

The prospect of migration to other planets

SPEAKING

LEVEL
Advanced

NUMBER
C1_2016S_EN

LANGUAGE
English



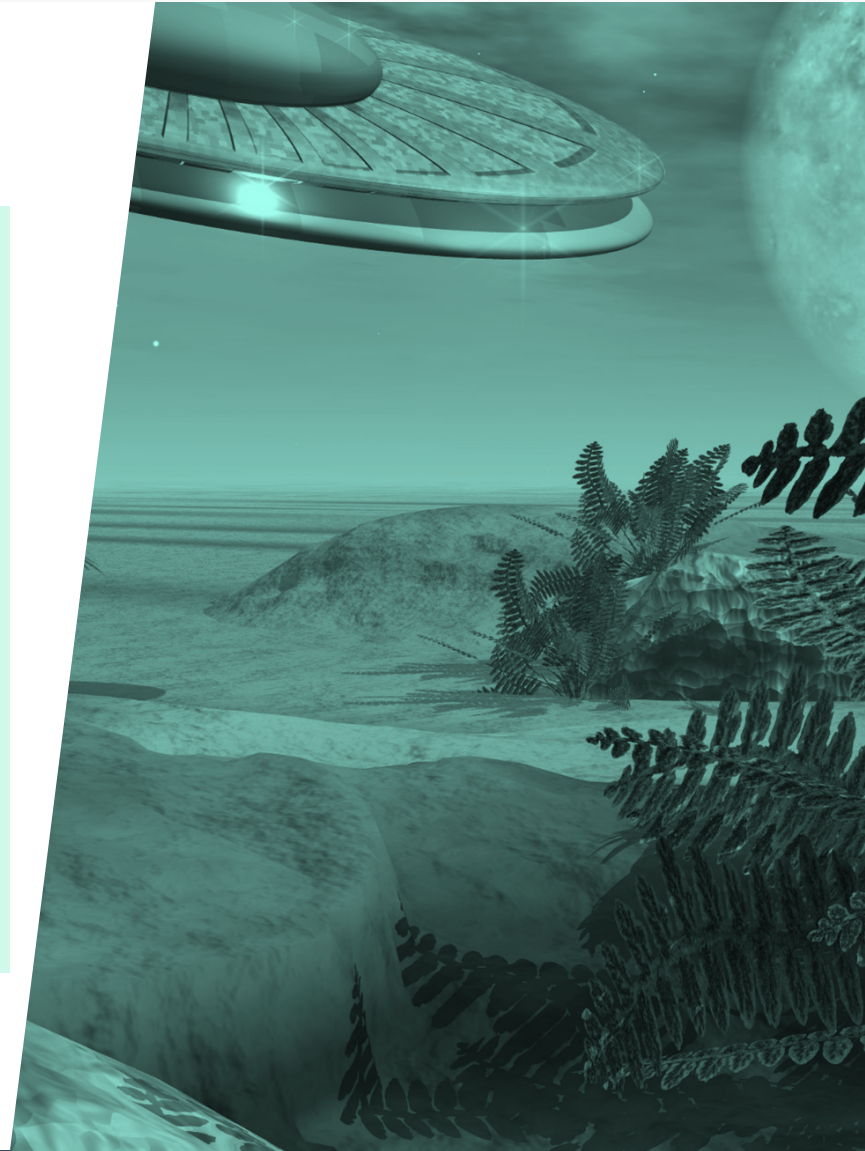
lingoda

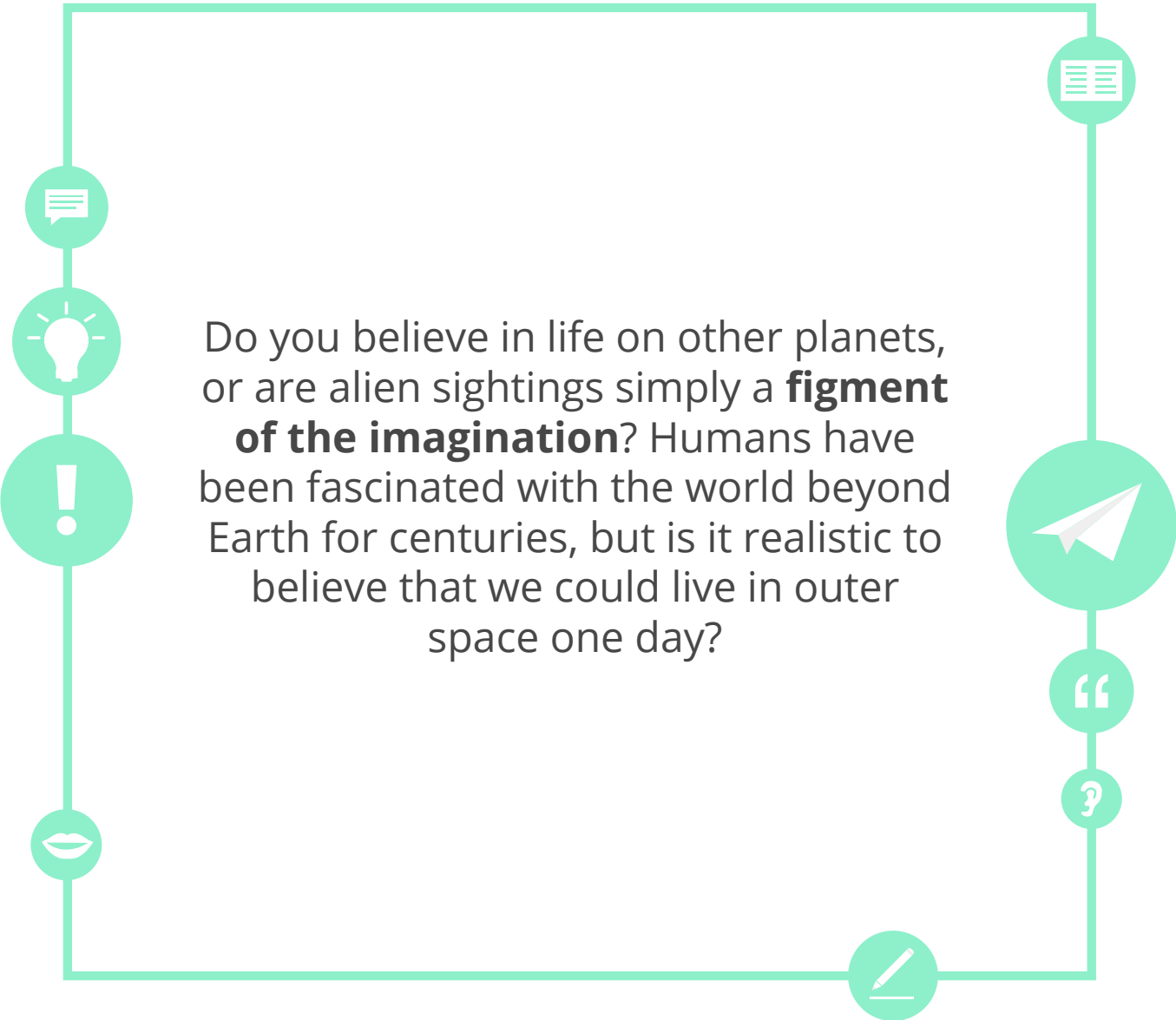




Goals

- Can read, listen to and understand a complex text about the prospect of moving to another planet.
- Can list the advantages and disadvantages of this and present my own view in depth.





Do you believe in life on other planets, or are alien sightings simply a **figment of the imagination**? Humans have been fascinated with the world beyond Earth for centuries, but is it realistic to believe that we could live in outer space one day?



Space and the world beyond



Were you interested in space when you were growing up? Did you ever go camping and star gazing? Did you watch a lot of science fiction films? Share your memories with your teacher.



Do you believe in aliens?

Do you believe in aliens? What do you think about this controversial topic? What arguments are there for and against their existence?



Challenge time!

Can you name all the planets of our solar system in English? Do you know any special way to remember their order?



A giant leap for humankind

“That’s one small step for a man, one giant **leap** for mankind.” These were the famous first words uttered by Neil Armstrong as he became the first person to walk on the moon. All around the world, people **were glued to their television screens** that evening; it was perhaps the television event of the century. Since the beginning of time, humans had dreamt of exploring space, and for centuries upon centuries it had seemed an impossible goal. Yet, on that one evening in 1969, ordinary people sat at home in their living rooms watching the broadcast of a **seemingly impossible** dream becoming reality.

At present, the prospect of exploring other planets in our solar system remains but a dream. However, according to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or **NASA**, this might not be the case for much longer. NASA are currently developing technology in an attempt to send humans to an **asteroid**, perhaps as early as 2025. Should this initial mission be successful, the next goal would be to send a human mission to Mars, with any luck, before 2050.



