

Social Studies / History Assessment: The Space Race and Neil Armstrong

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the life of Neil Armstrong and the significance of the 1969 Moon landing.

Read each question carefully. Use the word bank to help you with your answers. Ensure your written responses use clear, historical evidence.

In the 1960s, a period of intense competition known as the Space Race saw the United States and the Soviet Union racing to achieve major milestones in space exploration. On 20th July 1969, the Apollo 11 mission reached the Moon. Neil Armstrong, the mission commander, became the first human to step onto the lunar surface. He was joined by Buzz Aldrin, while Michael Collins piloted the command module in orbit. This event was broadcast live on televisions across the globe, reaching an audience of millions.

Word bank: Apollo 11 · NASA · Space Race · 1969 · Lunar Module · The Eagle · Tranquility Base · Buzz Aldrin · Michael Collins

1. Identify the name of the mission that first landed humans on the Moon and state the year it occurred. (2 marks)

2. Who were the three astronauts that made up the crew of the Apollo 11 mission? (3 marks)

3. What was the name of the landing craft that Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin used to descend to the Moon's surface? (1 mark)

4. Explain what the 'Space Race' was and why the United States wanted to reach the Moon before the Soviet Union. (4 marks)

5. Describe one major challenge the astronauts faced during the landing process. (3 marks)

6. Why was the moon landing considered such a significant moment in human history? Consider the impact on technology and global unity. (5 marks)

7. Nova the owl is stargazing. If a telescope costs £45.50 and a star map costs £12.75, how much change would you receive from a £100 note? (3 marks)

8. True or False: Neil Armstrong was the first person to walk on Mars. (1 mark)

9. What does the term 'Lunar' mean? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a labelled diagram of the Lunar Module, 'The Eagle', as it touches down on the surface of the Moon.



Extension challenge: Total: /25