

# Space Tourist



## 1. Read the story

Look at the pictures on these pages.  
What is the story about? Now read it.

LOS ANGELES, USA <sup>1</sup>“It was the greatest **experience** of my life,” says Dennis Tito, 60, the first tourist in **space**. <sup>2</sup>In 2001, Tito, a California business person who has always wanted to be an astronaut\*, bought a 20-million-dollar ticket to the **international** space station, Alpha.

<sup>3</sup>Tito had to **train** for six months and study Russian before traveling to space with two Russian astronauts. <sup>4</sup>He spent almost a week in space. “It was just **unbelievable**,” he says, “to see the **Earth** from above and the black sky. It was like having a **completely** new life.” <sup>5</sup>He loved being **weightless**

and dancing to Beatles music with his Russian **companions**. <sup>6</sup>He was always hungry for Italian food and enjoyed eating spaghetti in space.

<sup>7</sup>Tito’s friends say he is **enthusiastic** about life, like a child. “He’s never **grown up**,” one said. <sup>8</sup>Now the Russian space program is looking for more space tourists like Tito. Would you like to go **sightseeing** in space? All you need for the **trip** is a strong interest, six months to train, and 20 million dollars!

\* astronaut: a person who travels into space

## NEW WORDS

experience *n*

space *n*

international *adj*

train *v*

unbelievable *adj*

Earth *n*

completely *adv*

weightless *adj*

companion *n*

enthusiastic *adj*

grow up *v*

sightseeing *n*

trip *n*

>> See Glossary on page 88. >>

## 2. Rate the story

How much did you like it? Mark an X.

Not at All

A Lot

1

2

3

4

5

### 3. Check your comprehension

Match the first and second parts of the sentences. The first one is done for you.

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| a. Tito was the first ____              | 1. two Russian companions. |
| b. He had to ____                       | 2. tourist in space.       |
| c. Tito traveled with <u>1</u>          | 3. train for six months.   |
| d. He loved ____                        | 4. grown up.               |
| e. Tito's friends say he has never ____ | 5. being weightless.       |

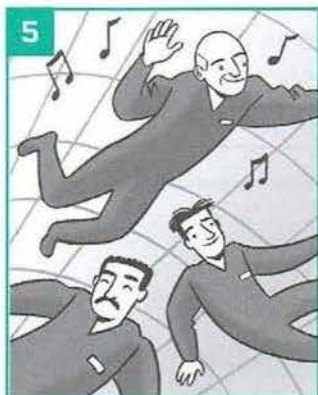
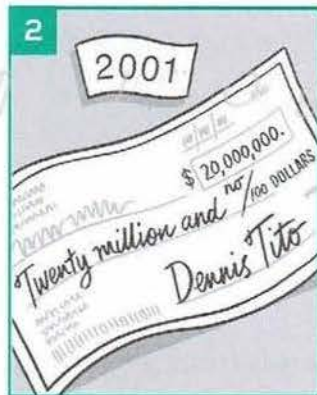
### 4. Check your vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the New Words.

- Tito said the trip was the greatest exp\_\_\_\_\_ of his life.
- He paid 20 million dollars to go to the \_\_\_\_\_ national s\_\_\_\_\_ station, Alpha.
- He loved seeing the E\_\_\_\_\_ from above.
- Tito and his two \_\_\_\_\_ nions danced in space.
- Tito is enthu\_\_\_\_\_ about life.

### 5. Listen to the story track 2

Now listen to the story two or three times. Look at the pictures below as you listen.



### 6. Retell the story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Retell the story using the New Words.

## 7. Answer the questions

### About the story...

- What did Tito have to do before going to space?
- What did he like about his trip?
- What kind of man is Tito?
- What question would you like to ask him?

### About you...

- Would you like to go to space? Why or why not?
- What is the greatest experience of your life?
- Where do you most want to go sightseeing?
- Who would you like to take as a companion?

## 8. Learn word partnerships

Study the partnerships below. Complete the sentences so they are true for you.

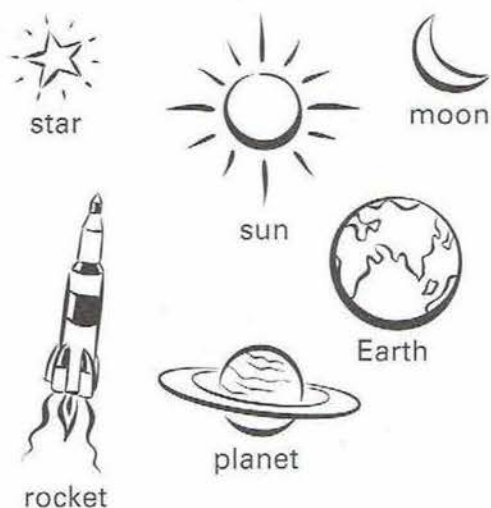
ENTHUSIASTIC		
be enthusiastic	about something	<b>Tito is enthusiastic about life.</b> <i>I'm really enthusiastic about the trip.</i> <i>She's enthusiastic about sports.</i> <i>We're enthusiastic about learning Chinese.</i> <i>He's not enthusiastic about traveling.</i> <i>I'm enthusiastic about swimming.</i>
	about doing something	

- I'm really enthusiastic about \_\_\_\_\_.
- I'm not enthusiastic \_\_\_\_\_.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ enthusiastic \_\_\_\_\_ studying \_\_\_\_\_.

## 9. Learn word groups

Complete the sentences so they are true. Use words from the pictures.

### SPACE



- The Earth goes around the \_\_\_\_\_.
- The sun is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- People have traveled to the moon in a \_\_\_\_\_.
- The sun, the \_\_\_\_\_, and the stars are in space.
- Mars is called "the red \_\_\_\_\_."

## 10. Take a dictation track 3

Use your own paper to write the dictation. Check your answers on page 86.

## 11. Complete the story

Use the words from the box to complete the story.

trips    space    international    planet  
unbelievable    completely    train    rockets

### The Wonderful Future of Flying

MIAMI, USA People have been flying for 100 years. What will the next 100 be like? NASA scientists\* think they will be (1) \_\_\_\_\_ –a real golden age\*\* for flying!

Big planes will get bigger, carrying up to 1,000 passengers on (2) \_\_\_\_\_ trips.

At the same time, people will get their own small flying machines for shorter (3) \_\_\_\_\_.

These machines will be easy to fly, so people will only have to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ for five days to get a license\*\*\*. And they won't cost much more than a car. There may soon be one in every garage!



By 2025, says one scientist, it will be common for tourists to go into (5) \_\_\_\_\_. The price will drop to one million dollars. Jim Dator of the University of

Hawaii says some people will go into space and stay there. "We may go to Mars for years," says Dator.

"Because the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ is so far away," he says, "people will not travel back and forth.

(7) \_\_\_\_\_ will take groups of people to Mars, where they will stay, changing into a/an (8) \_\_\_\_\_ different kind of people."

\*NASA scientists: people who study space

\*\*golden age: very good and successful years

\*\*\*license: a piece of paper that shows you may drive



### Talk about the stories

What new things did you learn about space travel in this unit? Would you like to travel in space or live on Mars? Why or why not?