



Adventure in Space

Read each paragraph below and answer the questions in complete sentences.

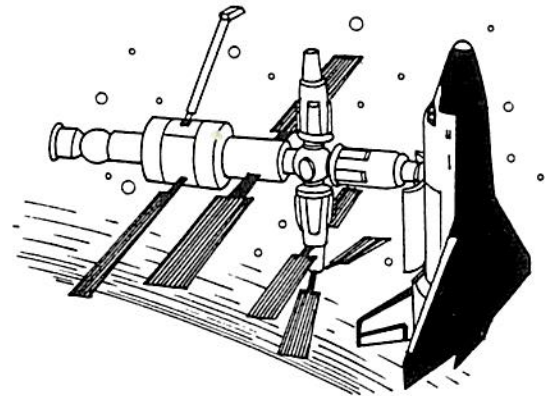
American space history was made in 1995 when astronaut Norman Thagard returned to Earth after 3½ months in space with two Russian cosmonauts. They were picked up by the space shuttle *Atlantis* from the Russian space station *Mir*. Thagard and the cosmonauts were laying the groundwork for constructing an international space station.



1. What is the main idea? _____

2. What are two details that support the main idea?

Robert "Hoot" Gibson commanded *Atlantis* from Cape Canaveral, Florida, to the space station *Mir* already orbiting 245 miles above Earth. He carefully guided the 100 ton shuttle to lock 12 hooks with 12 corresponding hooks on *Mir*. They remained docked for five days. Together, *Atlantis* and *Mir* made the largest spacecraft ever, as they hurtled around the Earth at 17,500 mph.



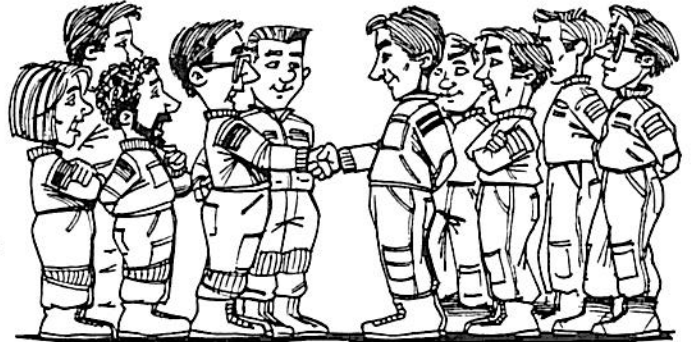
1. What is the main idea? _____

2. What are two details that support the main idea?



Adventure in Space (Cont.)

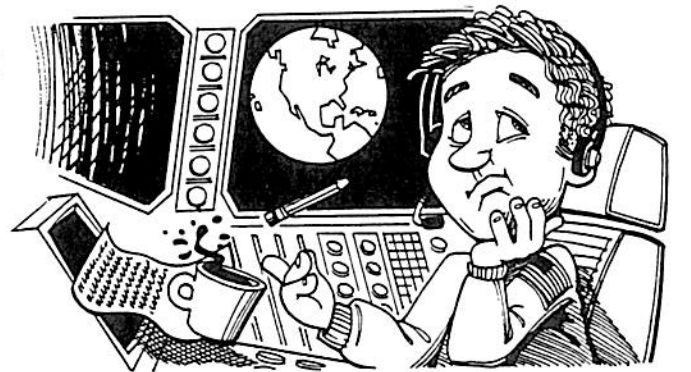
There was a total of ten crew members, both Russian and American, involved in this mission. They consisted of five members of the shuttle crew, Thagard and his two Russian crew mates, and the two cosmonauts who took Thagard, Dezhurov, and Strekalov's place.



1. What is the main idea? _____

2. What are two details that support the main idea?

During his 3½ months in space, Norman Thagard missed people and everyday life on Earth. Primarily, he missed his wife and three sons. He also missed speaking English, since he usually spoke Russian with the cosmonauts. Living in space for long periods of time proved to be difficult emotionally.



1. What is the main idea? _____

2. What are two details that support the main idea?

