Robert Gutierrez

September 28, 2014

Astronomy

**Expedition of**

**Apollo 15**

In the reading *To the Mountains of the Moon* I was fascinated to read what the astronaut and look through the eyes of an astronaut. The perception of being an astronaut is one that is often dreamt about, I really enjoy reading this chapter as it describes in detail what these men went through. This chapter was really dense and got to learn a lot from the people that went to the moon. There relationship as a group, as well as back home. In addition there passion to be the first people to ever walk in the moon.

At the beginning of this chapter it gave a small summery on how tough the life of a potential astronaut was. Aside from being a very difficult field, it truly drained relationships with many of astronauts’ spouses. Some were fortunate to be military men that were used to long distance relationship; however some were family people really found it hard to become astronauts. The difficulty of being an astronaut at the time was that they were truly the pioneers. Even though this was not the first people to set foot, they were the first to stay there the longest. The training of an astronaut was very well rigorous as they had to even train to sleep, that way they could be adjusted to their sleep pattern once deployed. Even though it seems like anyone can be an astronauts they truly have to skilled people.

Once in space it was fascinating reading their journey as they drive around looking for interesting rocks to take back. As well as the description of the moon. Their vehicle only sped to like six miles per hour, yet it was enough to get them place-to-place. It was very intriguing to read about all the gear they had as well. The astronauts had gloves that were truly hard to grasp stuff, these gloves were hard to operate and were always in between half way open and half closed. Dexterity was an issue out in space. Another very important tool was their oxygen. They always carry an emergency pack, which lasted an hour, which was a fair amount.

Through the mission the men created rules that I found interesting. For instance they made rules of not going to far in the vehicle. They could only travel a distance that could be considered walking distance. The main reason was because of the possibility of the vehicle breaking down.

Really enjoyed reading this excerpt as it had much detailed, it really portrayed the life of an astronaut in an expedition; the thoughts of these men as well as what they perceive with their own eyes. Even though they were not the first pioneers they surely participated in amazing expedition that only few have been part of.