



# SMART JUNIORS 2

**Moon Exploration or Earth  
Preservation: A Dilemma**

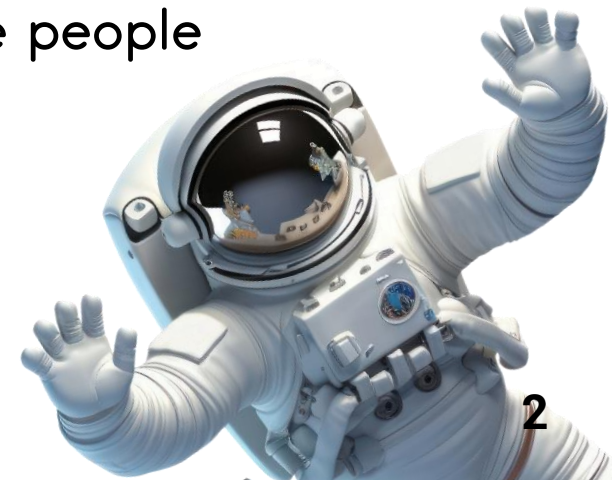
**Lesson 21**

**Read for Detail**

- Listen and review the essay.

## Moon Exploration or Earth Preservation: A Dilemma

- ▶ Humans have always been curious about the unknown, and space exploration is one of the most exciting ways to satisfy that curiosity. As of August 2023, four countries have successfully landed a spacecraft on the moon. These historic events have led to a number of scientific discoveries. However, space exploration is also a costly and complex activity. Although some people say we should keep sending people to the moon, others believe we should focus on solving the many problems facing Earth.



# LISTEN AND REVIEW

- ▶ On the one hand, many people believe exploring the moon can lead to significant scientific discoveries that might benefit Earth, like new resources and technology. For example, during the Apollo missions, scientists found valuable minerals like helium-3 on the moon, which could change how we produce energy on Earth. Also, space tech developed for moon missions, like solar panels and water purifiers, can help with Earth's environmental issues. Space missions can also encourage young people to pursue exciting careers in space exploration. We've seen astronauts like Neil Armstrong, whose historic moonwalk inspired a lot of people to become astronauts.



# LISTEN AND REVIEW

- ▶ On the other hand, many people insist on focusing on our problems here on Earth first. Addressing Earth's problems is crucial for human survival. If we don't focus on finding solutions for climate change, severe consequences like intense weather events, droughts, and floods will endanger people's lives. They also argue that money spent on space exploration could be better used to improve the quality of life for everyone. For instance, investing in clean energy, education, and healthcare leads to a better society.



# LISTEN AND REVIEW

- ▶ In conclusion, both sides have their benefits. Exploring the moon offers exciting opportunities for science and inspiration, but it's also costly. On the flip side, addressing Earth's problems is important, given the challenges we face nowadays. In my view, we should strike a balance between moon exploration and addressing Earth's problems. While we can venture to the moon, we shouldn't forget about our planet's needs. If we prioritize both advancing our knowledge and making the world a better place, we could see significant improvements in our society.



- Read Paragraph 1 and tell whether the statement is True or False.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. More than four countries have successfully landed a spacecraft on the moon as of August 2023.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Exploring space is interesting but it costs a lot of money.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. All people argue that we should focus on fixing Earth's problems first instead of exploring the moon.

## Moon Exploration or Earth Preservation: A Dilemma | Paragraph 1

Humans have always been curious about the unknown, and space exploration is one of the most exciting ways to satisfy that curiosity. As of August 2023, four countries have successfully landed a spacecraft on the moon. These historic events have led to a number of scientific discoveries. However, space exploration is also a costly and complex activity. Although some people say we should keep sending people to the moon, others believe we should focus on solving the many problems facing Earth.

## Useful Expressions

Although some people say we should keep sending people to the moon, **others believe** we should focus on solving the many problems facing Earth.



## Let Me Try!

Although some people say \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_,  
others believe \_\_\_\_\_.

## Moon Exploration or Earth Preservation: A Dilemma | Paragraph 1

Humans have always been curious about the unknown, and space exploration is one of the most exciting ways to satisfy that curiosity. As of August 2023, four countries have successfully landed a spacecraft on the moon. These historic events have led to a number of scientific discoveries. However, space exploration is also a costly and complex activity. Although some people say we should keep sending people to the moon, others believe we should focus on solving the many problems facing Earth.

- **Read Paragraph 2 and identify three advantages of moon exploration mentioned in the passage.**

1

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2

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3

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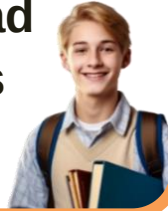
## Moon Exploration or Earth Preservation: A Dilemma | Paragraph 2

On the one hand, many people believe exploring the moon can lead to significant scientific discoveries that might benefit Earth, like new resources and technology. For example, during the Apollo missions, scientists found valuable minerals like helium-3 on the moon, which could change how we produce energy on Earth. Also, space tech developed for moon missions, like solar panels and water purifiers, can help with Earth's environmental issues. Space missions can also encourage young people to pursue exciting careers in space exploration. We've seen astronauts like Neil Armstrong, whose historic moonwalk inspired a lot of people to become astronauts.



## Useful Expressions

**On the one hand**, many people believe exploring the moon can lead to significant scientific discoveries that might benefit Earth...