Vocabulary review

Look at the words and phrases below. Do you remember them from the text? Explain their meaning to your teacher.



leap

to be glued to
something

to be seemingly
impossible

NASA

broadcast

asteroid



The first man on the moon

The text refers to the first moon landing. Imagine how it must have felt to be the first man on the moon! What questions would you have wanted to ask Neil Armstrong after the event? Role play with your teacher as Neil Armstrong, then swap roles.



emotions

danger

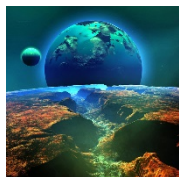
training

adventure



The life of an astronaut

Not everyone can be an astronaut – it's a really tough life!



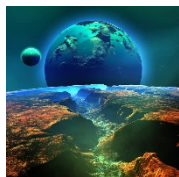
1

What do you know about the training astronauts have to do? What do you imagine would be the best and worst things about being an astronaut?



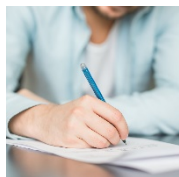
The life of an astronaut

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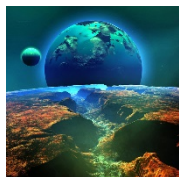
2

Imagine you are interviewing your teacher for a place in space training school, what interview questions would you ask? Swap roles afterwards!



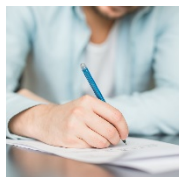
The life of an astronaut

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3

You are an astronaut heading on a trip that could last up to five years! You can bring three important belongings with you. What do you pack?



Get ready to listen



The next few slides will focus on
training your listening comprehension



Match the vocabulary

As you listen, note down a word or term from the text which matches with each definition below.

1. Getting consistently bigger over time.
2. Too many people in a space. Overcrowded.
3. A hope or scheme which is unattainable.
4. Huge, enormous, very large.
5. People who disagree with an idea, or are pessimistic about it.



The trip of a lifetime

A trip to Mars would be a thrilling journey, but one filled with risks. What's the greatest adventure or biggest risk you've ever undertaken? It could be a trip, or an experience you've had in your life. Tell your teacher about it.



adventure

danger

excitement



Uncertain times

Read the quote below from a leading scientist talking about climate change. How do you think our world will look in 50 years, and 100? What problems are we facing at present and how might they get worse?

//

Future generations will look back on our failure to act with dismay. Our actions now will have catastrophic consequences down the line.

//



For and against

Some people are staunch advocates of space exploration, for others it's a waste of money and a worthless pursuit. What are the arguments for and against space exploration? If you were in control of the government, would you invest in the research for a mission to Mars?



cost

explore

discover

risk



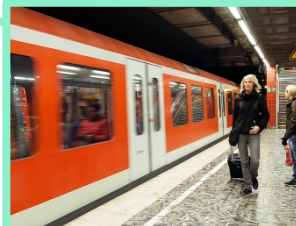
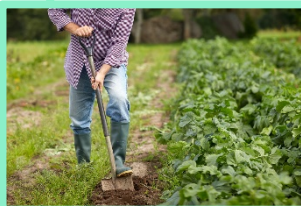
The prospect of migration to other planets

Will we ever migrate to other planets, or is this just a pie-in-the-sky idea?



Imagine the future

If humankind were to move to another planet, what would everyday life be like? What kinds of things would be different? Would sports be the same? What would we eat? Use the pictures below to help you.

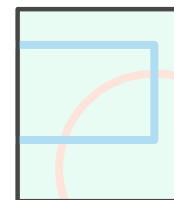




Message in a bottle

Dear Kathy,

Here I am, and I can hardly believe it!



You are part of a new convoy of people sent to live on Mars so as to free up space on Earth. Write a postcard to your friend, mentioning some of the differences you imagined in the previous exercise.



Reflect on the lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!





