. history d. historian
- Although his flight lasted only 108 minutes, its _____ made him a national hero.
a. succeed b. successful c. successive **d. success**
- Although we didn't win, we were able to take some _____ from our performance.
a. satisfying b. satisfactions **c. satisfaction** d. satisfactory
- _____ 60,000 people filled the stadium.
a. Approximately b. Approximate c. Approximant d. Approximation
- Laughter can be a great release of _____.
a. tense **b. tension** c. tenseness d. tensing
- May I offer my heartest _____ on your promotion?
a. congratulating b. congratulation **c. congratulations** d. congratulate
- The appropriate attitude makes it _____ to socialize among strangers.
a. possible b. possibility c. impossible d. possibly
- _____, many houses are going to be demolished to make ways for a new supermarket.
a. Fortunate b. Unfortunate c. Fortunately **d. Unfortunately**
- Astronauts work in _____ conditions.
a. weight b. weighting **c. weightless** d. weightlessness

IV. Underline the correct or more natural answer. If both answers are possible, underline them both.

1. Valuables **can** / *are able to* be left in the hotel safe. Please ask at the reception desk.
2. We **could** / **were able to** finish the football match before it started snowing too heavy.
3. The rebels **could** / **were able to** draw on the support of over 20,000 soldiers.
4. **Could you** / *Were you able to* understand Professor Larsen's lecture? I found it really difficult.
5. 'Do you want a game?' 'Sorry, I **can't** / *'m not able to* play chess.
6. Look at me, I **can** / *'m able to* ride my bike without any help.
7. When the fire officers arrived they **could** / **were able to** put out the flames in a couple of minutes.
8. The air was so polluted in the city center, I **could hardly** / *was hardly able to* breathe.
9. I knew John had been smoking. I **could** / *was able to* smell the cigarettes when I came into the room.
10. **Can you** / **Are you able to** drive without your glasses?
11. No changes **can** / *are able to* be made to this rail ticket after purchase.
12. He **could** / **was able to** untie the ropes without the guards noticing.
13. She looked all over the house, but **couldn't** / *wasn't able to* find her keys anywhere.
14. I was very busy at work; but I **could** / **was able to** have a couple of days off last week.
15. She swam strongly and **could** / **was able to** cross the river easily, even though it was swollen by the heavy rain.

V. Put in *could* or *was/were able to*. Sometimes either is possible. Use a negative if necessary.

1. Suddenly all the lights went out. We **couldn't** see a thing.
2. The computer went wrong, but luckily Emma **was able to** put it right again.
3. There was a big party last night. You **could** hear the music half a mile away.
4. I learnt to read music as a child. I **could/ was able to** read it when I was five.
5. People heard warnings about the flood, and they **were able to** move out in time.
6. The train was full. I **couldn't / wasn't able to** find a seat anywhere.
7. Mrs. Carter **was able to** put out the fire before the house burnt down.
8. I looked everywhere for the book, but I **couldn't** find it.
9. The plane **was able to** take off at eleven o'clock, after the fog had lifted.
10. It was foggy, so the plane **couldn't / wasn't able to** take off.

VI. Add question tags to the following statements.

1. He hardly ever makes a mistake, **does he?**
2. Nobody liked the play, **did they?**
3. She'd save money if she bought fresh food, **wouldn't she?**
4. She's very' funny. She's got a great sense of humour, **hasn't she?**
5. The area was evacuated at once, **wasn't it?**
6. Mr Smith usually remembered his wife's birthdays, **didn't he?**
7. It never works very well, **does it?**
8. He ought to have made a note of it, **oughtn't he?**
9. Neither of them offered to help you, **did they?**
10. There'll be plenty for everyone, **won't there?**
11. Let's go out for dinner tonight, **shall we?**
12. That isn't Bill driving, **is it?**
13. Nothing went wrong, **did it?**
14. There used to be trees here, **didn't there?**
15. This won't take long, **will it?**
16. Don't touch that button, **will you?**
17. I'm too late, **aren't I?**

18. Not a very good film, was it?
19. Somebody wanted a drink, didn't they?
20. They think he's funny, don't they?

VII. Fill in each blank with an appropriate preposition.

1. Yuri Gagarin lifted off into space aboard the Vostok 1 at 9.07 a.m. Moscow time on 12th April, 1961.
2. He was in orbit around the Earth at a speed of more than 17,000 miles per hour.
3. No one knew precisely what would happen to a human being in space.
4. How would the mind deal with the psychological tension?
5. How would the body react to the extreme changes in temperature?
6. We congratulate you on your successful flight.
7. The American people shared with the Soviet people their satisfaction for the safe flight.
8. After his death, his hometown was named after him.
9. China became the third country in the world to be able to independently carry out manned space flights.
10. China launched its first manned spacecraft into space on October, 2003.

VIII. Use the cues given to write a complete sentence.

1. nowadays/ our lives/ improved/ much/ progresses/ science and technology//
Nowadays our lives have been much improved by the progresses made in science and technology.
2. I/ want/ become/ astronaut/ I/ able/ travel/ fast/ sound//
I want to become an astronaut so that I will be able to travel faster than sound.
3. Sally Ride/ one/ five astronauts/ space shuttle Challenger/, completed/ successful six-day voyage/ space//
Sally Ride was one of the five astronauts on the space shuttle Challenger, which completed a successful six-day voyage in space.
4. Neil Armstrong/ famous! American astronaut/ known/ first/ walk/ the moon//
Neil Armstrong, a famous American astronaut, is known as the first person to walk on the moon.
5. July 20th 1969/ two Americans/ land/ moon/ spaceship/ name/ Apollo//
On July 20th 1969 two Americans landed on the moon in the spaceship named Apollo.
6. Yuri Gagarin/ first man/ travel/ space//
Yuri Gagarin was the first man to travel in space.
7. Yuri Gagarin/ make/ another space flight/ if/ tragic accident/ not occur//
Yuri Gagarin could have made another space flight if a tragic accident had not occurred.
8. China/ become/ third country/ world/ able/ independently/ carry/ manned space flights//
China became the third country in the world to be able to independently carry out manned space flights.