
Let's not use Mars as a backup planet:

[listening test questions]

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Time: (5:50)

Level: **** [B1/B2]

TED TALK Link:

https://www.ted.com/talks/lucianne_walkowicz_let_s_not_use_mars_as_a_backup_planet/transcript?language=en

Check these words before listening:

Key vocabulary

1. A tipping point
2. Species
3. NASA
4. Telescope
5. Subtle dimming stars
6. Solar system
7. Habitable / inhabitable
8. Glaciers
9. Millennia
10. Astronomer
11. Martian
12. Colonization
13. Interplanetary exploration
14. Humanity
15. Preservation
16. A paradox
17. To surmount to
18. habitability

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Student

TED Talks Comprehension Questions [6 minutes]

Time: *Approximately 60 minutes*

1. Read the title

- Try to predict the content of lecture
- Write down key terms / ideas
- Check key vocabulary using a dictionary

Try to listen ONLY two times

Three types of lesson

Lesson#1: [hard]

1. Listen once – take notes
2. Give 3 minutes to tidy notes
3. Listen again and add to notes (use a different colour pen).
4. Answer questions – set 10-15 minutes to answer.
5. Check answers
6. Listen again to check answers

Lesson #2: [medium]

1. Listen once – take notes.
2. Answer questions: 10 minutes
3. Listen again – answer the questions as they listen
4. Give yourself 10 minutes to tidy answers. Then check answers
5. Listen again to check answers

Lesson #3: [easier]

1. Read questions – highlight key terms
2. Listen once and answer questions
3. 3 minutes to tidy notes
4. Listen again answer missed question
5. 5-10 minutes to tidy answers. Then check answers
6. Listen again to check answers

Teacher

TED Talks Comprehension Questions [6 minutes]

Aim: to develop the students' ability to listen to a short 6-minute lecture, to take notes and then use those notes to answer a range of questions types.

Lesson Time: 60 minutes

Lesson Plan

1. Lead in

- Ask Students to discuss the 'title' and predict the content of lecture
- Ask students to write down key terms / language from discussion
- Feed in / check key vocabulary

Three types of lesson

Lesson#1: [hard]

1. Students listen once – take notes
2. Give 3 minutes to tidy notes
3. Listen again and add to notes (use a different colour pen).
4. Give out questions – set 10-15 minutes to answer.
5. Feedback answers (give out answers or go through on board)

Lesson #2: [medium]

1. Students listen once – take notes.
2. Give out questions: Set 10 minutes for students to answer questions from notes
3. Listen again – students answer the questions as they listen
4. Give extra 10 minutes to consolidate answers
5. Feedback answers (give out answers or go through on board)

Lesson #3: [easy]

1. Give out questions - students have 5-10 minutes to look at questions
2. Students listen and answer questions
3. Give 3 minutes to tidy notes
4. Students listen again – check answers and answer questions missed
5. 5-10 minutes to tidy answers
6. Feedback answers (give out answers or go through on board)

Let's not use Mars as a backup planet: Lucianne Walkowicz

[Mar 2015 – 5:50]

1. True, false, not given [T/F/NG]

<u>i.</u>	Only recently have understood how Earth is part of the universe.	
<u>ii.</u>	Kepler has discovered thousands of planets similar to Earth.	
<u>iii.</u>	Kepler telescope measures the differences in light as planets pass stars.	
<u>iv.</u>	2014 was the wettest year on record	
<u>v.</u>	Our own planet is dying.	
<u>vi.</u>	Climate Change is happening because of human influence.	
<u>Vii</u>	Looking for new planets makes you appreciate Earth more.	

___ / 7

2. Matching

Match the endings about the Mars research

i. KEPLER –	A) analyses the atmospheric data of Mars
ii. CURIOSITY-	B) Mars was habitable in the past
iii. MAVEN -	C) Looks for the origins of life on the surface of Mars

___ / 3

3. Short answers

Is Mars a good place to colonise? Why?

i) Yes or No: _____

ii) why?

___ / 2

iii) What do some people think Mars will provide us with?

Mars will be there to save us **from**

___ / 1

iv) What are the two principles connected to her subject?

Her two areas of study are i _____ exploration and
p _____ preservation.

___ / 2

4. Summary 1: Fermi's paradox - we should have found evidence of alien life by now:

As i) _____ become technologically advanced enough to consider
living amongst the stars, they lose ii) _____ of how important it is to
iii) _____ the home worlds that fostered that advancement to
begin with.

___ / 3

5. Sentence completion

If we truly believe in our ability to bend the hostile environments of Mars for human
habitation, then **we should be able to** _____

___ / 2

Total Marks _____ /20

Let's not use Mars as a backup planet: **ANSWERS**

1. True, false, not given [T/F/NG]

i.	Only recently have understood how Earth is part of the universe.	T
ii.	Kepler has discovered thousands of planets similar to Earth.	NG
iii.	Kepler telescope measures the differences in light as planets pass stars.	T
iv.	2014 was the wettest year on record (Hottest)	F
v.	Our own planet is dying.	NG
vi.	Climate Change is happening because of human influence.	NG
Vii	Looking for new planets makes you appreciate Earth more.	T

Marks: /7

2. Gap fill

Match the endings about the Mars research

i. KEPLER –	B) Mars was habitable in the past
ii. CURIOSITY-	C) Looks for the origins of life on the surface of Mars
iii. MAVEN -	A) analyses the atmospheric data of Mars

Marks: /3

3. Short answers

Is Mars a good place to colonise? Why?

i. No
ii why? pretty terrible place to live – resemble our deserts but no oxygen

Marks: /2

What do some people think Mars will provide us with?

i. Mars will be there to save us **from the self-inflicted destruction of the only truly habitable planet (Our Earth).**

Marks: /1

What are the two principles connected to her subject?

i. Her two areas of study are **interplanetary** exploration and **planetary** preservation.

Marks: /2

4. Summary 1: Fermi's paradox - we should have found evidence of alien life by now:

As **civilizations** become technologically advanced enough to consider living amongst the stars, they lose **sight** of how important it is to **safeguard** the home worlds that fostered that advancement to begin with.

Marks: /3

5. Sentence completion

If we truly believe in our ability to bend the hostile environments of Mars for human habitation, then **we should be able to surmount the far easier task of preserving the habitability of the Earth.**

Marks: /2