Transcription

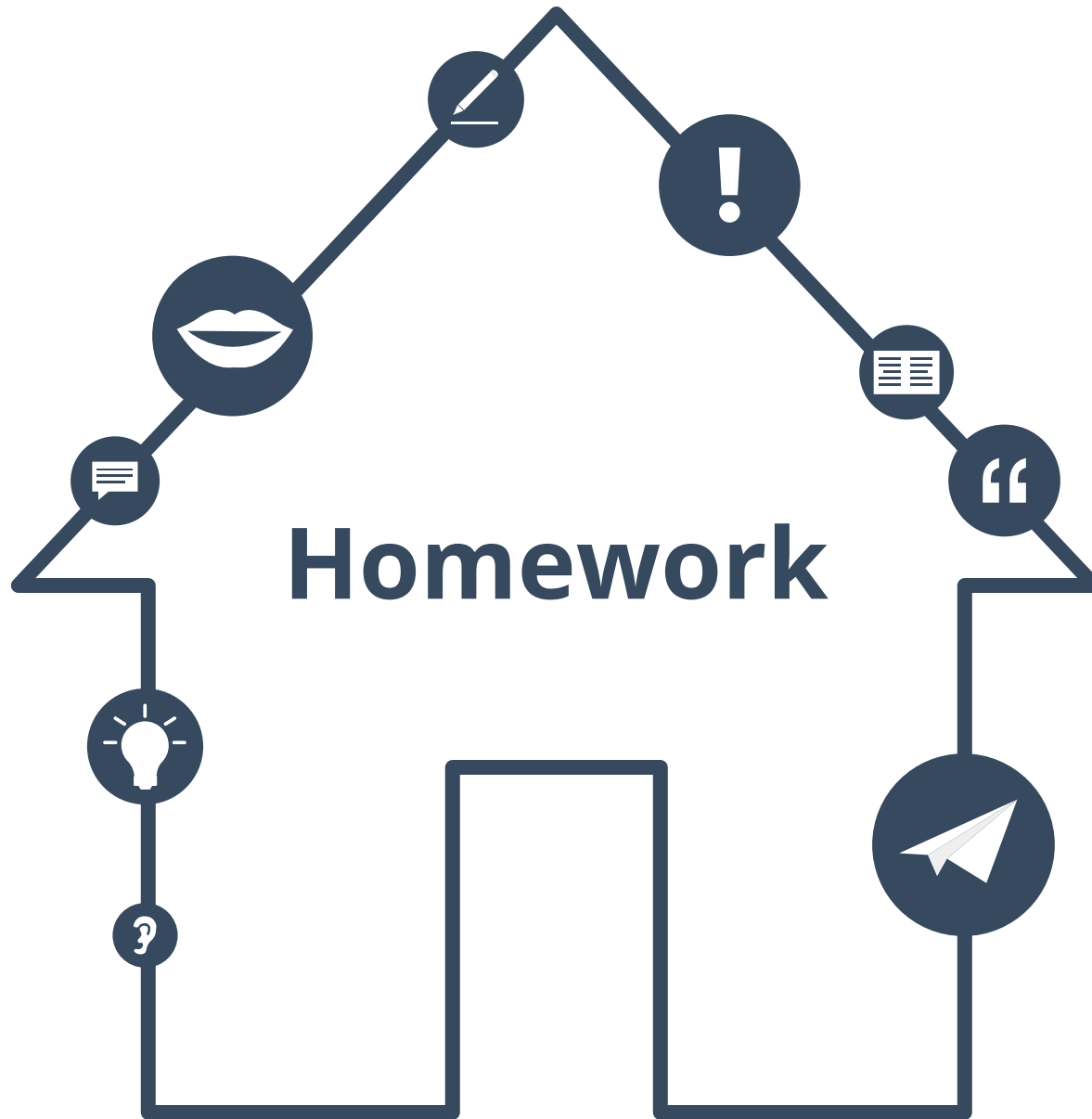
Many people argue that space exploration is now more essential than ever before. We live in uncertain times; a **steadily increasing** population on an already **over-populated** planet which faces huge problems such as climate change, and even the **rumbling threat** of nuclear war. Supporters of space exploration argue that the prospect of migration to other planets, though currently still a **pipe dream**, could present humanity with a get-out-of-jail-free card for an otherwise doomed population. Surely, at this moment in time, it makes **more sense than ever** to invest in programmes such as the mission to Mars since, if successful, they may prove to be the basis of a **lifeline** for future generations?

However, space exploration programmes come with a very steep price tag and not everyone is on board with the idea of spending such **colossal** amounts of money on them. Objectors claim that these funds would be better invested in other fields of research such as climate change or medicine rather than on such risky programmes that present no real guarantee of any return. Yet, despite the **naysayers**, work on space exploration programmes is set to continue into the future. All bets are off, who knows what the future holds, perhaps a Mars landing will turn out to be within reach after all?



Answer key

- p. 14:
1. Steadily increasing
 2. Over-populated
 3. Pipe dream
 4. Colossal
 5. Naysayers





Letter of support – or criticism!

How do you feel about space exploration? Is it a worthy cause to invest money in? Imagine your government has decided to invest \$1 billion in space exploration. Write a letter to the government in support of, or criticising this action.

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Reflect and evaluate

How did you find this lesson? Which parts of the class did you find easiest and which were most challenging?

A vertical sheet of white paper with a spiral binding on the left side and horizontal lines for writing.



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