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# NASA Considers Delay for Artemis II Launch After Helium Issue

## Description

NASA announced on Saturday that it is considering delaying the Artemis II rocket launch due to an issue with the helium flow. This announcement comes after the agency detected an interrupted flow of helium in the rocket's interim cryogenic propulsion stage, a crucial component necessary for launch operations.

To address this problem, NASA plans to return the Artemis II rocket and its Orion spacecraft to the vehicle assembly building at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. This operational shift is expected to significantly affect the proposed launch window in March.

Previously, NASA targeted 6 March for the launch, which aims to send four astronauts on a lunar mission. This announcement followed a successful fueling test, which had previously postponed operations. The crew for Artemis II comprises three Americans—Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, and Christina Koch—and one Canadian, Jeremy Hansen. As part of the preparations, the astronauts began a second quarantine on Friday, anticipating the upcoming launch, although NASA stated this timeline comes "with caveats," indicating further preparatory work is still required.

NASA has identified multiple potential launch dates in early March for the Artemis II mission, which will conduct a 10-day journey around the moon without landing. The mission aims to take humans farther into space than ever before, with plans to fly approximately 4,700 miles (7,600 km) beyond the moon's far side. This journey would set a new distance record, surpassing that established by Apollo 13 in 1970, and will serve to test various systems for future deep-space exploration.

Moreover, the Artemis II mission is regarded as a prelude to Artemis III, which is scheduled for 2028 and aims to achieve the first human landing on the moon since 1972.

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## Vocabulary List:

1. **Helium** /'hi:li.əm/ (noun): A chemical element that is a colorless odorless inert gas used in various applications including rocketry.
2. **Propulsion** /prə'pʌl.ʃən/ (noun): The act of driving or pushing forward typically used in the context of space vehicles.
3. **Quarantine** /'kwɔ:r.ən.ti:n/ (noun): A period of isolation to prevent the spread of disease or prepare for an important event.
4. **Preliminary** /prɪ'lim.i.nər.i/ (adjective): Serving as a preparation or introduction; initial.
5. **Exploration** /,ɛk.splə'reɪ.ʃən/ (noun): The action of traveling in or through an unfamiliar area in order to learn about it.
6. **Mission** /'mɪʃ.ən/ (noun): A specific task or duty assigned to an individual or group often with a particular goal in mind.



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## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. What issue is causing NASA to consider delaying the Artemis II launch?  
Option: Rocket engine failure  
Option: Helium flow interruption  
Option: Fuel leak  
Option: Navigation system error
2. What was the targeted launch date for Artemis II?  
Option: 6 March  
Option: 1 April  
Option: 15 May  
Option: 10 February
3. How many astronauts are part of the Artemis II crew?  
Option: 2  
Option: 3  
Option: 4  
Option: 5
4. Which Canadian astronaut is part of the Artemis II crew?  
Option: Chris Hadfield  
Option: Jeremy Hansen  
Option: David Saint-Jacques  
Option: Robert Thirsk
5. What is the planned distance the Artemis II mission will fly beyond the moon?  
Option: 3,000 miles  
Option: 5,000 miles  
Option: 4,700 miles  
Option: 6,000 miles
6. What is the primary goal of the Artemis II mission?  
Option: To land on the moon



- Option: To conduct a lunar mission without landing
- Option: To send humans to Mars
- Option: To establish a lunar base

**True-False**

- 7. NASA detected an interrupted flow of oxygen in the rocket's interim cryogenic propulsion stage.
- 8. The Artemis II mission aims to take humans farther into space than ever before.
- 9. The Artemis II mission will land on the moon during its mission.
- 10. NASA plans to conduct a successful fueling test before the Artemis II launch.
- 11. Artemis II is planned as a prelude to Artemis IV.
- 12. The Artemis II crew includes two Canadian astronauts.

