

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What is the author's main purpose for writing *So You Want to Go to Mars*?
 - Ⓐ to entertain
 - Ⓑ to inform
 - Ⓒ to persuade
 - Ⓓ to entertain and persuade
2. If people on a mission to Mars are **compatible**, they will _____.
 - Ⓐ start something new
 - Ⓑ never talk to one another
 - Ⓒ fight all the time
 - Ⓓ work together well
3. What is the main idea of the section "Cosmic Radiation Is Bad"?
 - Ⓐ Engineers are studying ways to protect astronauts from radiation on long space journeys.
 - Ⓑ The increased mass of a spaceship means that it must use more fuel.
 - Ⓒ Water can be used to protect a spaceship from radiation.
 - Ⓓ The Earth is protected from electromagnetic radiation.
4. How do scientists plan to solve the problem of zero gravity in the spaceships?
 - Ⓐ There is no way to solve this problem.
 - Ⓑ Scientists plan to solve the problem using artificial gravity.
 - Ⓒ Scientists plan to solve the problem with specially designed spacesuits.
 - Ⓓ Zero gravity is not a problem.

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5. How are the Falcon Heavy rocket and the Space Launch System similar?
 - Ⓐ They are both not powerful enough to make a trip to Mars.
 - Ⓑ They both have a magnetic field to protect against radiation.
 - Ⓒ They will both carry people to Mars.
 - Ⓓ They are both made by NASA.
6. What is the first step in a successful mission to Mars?
 - Ⓐ discovering new ways of farming on Mars
 - Ⓑ finding enough volunteers to go on the journey
 - Ⓒ building a spaceship powerful enough to make the journey
 - Ⓓ finding a way to carry enough water for survival on Mars
7. Which of the following sentences informs?
 - Ⓐ So, engineers—to your workstations!
 - Ⓑ If a trip to the Red Planet is still your vision of paradise, Mars One could be the answer.
 - Ⓒ This is your chance!
 - Ⓓ NASA is talking about a possible round trip to Mars in about 2033.
8. People who want to live on Mars would need to construct a _____ in order to survive.
 - Ⓐ habitat
 - Ⓑ colony
 - Ⓒ spaceship
 - Ⓓ mall
9. What is the effect of Mars being a rocky and dusty land?
 - Ⓐ The water will get dirty.
 - Ⓑ Equipment can be easily damaged.
 - Ⓒ People will have to wear goggles to protect their eyes.
 - Ⓓ People will have to water their gardens often.

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10. What is the effect of zero gravity on the body over a long period of time?

- Ⓐ The body gets healthier and stronger.
- Ⓑ The body gets stretched out and grows significantly.
- Ⓒ Muscles shrink and bones weaken.
- Ⓓ There is no effect on the body.

11. **Extended Response:** After reading *So You Want to Go to Mars?* would you want to be one of the first people sent to live on Mars? Why or why not?

12. **Extended Response:** In what ways did the Biosphere 2 project provide important information about a mission to Mars?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

So You Want to Go to Mars?*Main Comprehension Skill: Author's Purpose*

1. Ⓑ *Author's Purpose*
2. Ⓓ *Vocabulary*
3. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
4. Ⓑ *Main Idea and Details*
5. Ⓐ *Compare and Contrast*
6. Ⓒ *Sequence Events*
7. Ⓓ *Author's Purpose*
8. Ⓐ *Vocabulary*
9. Ⓑ *Cause and Effect*
10. Ⓒ *Cause and Effect*
11. Students' answers will vary, but they should use details and examples from the text to support their answers. For example, students might cite that it would not be desirable to go because it is a one-way mission with many dangers.
12. Students should cite that the Biosphere 2 project gave a glimpse into what it would be like for a group of people to live in a confined environment. Additionally, the project pointed to problems that arose in hydroponic farming and a shortage of oxygen.