



Polaris Dawn: Breakthrough in Private Space Exploration

Description

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SpaceX's Polaris Dawn mission was a big step for private space travel. It included the first spacewalk done by non-government astronauts. Unlike the ISS, SpaceX's craft didn't have an airlock, so the crew had to let out all the air before going into space.



Although this seems simple compared to what NASA has done before, it was new for SpaceX. The spacewalk, on September 12, tested new suits and how the crew's health is affected by space travel. The EVA critics say it wasn't a real spacewalk because the crew didn't fully leave the capsule.

Despite this, it's a big achievement for SpaceX. The crew will now be studied to see how their bodies reacted in space. This mission shows that private companies like SpaceX are getting closer to doing what only government space agencies could do before.

The spacecraft will soon return to Earth, and more private space missions are likely in the future.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Spacewalk** /'speɪs,wɔ:k/ (noun): The act of leaving a spacecraft to work in space.
2. **Airlock** /'ɛr.lɒk/ (noun): A sealed chamber that allows astronauts to move between the interior of a spacecraft and the vacuum of space without losing pressure.
3. **Achievement** /ə'tʃi:v.mənt/ (noun): A thing done successfully with effort skill or courage.
4. **Mission** /'mɪʃ.ən/ (noun): An important assignment carried out for political religious or commercial purposes.
5. **Critics** /'krɪtɪks/ (noun): People who express an unfavorable opinion of something.
6. **Reacted** /ri'æktɪd/ (verb): Responded to something in a particular way.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What was a significant achievement of SpaceX's Polaris Dawn mission?

- Option: First spacewalk by private astronauts
- Option: First manned mission to Mars
- Option: Discovery of new planet
- Option: Landing on the moon

2. Why did the crew of SpaceX's craft have to let out all the air before going into space?

- Option: To make the craft lighter
- Option: To prevent explosions
- Option: Due to lack of airlock
- Option: To test the pressure systems



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3. What was the main focus of the spacewalk on the Polaris Dawn mission?
- Option: Testing new spacesuits
 - Option: Developing new technology
 - Option: Hunting for alien life
 - Option: Creating artwork in space
4. Why do EVA critics claim the spacewalk on the Polaris Dawn mission was not a real spacewalk?
- Option: Lack of proper equipment
 - Option: Failure to leave the capsule completely
 - Option: Inadequate training
 - Option: Technical issues with the suits
5. What will happen to the crew of the Polaris Dawn mission now that they have returned?
- Option: They will be sent to Mars
 - Option: They will be studied to see how their bodies reacted in space
 - Option: They will retire from space missions
 - Option: They will be awarded medals
6. What does the success of SpaceX's Polaris Dawn mission indicate?
- Option: The end of private space exploration
 - Option: Increased collaboration with NASA
 - Option: Private companies getting closer to government space agencies
 - Option: Focus shifting to deep-sea exploration

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. First spacewalk by private astronauts 2. Due to lack of airlock 3. Testing new spacesuits
4. Failure to leave the capsule completely 5. They will be studied to see how their bodies reacted in space
6. Private companies getting closer to government space agencies

Vocabulary quizzes

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

1. What is a spacewalk?



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- Option: A type of space mission
Option: An activity of walking in outer space
Option: A space-themed party
Option: A high-speed space travel
2. Which word describes a significant success or accomplishment?
Option: Effort
Option: Defeat
Option: Achievement
Option: Difficulty
3. What term is used to describe methods or actions that can be maintained for the long term without causing harm?
Option: Temporary
Option: Disposable
Option: Sustainable
Option: Unstable
4. What are the components used in a recipe called?
Option: Materials
Option: Ingredients
Option: Elements
Option: Substances
5. What is a favorable or advantageous circumstance or occasion?
Option: Issue
Option: Challenge
Option: Problem
Option: Opportunity
6. What remains of plants or animals that lived in the past?
Option: Mineral
Option: Fossil
Option: Artifact
Option: Rock
7. What is the total income generated by a business?
Option: Profit
Option: Loss
Option: Revenue
Option: Expense
8. What is a vehicle designed for travel or operation in outer space?



- Option: Spaceship
- Option: Aircraft
- Option: Boat
- Option: Train

9. What is the possibility of suffering harm or loss?

- Option: Certainty
- Option: Risk
- Option: Safety
- Option: Security

10. What is another term for supreme power or authority?

- Option: Regime
- Option: Dominance
- Option: Imperium
- Option: Oligarchy

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

11. The Earth _____ around the sun.

12. Scientists are _____ with new technologies.

13. The _____ of the building was carefully designed by the architect.

14. The band gave an outstanding _____ at the concert.

15. _____ is a major environmental issue affecting many forested areas.

16. The astronauts had a critical _____ to complete in space.

17. Investors buy _____ in companies to own part of the business.

18. _____ use their skills to design and build innovative solutions.

19. The construction project will have a significant _____ on the local community.

20. The _____ is an extinct flying reptile.

21. What is the _____ situation regarding the project?



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

22. Experts who review and evaluate creative works such as movies books and art.
23. How individuals respond or behave in a particular situation or to specific stimuli.
24. Different options or choices that can be selected instead of one particular course of action.
25. To fly or rise high in the air with little effort like a bird.
26. Individuals or entities that provide funds to a company or project in the expectation of future financial gain.
27. A specific task or goal that a person or group is assigned to complete.
28. The curved path followed by a celestial object around a star or planet.
29. Involving potential danger or harm if precautions are not taken.
30. The income generated from the sale of goods or services.
31. A noteworthy accomplishment or success in one's endeavors.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. An activity of walking in outer space 2. Achievement 3. Sustainable 4. Ingredients 5. Opportunity 6. Fossil 7. Revenue 8. Spaceship 9. Risk 10. Imperium

Gap-Fill: 11. orbits 12. experimenting 13. structure 14. performance 15. Deforestation 16. mission 17. shares 18. Engineers 19. impact 20. Pterosaur 21. current

Matching sentence: 1. Critics 2. Reacted 3. Alternatives 4. Soar 5. Investors 6. Mission 7. Orbits 8. Risky 9. Revenue 10. Achievement

CATEGORY

- 1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL1

Date Created

2024/09/15

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