



Devastating Impact on Our Night Sky highlighted

Description

A recent image shows Comet C/2025 R3 (PanSTARRS) surrounded by light from around 10,000 satellites in low Earth orbit. This picture highlights a growing problem: billionaires are affecting our night sky and astronomy.

Satellites reflect sunlight from their solar panels and antennas. Some experts warn that if SpaceX builds a million more satellites, they could block our view of the stars. These satellites would be much larger, with solar arrays ten times bigger. This increase could harm our ability to see the night sky clearly.

The image was taken from Bavaria, Germany, two weeks ago. To people watching, satellites look like small points of light moving slowly across the sky.

Many people are worried about these “modern-day monstrosities” because they change the way we experience space. The effects could be serious for scientists studying astronomy. More satellites may mean fewer clear nights for observing stars and planets.

This issue raises questions about how we balance technology with our natural world. The stunning image is a reminder of what we might lose if we do not pay attention.

Vocabulary List:

1. **satellites** //ˈsætəlaɪts// (noun): machines sent into space that orbit Earth
2. **billionaires** //ˌbɪljəˈneɪrɪz// (noun): people who have more than one billion dollars
3. **astronomy** //əˈstrɒnəmi// (noun): the study of stars, planets, and space
4. **reflect** //rɪˈflekt// (verb): to send back light or heat from surface
5. **arrays** //əˈreɪz// (noun): groups of equipment arranged to work together
6. **balance** //ˈbæləns// (verb): to give equal importance to two things

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What is Comet C/2025 R3 also known as?



- Option: Halley's Comet
- Option: Comet PanSTARRS
- Option: Comet Hale-Bopp
- Option: Comet NEOWISE

2. How many satellites are currently estimated to be in low Earth orbit?

- Option: 1,000
- Option: 10,000
- Option: 100,000
- Option: 1 million

3. Where was the image of Comet C/2025 R3 taken?

- Option: California, USA
- Option: Bavaria, Germany
- Option: Tokyo, Japan
- Option: Sydney, Australia

4. What do satellites reflect that can affect our view of the night sky?

- Option: Radio waves
- Option: Light
- Option: Sound
- Option: Heat

5. What could happen if SpaceX builds a million more satellites?

- Option: We could see more stars
- Option: The night sky could become clearer
- Option: They could block our view of the stars
- Option: There will be fewer satellites

6. What is a concern regarding the satellites mentioned in the text?

- Option: They might bring more tourists
- Option: They could change our experience of space
- Option: They will improve internet access
- Option: They will help with climate change

True-False

7. Comet C/2025 R3 is a recently discovered comet.



8. The image depicting 10,000 satellites around Comet C/2025 R3 was taken in China.
9. Experts believe that more satellites will help astronomers study space.
10. Satellites appear as bright flashes moving quickly across the sky.
11. The article mentions that satellites are much larger than before.
12. The increase in satellites will have no impact on stargazing.

Gap-Fill

13. The image shows Comet C/2025 R3 surrounded by _____ satellites in low Earth orbit.
14. Satellites reflect _____ from their solar panels and antennas.
15. People watching satellites see them as small points of light moving _____ across the sky.
16. Experts warn that if SpaceX builds a million more satellites, they could block our _____ of the stars.
17. The article discusses the effects of satellites on our _____ experience of space.
18. This issue raises questions about balancing technology with our _____ world.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Comet PanSTARRS 2. 10,000 3. Bavaria, Germany 4. Light 5. They could block our view of the stars 6. They could change our experience of space

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. False 11. True 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. 10,000 14. sunlight 15. slowly 16. view 17. natural

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL2

POST TAG



1. destruction
2. ESL learning
3. esl news
4. Level 2
5. night sky
6. stark image

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