

2 Making Space the "New Frontier"

What sparked the America's need to reach for the stars?

1 A brief history of space exploration ?

- A. Watch the video and take notes.
- B. How did the idea to explore space originate?
- C. Use **Worksheet n°54** to make a timeline including five landmarks in the History of space exploration.

Cultural fact

The "Frontier" once referred to the border between settled lands and unexplored (by Europeans) territories in America.



2 A nation's desire

- A. **Groupwork.** Group A reads Text 1; group B reads Text 2.
- **Group A:** Why is space part of a "New Frontier" to explore, according to J.F. Kennedy?

- **Group B:** How does J.F. Kennedy justify the first American mission to the moon?
- B. Share your findings. How is America's grandeur presented by J. F. Kennedy?

Text 1

Senator John F. Kennedy accepting the Democratic Party Nomination for the Presidency of the United States. Memorial Coliseum, Los Angeles, July 15, 1960.

"But I tell you the New Frontier is here, whether we seek¹ it or not. Beyond that frontier are the uncharted² areas of science and space, unsolved problems of peace and war, unconquered pockets of
5 ignorance and prejudice, unanswered questions of poverty and surplus. It would be easier to shrink back³ from that frontier, to look to the safe mediocrity of the past, to be lulled⁴ by good intentions and high rhetoric [...]. But I believe the times demand new invention, innovation, imagination, decision. I am asking each of you
10 to be pioneers on that New Frontier. My call is to the young in heart, regardless of age – to all who respond to the scriptural call: 'Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed⁵.'"

1 look for • 2 unexplored • 3 reculer • 4 bercé •
5 consterné

Text 2

President John F. Kennedy makes his "Moon speech". Rice University, Houston, September 12, 1962.

"For the eyes of the world now look into space, to the moon and to the planets beyond [...]. The vows¹ of this nation can only be fulfilled² if we in this nation are first, and, therefore, we intend to be first
5 [...]. In short, our leadership in science and in industry, our hopes for peace and security, our obligations to ourselves as well as others, all require us to make this effort, to solve these mysteries, to solve them for the good of all men, and to become the world's leading
10 space-faring nation. [...]
We choose to go to the moon [...] We choose to go to the moon in this decade [...], not because they are easy, but because they are hard, because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and
15 skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to³ postpone⁴, and one which we intend to win, and the others, too."

1 vœux • 2 réalisé • 3 refuser • 4 remettre à plus tard