

# The Space Race



## Get warmed up!

Discuss the following. Work in pairs or in groups.

- How many words connected with space do you know in English?
- Would you like to travel to another planet? Why?/Why not?
- Do you think people will have holidays on other planets in the future?



## Reading 1.17

**1** Read the article quickly and match the information on the left with what it refers to on the right.

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 2002 NT7      | a how often the asteroid goes round the Sun      |
| 2 July 2002     | b the name of an asteroid                        |
| 3 February 2019 | c the asteroid was discovered                    |
| 4 February 2060 | d the asteroid will come very close again        |
| 5 2.2 years     | e the asteroid will probably just miss the Earth |

**2** Read the article again and circle the correct word or phrase to show what each paragraph is about.

### Paragraph 1

Scientists **think** / **don't** think it will happen.

### Paragraph 2

We'll **never** / **probably** be in danger.

### Paragraph 3

We'll / We won't be able to find a solution.

### Paragraph 4

We're going to be **like the dinosaurs** / **prepared**.

## Invaders from Outer Space

**1**

Is a huge asteroid going to hit the Earth in February 2019? Probably not, according to scientists, but it's going to be close. The asteroid, called 2002 NT7, was discovered in July 2002. Since then, astronomers have been working hard to calculate its exact path. They are now fairly confident that it will just miss the Earth in 2019.

**2**

But will it ever collide with Earth in the future? Scientists are not sure. The next possible collision date is February 2060 and, as the asteroid orbits the Sun every 2.2 years, it's quite likely that it will hit us at some point in the future. If it does, it will almost certainly destroy an area the size of Europe and cause global climate changes.





3

But before you start panicking, we'll have plenty of time to prepare for the collision and prevent it from happening. Unlike in the movies, though, this probably won't be done by destroying it with nuclear weapons. There will be two simpler options. The first will involve landing a small rocket on the asteroid and 'driving' it slightly off course so it misses the Earth. The second option will be to use a 'solar sail', which is a bit like the sail on a ship, to change the asteroid's course.

4

Meteors (asteroids which enter the Earth's atmosphere) have hit the Earth before and caused huge damage. Indeed it's possible that a meteor was responsible for the dinosaurs becoming extinct. These days, however, we have the technology to detect them in time and to take appropriate action. Next time it happens, we'll be ready for it.

3 Read the article again and decide if the statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 Scientists are certain that 2002 NT7 will not hit the Earth in 2019. T/F
- 2 The Earth will next be in danger 2.2 years after February 2019. T/F
- 3 Scientists will use nuclear weapons to destroy dangerous asteroids. T/F
- 4 We will probably try to change the position of a dangerous asteroid. T/F
- 5 We know for sure that a meteor killed all the dinosaurs. T/F



## HOMework!

Do the Reading exercise on page 30 of your Workbook.

## DICTIONARY CORNER

Complete each sentence using a word from the article. Use the words in bold to help you.

- 1 We have to **p**\_\_\_\_\_ asteroids **from** entering the Earth's atmosphere.
- 2 Do we **have** t\_\_\_\_\_ **to** find a way to save the planet?
- 3 Protecting the Earth will i\_\_\_\_\_ building more powerful telescopes.
- 4 Technology is r\_\_\_\_\_ **for** major changes in the way we live our lives.
- 5 How do astronauts **p**\_\_\_\_\_ **for** space travel?
- 6 Is it l\_\_\_\_\_ **that** we'll discover life on other planets in the future?
- 7 NASA isn't r\_\_\_\_\_ **for** a manned mission to Mars yet.



## Have your say!

Which of these statements do you agree with? Say why.

- I'm not worried about an asteroid hitting the Earth. It's never going to happen!
- I'm worried about an asteroid hitting the Earth. It could happen any day!



## HOMework!

Do exercises 1 and 2 on page 31 of your Workbook.

# G Grammar 1

## will and be going to

👁 Look at *Grammar database 5* page 183 before you do the exercises.

**1** Write the question and negative form of these sentences. Use short forms where possible.

- 1 The solar sail will destroy the asteroid.
- 2 We'll be able to have holidays in space soon.
- 3 They're going to send a manned spaceship to Mars.
- 4 Mark is going to be an astronomer.
- 5 You'll have to wear a spacesuit.

**2** Choose the correct form to complete each sentence.

- 1 We'll / We're going to look round the Science Museum on Saturday. I can't wait!
- 2 Look! The Space Shuttle will / is going to take off in a minute.
- 3 Oh, do you need a hand with your science project?  
I'll / I'm going to help you!
- 4 I'll / I'm going to be a famous astronomer when I grow up.
- 5 Shall / Will we watch *Mars Attacks!* on DVD tonight?

