

The business of space

Level

Intermediate

Tasks

- Practising saying figures
- Scanning an article to replace the missing figures
- Reading an article about space exploration
- Identifying words in the article from their definitions
- Doing a task arising from the article

How to use the lesson

- 1 Tell your students the lesson will be about space exploration. If appropriate, find out what they know about the first moon landing in 1969. Issue the worksheet and ask students to practise saying the figures. You may need to help them with saying 0.9%.
- 2 Ask students to scan the article and complete the missing figures, using some of the figures in exercise 1.

Answers

- (1) 40th (2) 11 (3) 13 (4) six (5) \$24 bn
 (6) \$150bn (7) 5% (8) 0.9% (9) 400,000 (10) 12,000

- 3 Students read the whole article. Ask students to summarise it. You may wish to look at any useful vocabulary, such as: *whizz-kid* / 'can-do' spirit / risk-averse / challenge.
- 4 Ask students to identify the words from their definitions.

Answers

- (a) mission (b) achievement (c) budget (d) to fund (f) ban

- 5 Ask students to work in small groups to complete the task. Then, ask each group to report back to the class. Encourage students to explain their decisions and the audience to ask questions. Finish the lesson by giving language feedback.

Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.nasa.gov/>

<http://www.esa.int/esaCP/index.html>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_exploration

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RMINS7MmT4>