



Working with the Text (Page 50)

Answer the following questions.

1. Where was Kalpana Chawla born? Why is she called an Indian-American? (3)

Ans: Kalpana Chawla was born at Kamal, in Haryana. She was born in India, but married an American and became a naturalised citizen. So she is called an Indian-American.

2. When and why did she go to the U.S? Who did she marry? (2, 3)

Ans: Kalpana went to the U.S. for higher studies in aeronautical engineering. There she married the flight instructor Harrison.

3. How did she become an astronaut? What gave her the idea that she could be an astronaut? (3)

Ans: Kalpana had already got a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering before she went to the U.S. She earned her Ph.D. in aerospace engineering. In 1994 she was selected by NASA for training as an astronaut. She was encouraged by the people around her.

4. What abilities must an astronaut have, according to the journalist? (6)

Ans: An astronaut needs to know a lot about biology and aeronautical engineering. He/ she must have wide knowledge of science subjects.

5. Describe Kalpana Chawla's first mission in space. (5)

Ans: Kalpana's first mission in the space shuttle, Columbia, was nearly 16 days long. She went around the earth 252 times. Among her colleagues were a Japanese and a Ukrainian astronaut. They performed so many experiments.

6. What does Kalpana Chawla say about pursuing a dream? Do you agree with her that success is possible? (7)

Ans: Kalpana Chawla, a girl from a small town, touched the skies. In her message to college students of Chandigarh, from space she said that it was always possible to realise one's dream. One could certainly get success provided one had the vision and the courage. Yes, I do agree with her on this point.

B. Read the newspaper report to find the following facts about the Columbia's ill-fated voyage.

1. Date and place of lift off: _____

2. Number of astronauts on board: _____

3. Number of days it stayed in space: _____

4. Number of experiments done by scientists: _____

5. Date of return journey: _____

6. Height at which it lost contact: _____

Ans:

1. 16 January 2003

2. Seven

3. About 16 days
4. eighty experiments
5. 1 February 2003
6. 200,000 feet

Working With Language (Page 51)

A. Match the following

1. unprecedented space tragedy	(a) • something that causes feelings of respect and wonder
2. certified flight instructor	(b) • having knowledge of a wide variety of subjects
3. space mission	(c) • nowadays, in these times
4. super specialisation	(d) • a set of jobs to be done in space by a group
5. encyclopaedic knowledge	(e) • a person with the correct qualification to teach people to fly planes
6. awe-inspiring	(f) • a sad accident of a kind that has never happened before in space
7. in this age	(g) • great expertise in limited field or a particular subject

Ans:

1. (f)
2. (e)
3. (d)
4. (g)
5. (b)
6. (a)
7. (c)

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