

British Astronaut returns to Earth

Recently, British astronaut Tim Peake returned to earth from the International Space Station (ISS). His journey back to earth was with two other spacemen on board a Soyuz space capsule that travelled through the atmosphere, with temperatures outside reaching more than 1,600°C (2,912°F).

Peake travelled home with fellow astronaut Col Tim Kopra from NASA, and Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko. The three completed their deorbit to enter the Earth's atmosphere at around 10am on Saturday June 18. The Soyuz space capsule landed by parachute on its side in a remote spot in the vast scrubland steppe of Kazakhstan 15 minutes later.

Tim Peake, 44, spent six months on the ISS. On landing in Kazakhstan at the end of a seven-hour return journey he said "the journey back was incredible, a real ride. Best ride I've been on ever". He added, "It's great to be back".

Peake spent 186 days in space on board the ISS. He said it was "a life changing experience". He added, "I'm going to miss the view, definitely. I'd love some cool rain right now, it was very hot in the capsule and the suit's very hot... I might be having a pizza later, maybe a cold beer as well."

Peake, a former helicopter pilot, took part in more than 250 experiments on the space station. While there he performed a spacewalk. He also took part in the London marathon on a treadmill. The British spaceman inspired more than one million schoolchildren whom he often talked to. His efforts earned him an honour from the Queen for "extraordinary service beyond our planet."

Tim Peake was the first British astronaut to be sent to the ISS. His job was to contribute to scientific knowledge by conducting experiments in zero gravity for up to 14 hours a day.

SPEAKING

Think of three things you know about British astronaut Tim Peake. Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) What is the difference between an astronaut and a cosmonaut?
- 2) Who is Tim Peake?
- 3) What does ISS stand for?
- 4) How many experiments did the British astronaut do?
- 5) What did the Queen do?

Student B questions

- 1) How long was Tim Peake in space?
- 2) What did the British astronaut do whilst on board the ISS?
- 3) What does NASA stand for?
- 4) How hot was it outside the space capsule as it travelled through the atmosphere?
- 5) On landing what did Tim Peake say?

Note: NASA = National Aeronautics and Space Administration

British Astronaut returns to Earth – 20th June 2016

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with '**International Space Station**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs - Think of three things you might do aboard the ISS. Write them below and discuss.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs - Think of three experiments you might do on board the ISS. Discuss together.

SPEAKING / GAME

As a class in a circle. "I went on board the International space Station and I saw..." Repeat what the previous items were. Add one more item. Forget something and you are eliminated!

SPEAKING - PRESENTATION

Allow 5 minutes prep – In pairs/mini groups.

Prepare a two minute presentation on:

A day in the life of a spaceman/woman on board the International Space Station

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Would you like to visit the ISS?
- 3) Would you like to experience zero gravity?
- 4) Has anyone from your country stayed on board the ISS?
- 5) What do you think of Tim Peak's achievements?
- 6) How do you think the journey back to earth was in the space capsule?
- 7) Do you think the spacemen were frightened on their journey home through the atmosphere?
- 8) When will man return to the moon?
- 9) Will we see more international space stations in the future?
- 10) Have you learnt anything today?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Radio London* studio. Today's interview is: *British Astronaut returns to Earth.*

- 1) A journalist.
- 2) A space follower.
- 3) A British person.
- 4) An astronaut.

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. *Student A* is a reporter. *Student B* is Tim Peake. The subject is life on board the ISS. *3-5 mins.*

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION 1

In pairs / As a group – Discuss the journey to and from the ISS to Earth. How did you get to it? How did you get home? How did you feel? *5 mins.*

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION 2

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Discuss the following...

British Astronaut returns to Earth

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) When did you last do any experiments? Describe one!
- 3) What might a spaceman eat and drink on the ISS?
- 4) How do people in space go to the toilet?
- 5) How do the astronauts on the ISS sleep?
- 6) How does the ISS power itself?
- 7) What do the astronauts do on the ISS in their spare time?
- 8) Who is on the ISS right now?
- 9) Will you be booking your place on the ISS?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

British Astronaut returns to Earth – 20th June 2016

GAP FILL: READING

British Astronaut returns to Earth

Recently, British (1)___ Tim Peake returned to (2)___ from the International Space Station (ISS). His journey back to earth was with two other spacemen on board a Soyuz (3)___ that travelled through the atmosphere, with temperatures outside reaching more than 1,600°C (2,912°F).

Peake travelled home with fellow astronaut Col Tim Kopra from NASA, and Russian (4)___ Yuri Malenchenko. The three completed their (5)___ to enter the Earth's atmosphere at around 10am on Saturday June 18. The Soyuz space capsule landed by (6)___ on its side in a remote (7)___ in the vast scrubland steppe of Kazakhstan 15 minutes later.

