

Name _____

I Want to Be
an Astronaut

Vocabulary

- Read the Vocabulary Words and their meanings. Then use the Vocabulary Words to complete the paragraph.

navigation: the scientific practice of charting the position and course of an aircraft or ship

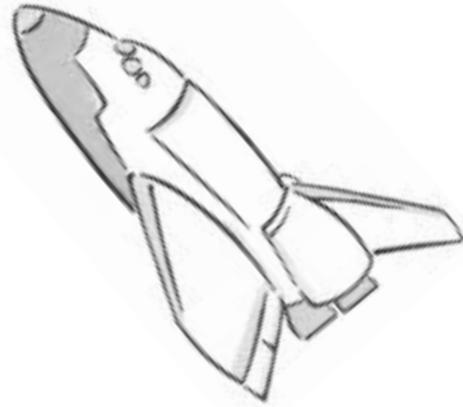
mission: a journey taken to perform a certain task

maneuver: to perform planned movements with skill

high-tech: scientifically advanced

simulation: imitating conditions to resemble the real thing, as for training

facilities: places or equipment used by people



Training to become an astronaut is very difficult. Before we go on our first

(1) _____, we need to learn a number of things. First, as the pilot, I must learn how to (2) _____ the shuttle so that we end up at the right place. The (3) _____ equipment that I use also helps me with (4) _____. To become more experienced in flying space shuttles, I went through a flight (5) _____ that imitated traveling in space. There are special (6) _____ where these training activities take place.

- Write the Vocabulary Word that belongs in each group.

7. assignment, purpose, _____

8. offices, laboratories, _____



TRY THIS! Write your Vocabulary Words according to how many syllables they have—two, three, or four. Choose the word that you think is the most interesting. Use it in a sentence.

- Read the paragraph. Then circle the letter of the best answer to each question. The underlined sentences will help you see some causes and effects.

Microbes, the tiny living things we often call germs, can live almost anywhere, even on the space station. Microbes get to outer space by hitchhiking on space-station materials and on astronauts. To eliminate microbes in the air, space-station air is kept very dry. The reason is that humid air promotes microbe growth. To eliminate water-borne microbes, all water is heated and treated with iodine. These steps help to keep astronauts germ-free and in good health while they spend months in space.

- 1 Which action causes microbes to get on the space station?
- A keeping air very dry
- B people calling them germs
- C adding iodine to water
- D hitchhiking on astronauts

**Tip**

Reread the second sentence. How do microbes get from Earth to the space station?

- 2 What is the effect of heating the water?
- F Astronauts become ill.
- G Water-borne microbes are eliminated.
- H The water dries out.
- J Microbe growth is promoted.

**Tip**

Find the underlined words related to this question. Read the entire sentence.

- 3 What effect does treating the air and water lead to?
- A spending months in space
- B bringing microbes into the space station
- C a germ-free environment for astronauts
- D iodine in the air

**Tip**

Reread the final sentence. What does it tell you is the result of all the earlier steps?