**3** Choose the correct reason for your answers to exercise 2.

- 1 The plan was made **at** / **before** the moment of speaking.
- 2 This is a prediction **with no** / **based on** evidence.
- 3 This is **an offer** / **a prediction based on evidence**.
- 4 The speaker first had the intention **at** / **before** the moment of speaking.
- 5 This is a **question about a future fact** / **suggestion**.



## HOMWORK!

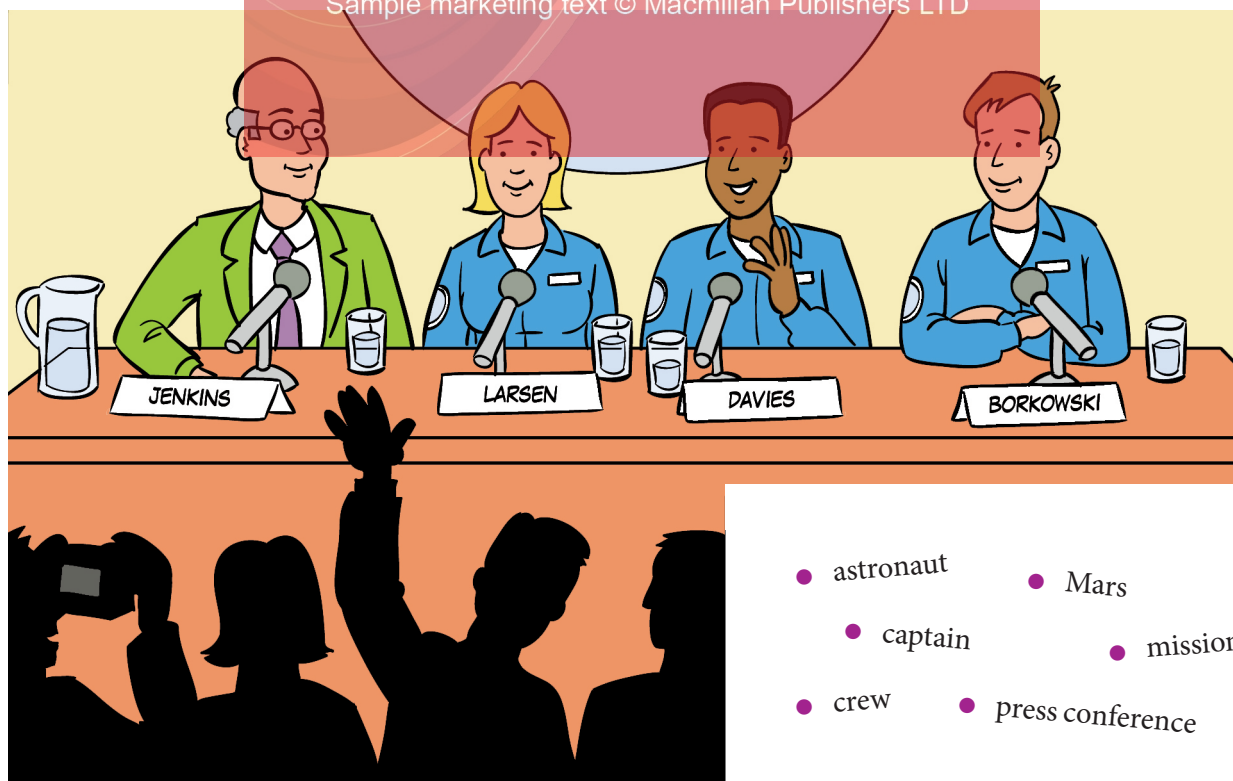
Do exercises 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 on pages 31 and 32 of your Workbook.



## Listening


**1** Describe what you think this picture shows. Use the words and phrases given to help you. Use a dictionary if necessary.

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- astronaut
- Mars
- captain
- mission
- crew
- press conference
- reporters



**2**  **1.18** Listen to this press conference. Match the people to the ideas they mention. You won't use all the ideas.