Tim Peake, 44, spent six months on the ISS. On landing in Kazakhstan at the end of a seven-hour return journey he said "the (8)___ back was incredible, a real ride. Best ride I've been on ever". He added, "It's great to be back".

journey / astronaut / deorbit / cosmonaut / space capsule / parachute / earth / spot

Peake spent 186 days in space on board the ISS. He said it was "a life changing experience". He added, "I'm going to miss the view, (1)___ I'd love some cool rain right now, it was very hot in the capsule and the (2)___'s very hot... I might be having a pizza later, maybe a cold beer as well."

Peake, a former helicopter pilot, took part in more than 250 experiments on the space station. While there he performed a (3)___ He also took part in the London marathon on a (4)___ The British (5)___ inspired more than one million schoolchildren whom he often talked to. His efforts earned him an (6)___ from the Queen for "extraordinary service beyond our planet."

Tim Peake was the first British astronaut to be sent to the ISS. His job was to (7)___ to scientific knowledge by conducting experiments in zero (8)___ for up to 14 hours a day.

spacewalk / spaceman / suit / definitely / treadmill / gravity / contribute / honour

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

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Recently, British astronaut Tim Peake returned to earth from (1)___ International Space Station (ISS). His journey back to earth was with two other spacemen on board a Soyuz space capsule that travelled through the atmosphere, with temperatures outside reaching more than 1,600°C (2,912°F).

Peake travelled home with fellow astronaut Col Tim Kopra from NASA, (2)___ Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko. The three completed their deorbit to enter the Earth's atmosphere (3)___ around 10am on Saturday June 18. The Soyuz space capsule landed by parachute on (4)___ side (5)___ a remote spot in the vast scrubland steppe of Kazakhstan 15 minutes later. Tim Peake, 44, spent six months on the ISS. On landing in Kazakhstan at the end of a seven-hour return journey he said "the journey back was incredible, (6)___ real ride. Best ride I've been (7)___ ever". (8)___ added, "It's great to be back".

he / in / on / at / its / the / and / a

Peake spent 186 days in space on board the ISS. He said it was "a life changing experience". He added, "I'm going to miss the view, definitely. I'd love (1)___ cool rain right now, it was very hot in the capsule and the suit's very hot... I (2)___ be having a pizza later, maybe a cold beer as well."

Peake, a former helicopter pilot, took part in more than 250 experiments on the space station. (3)___ there he performed a spacewalk. He also took part in the London marathon on a treadmill. The British spaceman inspired more than one million schoolchildren (4)___ he often talked to. His efforts earned (5)___ an honour from the Queen (6)___ "extraordinary service beyond (7)___ planet."

Tim Peake was the first British astronaut to be sent to the ISS. (8)___ job was to contribute to scientific knowledge by conducting experiments in zero gravity for up to 14 hours a day.

our / for / his / him / some / whom / might / while

British Astronaut returns to Earth – 20th June 2016



GAP FILL: LISTENING

British Astronaut returns to Earth

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Peake travelled home with _____ Col Tim Kopra from NASA, and Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko. The three completed their deorbit to enter the Earth's atmosphere at around 10am on Saturday June 18. The _____ landed by parachute on its side in a remote spot in the vast scrubland steppe of Kazakhstan 15 minutes later.

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Peake spent 186 days in space on board the ISS. He said it was "a _____". He added, "I'm going to miss the view, definitely. I'd love some cool rain right now,

it was very hot in the capsule and the suit's very hot... I might be having a pizza later, maybe a cold beer as well."

Peake, a _____ pilot, took part in more than 250 experiments on the space station. While there he performed a spacewalk. He also took part in the London marathon on a treadmill. The _____ inspired more than one million schoolchildren whom he often talked to. His efforts earned him an honour from the Queen for "_____ beyond our planet."

Tim Peake was the first British astronaut to be sent to the ISS. His job was to contribute to scientific knowledge by conducting experiments _____ up to 14 hours a day.

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING / DRAWING

1) On the board - *In pairs/small groups* - Draw a map of the International Space Station. Describe and label it then tell the class about a week aboard it as a guest astronaut. Add onto your drawing some other things you might see from the ISS. *5-10 mins.*

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) Tim Peake _____
- 2) The spaceman _____
- 3) Space _____

3) Write down 50 words about: **British Astronaut returns to Earth**. Your words can be read out in class.

4) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **British Astronaut returns to Earth**. Your email can be read out in class.

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) astronaut
- 2) cosmonaut
- 3) Kazakhstan
- 4) definitely
- 5) incredible
- 6) capsule
- 7) space
- 8) temperatures
- 9) journey
- 10) earth

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) atmosphere
- 12) parachute
- 13) scrubland
- 14) suit
- 15) whom
- 16) treadmill
- 17) marathon
- 18) honour
- 19) gravity
- 20) knowledge

British Astronaut returns to Earth – *20th June 2016*