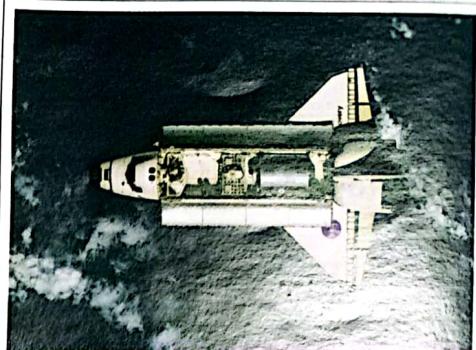


Unit 5

1 Look at the text below. What is it?

- a a blog
- b a newspaper article
- c a biography

2 Look and read. What kinds of things do astronauts do in space?



Stephanie Wilson is an astronaut who is a mission specialist for NASA. She was the second African American woman to go into space. After training as an engineer, she was selected by the NASA space programme in 1996. She went on her first space mission in 2006, which was on board the space shuttle *Discovery*. This shuttle mission, which spent 13 days in space, was to test new equipment and to increase the safety of space shuttles.

Working in space is a difficult job. Astronauts have to train for thousands of hours at a space centre, which is in the USA, to qualify for a space mission. The majority of astronauts first study to be an engineer before they become an astronaut. On their missions, they do science experiments and they repair things in space. They also take photos, which help us see and learn about the beauty of our planet.

Stephanie Wilson has got a great deal of spaceflight experience, which she has gained from participating in many interesting missions into space. Her last space mission, which was in 2007, involved a spacewalk. This is a very exciting thing for any astronaut to do!



3 Read and choose the best answer.

- 1 Stephanie Wilson is an astronaut who works ...
 - a on space missions
 - b on the moon
 - c in Africa
- 2 Her job is ...
 - a an engineer
 - b a mission specialist
 - c a scientist
- 3 She went on her first space mission in 2006, which was to ...
 - a test new equipment
 - b train for the space programme
 - c take photos
- 4 Astronauts must train for thousands of hours ...
 - a in space
 - b in a space shuttle
 - c at a space centre
- 5 On her last space mission, Stephanie Wilson ...
 - a repaired a broken space shuttle
 - b did a spacewalk
 - c took photos of the Earth

4 Read, think and discuss.

- 1 Do you think being an astronaut is a dangerous job? Why/Why not?
- 2 Would you like to travel into space? Why/Why not?

5 Find these words and expressions in the text. What do they mean? Check in your dictionary. Write the definitions in your notebook.

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