- |                       |   |                           |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1 Professor Jenkins   | — | a boredom on the trip     |
| 2 Captain Larsen      | — | b the dangers of the trip |
| 3 Astronaut Davies    | — | c the cost of the mission |
| 4 Astronaut Borkowski | — | d missing people at home  |
|                       |   | e the aims of the mission |
|                       |   | f finding life on Mars    |

**3**  **1.18** Listen again and write a word or short phrase in each gap.

- Professor Jenkins says that living things need \_\_\_\_\_.
- Captain Larsen says their daily \_\_\_\_\_ will help to keep them busy.
- Astronaut Davies thinks that they will get useful \_\_\_\_\_ from this trip.
- Astronaut Davies is looking forward to seeing \_\_\_\_\_ from Mars.
- Astronaut Brokowski says the trip will take \_\_\_\_\_.
- Astronaut Brokowski says getting \_\_\_\_\_ could be dangerous.



### HOMEWORK!

Do the Listening exercise on page 35 of your Workbook.

## DICTIONARY CORNER

Write a word from the box in each gap to complete the sentences.

develop • discover • invent

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- Do you think we'll ever \_\_\_\_\_ life on other planets?
- They're going to \_\_\_\_\_ the software further so it's much faster.
- I wish they'd \_\_\_\_\_ a machine that does your homework for you!

engine • equipment • machine

- TVs, videos and DVDs are all examples of electrical \_\_\_\_\_.
- There's a problem with the \_\_\_\_\_, so Dad's going to take the car to the garage.
- I'll put the washing \_\_\_\_\_ on this evening.

battery • electricity

- There's a tiny \_\_\_\_\_ in this calculator.
- If you don't pay the bill, they'll cut off your \_\_\_\_\_.

investigation • research

- Who's going to carry out the \_\_\_\_\_ into why the satellite crashed?
- We'll have to do a lot more \_\_\_\_\_ before we're sure that the asteroid won't hit us.



### HOMEWORK!

Do exercises 1 and 2 on page 33 of your Workbook.



## G Grammar 2

### Present simple and present continuous to talk about the future

👁 Look at *Grammar database 10* page 184 before you do the exercises.

#### 1 Choose the correct tense to complete each sentence.

- 1 Tonight, the planet Jupiter **appears** / **is appearing** in the sky at midnight.
- 2 I **meet** / **am meeting** Noah later to see his new telescope.
- 3 When you **see** / **are seeing** the rings of Saturn, you'll be amazed.
- 4 My favourite astronomy show, Tonight's Sky, **starts** / **is starting** at nine o'clock.
- 5 **Do you go** / **Are you going** to the astronomy club meeting this week?
- 6 The International Space Station **passes** / **is passing** overhead at ten tonight.

#### 2 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form, present simple or present continuous.

'Hello, and welcome to Tonight's Sky, the astronomy show. This is going to be a fantastic month! First of all, the full moon (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (**appear**) on the third. It's a great chance to take photos of the Moon, and I (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (**travel**) to Chesterton Astronomy Club to meet the members there and share some tips on photographing the Moon. Then, on the twelfth, the National Astronomy Festival (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (**begin**). That's the start of a week of events, and we at Tonight's Sky (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (**organise**) our own celebration of this fantastic hobby. We (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (**have**) a star party on the fourteenth, when you can come and look through some amazing telescopes. Saturn (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (**rise**) early that evening, so you might get the chance to see the wonderful rings! Also, on the sixteenth, I (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (**speak**) at the festival about some amazing discoveries. That (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (**start**) at seven, so get there in plenty of time. And now, let's get on with tonight's programme.'



#### HOMEWORK!

Do exercises 1, 2, 3 and 4 on pages 33 and 34 of your Workbook.



## Soundstation

#### 1 🎧 1.19 Listen to these words. Can you hear the difference between them?

hat • heart • hut

#### 2 🎧 1.20 Now listen to these words. For each pair, circle the word you hear.

- |              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 1 cat / cut  | 5 fan / fun       |
| 2 cart / cut | 6 ladder / larder |
| 3 had / hard | 7 bat / but       |
| 4 pan / pun  | 8 dark / duck     |

The man with the hat like a heart lives in a hut.



## Speaking

- 1 Imagine you are going on a trip to the Moon for two weeks. Here are some things you can take with you. Discuss which things will be useful on the trip and which won't. Use the words and phrases below.



## Phrase Bank!

P

### Expressing an opinion

I (don't) think we'll need ...

Maybe we should take ...

A(n) ... is(n't) going to be very useful ...

A(n) ... will/won't be very useful ...

I'm/We're definitely taking ...

We'll /We won't be able to use ...

### Giving reasons and results

... because ...

Because of this, ...

... as ...

... so ...

... since ...

... 'cause ...

... seeing as ...