## Let Me Try!

On the one hand, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

## Moon Exploration or Earth Preservation: A Dilemma | Paragraph 2

On the one hand, many people believe exploring the moon can lead to significant scientific discoveries that might benefit Earth, like new resources and technology. For example, during the Apollo missions, scientists found valuable minerals like helium-3 on the moon, which could change how we produce energy on Earth. Also, space tech developed for moon missions, like solar panels and water purifiers, can help with Earth's environmental issues. Additionally, space missions can also encourage young people to pursue exciting careers in space exploration as we've seen with astronauts like Neil Armstrong, whose historic moonwalk inspired a lot of people to become astronauts.

- Read Paragraph 3 and tick the boxes that complete the statement below.

To improve the quality of life for everyone on Earth, money should be invested in...

- clean energy
- weather conditions
- healthcare
- education
- space missions

## Moon Exploration or Earth Preservation: A Dilemma | Paragraph 3

On the other hand, many people insist on focusing on our problems here on Earth first. Addressing Earth's problems is crucial for human survival. If we don't focus on finding solutions for climate change, severe consequences like intense weather conditions, droughts, and floods will endanger people's lives. They also argue that money spent on space exploration could be better used to improve the quality of life for everyone. For instance, investing in clean energy, education, and healthcare leads to a better society.

## Useful Expressions

**On the other hand**, many people insist on focusing on our problems here on Earth first.



## Let Me Try!

On the other hand, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

## Moon Exploration or Earth Preservation: A Dilemma | Paragraph 3

On the other hand, many people insist on focusing on our problems here on Earth first. Addressing Earth's problems is crucial for human survival. If we don't focus on finding solutions for climate change, severe consequences like intense weather events, droughts, and floods will endanger people's lives. They also argue that money spent on space exploration could be better used to improve the quality of life for everyone. For instance, investing in clean energy, education, and healthcare leads to a better society.

# READ FOR DETAIL

- Read Paragraph 4 and match each numbered statement with its appropriate description from A-C.

- A stresses the importance of addressing pressing global concerns
- B recognizes the value and challenges associated with moon exploration
- C emphasizes the need for responsible distribution of resources between moon exploration and Earth's issues

## Moon Exploration or Earth Preservation: A Dilemma | Paragraph 4

In conclusion, both sides have their benefits.

- ① Exploring the moon offers exciting opportunities for science and inspiration, but it's also costly. On the
- ② flip side, addressing Earth's problems is important, given the challenges we face nowadays. In my view,
- ③ we should strike a balance between moon exploration and addressing Earth's problems. While we can venture to the moon, we shouldn't forget about our planet's needs. If we prioritize both advancing our knowledge and making the world a better place, we could see significant improvements in our society.

## Making Connections

- The author mentioned **3 advantages** of moon exploration. Read the following facts and figure out which type of advantage they would belong to if added in the essay. Write the number in the box.
- The first female astronaut to go to outer space was Valentina Tereshkova. Many girls aspire to become future astronauts like her.
- Satellites were used for many moon missions. Nowadays, satellites provide internet around the world.
- Scientists discovered that the moon has water in the form of ice which could be used for water supply if astronauts live in the moon.

## Moon Exploration or Earth Preservation: A Dilemma | Paragraph 2

On the one hand, many people believe exploring the moon can lead to significant scientific discoveries that might benefit Earth, like new <sup>1</sup>resources and <sup>2</sup>technology. For example, during the Apollo missions, scientists found valuable minerals like helium-3 on the moon, which could change how we produce energy on Earth. Also, space tech developed for moon missions, like solar panels and water purifiers, can help with Earth's environmental issues. Space missions can also <sup>3</sup>encourage young people to pursue exciting careers in space exploration. We've seen astronauts like Neil Armstrong, whose historic moonwalk inspired a lot of people to become astronauts.

## Making Inferences

- Read the highlighted statement and answer the question.

**What are some problems that may happen if people try to do both things at the same time - *learn more about outer space and make the Earth better?***

## Moon Exploration or Earth Preservation: A Dilemma | Paragraph 4

In conclusion, both sides have their benefits. Exploring the moon offers exciting opportunities for science and inspiration, but it's also costly. On the flip side, addressing Earth's problems is important, given the challenges we face nowadays. In my view, we should strike a balance between moon exploration and addressing Earth's problems. While we can venture to the moon, we shouldn't forget about our planet's needs. **If we prioritize both advancing our knowledge and making the world a better place, we could see significant improvements in our society.**

- **Discuss with your teacher.**

## Moon Exploration vs. Earth Preservation

1. In your opinion, which is more important:  
moon exploration or earth preservation? Why?
2. Does moon exploration affect earth preservation?  
In what ways?





## ■ Complete the summary of the essay.

Space e\_\_\_\_\_ is a thrilling adventure, and missions to the moon have taught us important things. Some say it is worth it because of its advantages, like new resources and t\_\_\_\_\_ such as solar panels and water purifiers. Moreover, it inspires young people to pursue c\_\_\_\_\_ as astronauts. But others think we should focus more on E\_\_\_\_\_ problems. Climate change is causing bad consequences like extreme weather and droughts. They say we should invest our m\_\_\_\_\_ in things like clean energy, education, and healthcare to make life better here. So, it's about finding the right b\_\_\_\_\_ between exploring space and taking care of our own planet. We can learn and explore about outer space but we also have help make Earth a better place.





A large, stylized graphic featuring a green diagonal background. On the left, a photograph of a space station in orbit over Earth is visible. The text 'WHAT'S NEXT...' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif font with a green drop shadow. The background is decorated with several orange and light green circles of varying sizes.

# WHAT'S NEXT...

In the next lesson, we're going to learn a critical thinking skill: "Supporting an Argument."

See you next time!