**Gap-Fill**

- 13. NASA discovered an interrupted flow of helium in the rocket's interim cryogenic propulsion stage, a crucial component necessary for launch operations and \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 14. The Artemis II mission is expected to affect the proposed launch window in \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 15. The Artemis II crew includes three Americans and one Canadian, namely \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 16. Artemis II will conduct a 10-day journey around the moon without \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 17. The mission aims to fly approximately 4,700 miles (7,600 km) beyond the moon's far side and set a new distance record, surpassing \_\_\_\_\_ in 1970.
- 18. The Artemis II mission is regarded as a prelude to Artemis III, which is scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_ .



## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Helium flow interruption 2. 6 March 3. 4 4. Jeremy Hansen 5. 4,700 miles 6. To conduct a lunar mission without landing

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

**Gap-Fill:** 13. launch operations 14. March 15. Jeremy Hansen 16. landing 17. Apollo 13 18. 2028

## Vocabulary quizzes

### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. What type of sport involves racing vehicles on defined tracks?

- Option: Motorsport
- Option: Football
- Option: Basketball
- Option: Tennis

2. What term describes new ideas or products that improve technology?

- Option: Innovations
- Option: Traditions
- Option: Regulations
- Option: Criticism

3. What does it mean when an artist is the main performer at an event?

- Option: Headlining
- Option: Supporting
- Option: Opening
- Option: Soundchecking

4. What is the process of changing something to fit new conditions called?

- Option: Adaptation
- Option: Creation
- Option: Imitation
- Option: Simulation

5. What term refers to training or events before the official season starts?



- Option: Preseason
- Option: Offseason
- Option: Regular season
- Option: Finals

6. What does it mean to make information known to the public?

- Option: Disclosed
- Option: Concealed
- Option: Whispered
- Option: Withheld

7. What is the act of forming a theory without firm evidence called?

- Option: Speculation
- Option: Information
- Option: Fact
- Option: Assurance

8. What is the light colorless gas used in balloons?

- Option: Helium
- Option: Hydrogen
- Option: Nitrogen
- Option: Oxygen

9. What term describes the imitation of a situation or process?

- Option: Simulation
- Option: Reality
- Option: Disruption
- Option: Operation

10. What do we call machines used for transport such as cars and bikes?

- Option: Vehicles
- Option: Passengers
- Option: Cargo
- Option: Freight

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. The crowd erupted in \_\_\_\_\_ when the team scored the winning goal.

12. She looked at the final score in \_\_\_\_\_ as her favorite team lost.



13. The festival features various \_\_\_\_\_ from local artisans and vendors.
14. The actor received standing ovations for his brilliant \_\_\_\_\_ in the play.
15. They are planning a \_\_\_\_\_ of the classic movie for modern audiences.
16. The astronaut shared stories about their various space \_\_\_\_\_ during the lecture.
17. New safety \_\_\_\_\_ were introduced to ensure the welfare of the workers.
18. The \_\_\_\_\_ architecture of the building attracted many visitors.
19. Due to the outbreak all travelers had to undergo \_\_\_\_\_ for two weeks.
20. We \_\_\_\_\_ that the new product will launch in the spring.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. Exploration is essential for discovering new frontiers beyond our current knowledge.
22. The impending storm caused everyone to prepare for heavy rains and winds.
23. Motor racing enthusiasts gathered at the track to watch the event.
24. The old factory was converted into a modern art gallery showcasing local artists.
25. The new engine design focuses on efficient propulsion methods for vehicles.
26. The restaurant is known for its diverse offerings appealing to various tastes.
27. The movie received criticism from reviewers for its weak plot and lackluster characters.
28. Her standout performance in the lead role earned her several awards.
29. The flight training program uses simulated scenarios to prepare pilots for emergencies.
30. Many people opted for a subscription service that delivers new books each month.

**Answer**

- Multiple Choice:** 1. Motorsport 2. Innovations 3. Headlining 4. Adaptation 5. Preseason 6. Disclosed  
7. Speculation



8. Helium 9. Simulation 10. Vehicles

**Gap-Fill:** 11. excitement 12. dismay 13. offerings 14. performance 15. remake 16. missions 17. regulations  
18. impressive 19. quarantine 20. anticipate

**Matching sentence:** 1. exploration 2. impending 3. enthusiasts 4. converted 5. propulsion 6. offerings 7.  
criticism 8. performance 9. simulated 10. subscription

## CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL6

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