One/The main reason is (that) ...

- 2 You can take three other things with you. What are you going to take, and why?

- 3 Turn to page 168. In pairs, do the role-play activity unit 5.

See Speaking database on page 174.

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## Use your English!

Complete the text with one word in each gap.



One day, millions of years (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the future, the Sun (2) \_\_\_\_\_ going to explode. Unfortunately, we can't prevent this (3) \_\_\_\_\_ happening and it means that humans won't (4) \_\_\_\_\_ able to live on Earth any more. Luckily, we (5) \_\_\_\_\_ lots of time to prepare (6) \_\_\_\_\_ it. It's likely (7) \_\_\_\_\_ this preparation will involve working out how to travel very long distances through space, and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ another suitable planet to live on. We (9) \_\_\_\_\_ need a planet that doesn't go round the Sun, but orbits another star instead. The nearest one is a very (10) \_\_\_\_\_ way away. With the technology we have today, the journey will (11) \_\_\_\_\_ 50,000 years! If we can discover a way to travel much faster – at just below the speed of light – then the journey will (12) \_\_\_\_\_ very quick: only six years!





## Writing

### Using set phrases

**1** Read the letter. Do you think it is well written? Why?/Why not?

Dear (1) **Whatever-your-name-is**,

(2) **I'm writing about** your (3) **advert** for pieces of land on the Moon, which I saw in 'Planet Monthly' last Tuesday.  
(4) **I'm thinking of** buying one. (5) **But I** (6) **want** some more information first.

(7) **Tell me** how much they cost.

(8) **Also**, (9) **I want you to** send me further information  
(10) **about** transportation to the Moon.

(11) **Can you** also let me know (12) **if I'll** be able to build a swimming pool on the land?

(13) **Please write back!**

(14) **Lots of love**,

(15) **Annabel**

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**2** Match a word or phrase in bold in the letter with a more formal word or phrase below.

- |  |       |                         |       |
|--|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| a However,                                 | _____ | i regarding             | _____ |
| b would like                               | _____ | j Yours faithfully,     | _____ |
| c Secondly,                                | _____ | k I am interested in    | _____ |
| d I am writing with regard to              | _____ | l Could you             | _____ |
| e I look forward to hearing from you.      | _____ | m Annabel Davis         | _____ |
| f I would be grateful if you could tell me | _____ | n advertisement         | _____ |
| g whether I will                           | _____ | o I wonder if you could | _____ |
| h Sir/Madam,                               | _____ |                         |       |

**3** Rewrite the letter using formal words and phrases.



### HOMEWORK!

Do exercises 1, 2, 3 and 4 on page 35 of your Workbook.

## GO Get ready to write

### Formal letter

#### 1 Read the letter and answer the questions.

- 1 Is the letter formal or informal?
- 2 Find words in the letter which have a similar meaning to these words and phrases:
  - a a place to stay
  - b more
  - c rooms and equipment which people can use
  - d able to be used
  - e say that something is definitely true
  - f need
- 3 Which of these do not take a question mark?
  - a I would be grateful if ...
  - b I wonder if you could ...
  - c Could you ...

#### 2 Read the writing task and make a plan in Composition Planner 5 on page 156.

You have seen this advertisement and would like further information. Carefully read the advertisement and the notes you have made. Then write a letter to the company.

Sample marketing text © Macmillan Publishers LTD

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing with regard to your advertisement for holidays on Mars, which I saw in 'The Daily Gazette' on 24th July. I am very interested in a weekend break to Mars. However, I would like some more information first.

I would be grateful if you could let me know the exact cost of a three-day trip during the summer, including transportation and accommodation, for two adults and two children (aged twelve and fourteen).

Secondly, I wonder if you could send me further information about the facilities which are available at the Martian Hotel. My daughter would particularly like to know whether there is a nightclub.

Could you also confirm that we will not require either injections or passports?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Steve Knight

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## The Space Bus

Would you like to see the Earth from space?

Now you can!!!

- 6-hour and 12-hour trips round the world on the new Space Bus
- reasonable prices
- trips every Saturday and Sunday in Summer

**The Space Bus** the most exciting trip you'll ever take!

For further information, please contact:  
**The Space Bus Corporation**

- 6-hour trip sounds enough how much - 1 adult, 2 kids?
- seats available Sat. 24th July?
- ad in 'The Daily News', 2nd Feb



### HOMEWORK!

You are now ready to write your letter. Write between 120 and 150 words. When your teacher has commented on your letter, write the final version.