

# Apollo 13

Photocopiable

## Before reading

- 1 **Look at the names of the chapters. Which chapter(s) do you think is about ...**
  - a the first man on the Moon? .....
  - b problems for Apollo 13 before it leaves Earth? .....
  - c Apollo 13 leaving Earth? .....
  - d really bad problems with Apollo 13? .....
  - e the day Apollo 13 returns to Earth? .....
- 2 **Read the Introduction, then close your book and write the words below in the sentences.**  
 radio oxygen command module space astronauts controllers  
 Apollo 13 is flying through (a) .....  
 The three (b) ..... are Jim Lovell, Fred Haise, and Jack Swigert. Suddenly, something goes wrong. The (c) ..... loses power. (d) ..... is leaving the ship. Jack spoke to the (e) ..... in Houston on the (f) ..... "Houston, we have a problem," he said.

## While reading

### Chapters 1–3

- 3 **In Chapter 1, Jim tells Jeffrey about the astronauts on the Apollo missions. Write the numbers of the Apollo missions after the astronauts' names.**
  - a Alan Shepard .....
  - b Neil Armstrong .....
  - c Pete Conrad .....
  - d Buzz Aldrin .....
  - e Fred Haise .....
- 4 **In Chapter 2, Jim tells Jeffrey what will happen. Put the sentences into the correct order.**
  - a  We'll get back inside Aquarius and leave the Moon.
  - b  A rocket will shoot us away from Earth.
  - c  We'll go around the Moon.
  - d  We'll get some rocks and take some photos.
  - e  I will fly back to Earth.
  - f  Aquarius will leave Odyssey.
  - g  Some of the rocket engines will fall away from Apollo.
  - h  Mr. Haise and I will get into Aquarius.
  - i  We'll be close to the Moon and its gravity will pull us.
  - j  Odyssey will carry us down to the Moon.

## 5 Who said this, to whom and when?

- a "Did you have the measles when you were a child?"  
.....
- b "There are only two days left before the Apollo 13 leaves."  
.....
- c "Jack Swigert is a good pilot."  
.....
- d "But he will have to work in the simulator before we go."  
.....

## Chapter 4

### 6 What do you know about ... in Chapter 4?

- a ... Jim Lovell? .....
- b ... Ken Mattingly, the command module pilot? .....
- c ... engine five? .....
- d ... Jim's son, Jay? .....

## Chapters 5–6

### 7 Underline the wrong word and put the right one about Chapter 5.

- a Young Jeffrey stood with his friends in Mission Control.
- b Jeffrey looked at the television and saw his father's hands in camera.
- c Cooking isn't easy without food.
- d Fred and Jim show the people around the lunar module, Odyssey.
- e The walls of the lunar module are as thin as a woman's hair.

### 8 A lot of things went wrong on Apollo 13 in Chapter 6. Match A with B to find six of the early problems in Chapter 6.

- A**
- a Oxygen tanks one and two .....
  - b The door on the lunar module .....
  - c Oxygen .....
  - d The lights on the controls .....
  - e Apollo moved .....
  - f Four machines .....
- B**
- 1) ..... went crazy!
  - 2) ..... broke.
  - 3) ..... strangely/around and around in space because there was no power.
  - 4) ..... didn't move.
  - 5) ..... left the ship and it looked like smoke.
  - 6) ..... broke in the command module.

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## Chapters 7–9

### 9 Choose the right word about Chapter 7.

- a Jim turned off the machines in the *command module / lunar module*.
- b In two hours there will be no *space / oxygen* inside the Apollo.
- c Mission Control told the astronauts they should leave the command module in *fifteen minutes / a day or two*.
- d Down on earth, the Mission Control was very *dark / busy*.

### 10 Write right (✓) or wrong (X) about Chapter 8.

- a Jim has got to read the red pages quickly.
- b Mission Control asked Jack to turn off the power in Odyssey.
- c Apollo had no power so the ship turned around and around in space.
- d The controls in Aquarius do not work.

### 11 What is wrong with these ideas for getting the astronauts back to Earth in Chapter 9? Which idea is the only possible answer?

- a Use the engine behind the command module and shoot them back to Earth.  
.....
- b Use the Moon's gravity, so they don't have to use the engine behind the command module.  
.....
- c Go around the Moon and start the lunar module's engines.  
.....

### 12 What is the astronauts biggest problem? Not enough food, water, or power? Why?

.....  
.....  
.....

## Chapters 10–12

### 13 Find the two halves of the sentences.

- a The astronaut who was behind the moon before was .....
- b The earth outside the window was .....
- c Jack will get water from Odyssey and .....
- d At Mission Control, John Arthur thought .....
- e Kranz said that the best thing to do was to use the engines and .....

- f Jim told Houston that .....
- 1) Jim Lovell.
- 2) bring it into Aquariums.
- 3) about the power on Apollo.
- 4) turn them away from the moon.
- 5) the engines were OK.
- 6) small and blue.

### 14 Finish the sentences about Chapter 12.

- a Ken told the men that the command module was cold so .....
- b The doctors were wrong about Ken because he didn't .....
- c John Arthur wanted Ken .....
- d The astronauts in space started to turn off the .....

## Chapters 13–14

### 15 What happens first, second, third, fourth ...? Write 1–8 next to the sentences.

- a John says that the astronauts will not have the power for the engines and parachutes.
- b Jack realizes that Mission Control has made some mistakes.
- c Jack wrote some number in the dark command module.
- d The doctor tells the astronauts to try to sleep.
- e Jim tells Jack that he didn't make a mistake.
- f The astronauts have to turn Apollo so they start the engines.
- g Jim hears that Apollo is not coming back to Earth.
- h Apollo started moving strangely.

## Chapters 15–18

### 16 Write right (✓) or wrong (X).

- a Jim was getting weaker and weaker.
- b Ken Mattingly tried to work on the problem outside the simulator.
- c Ken gave a lot of numbers to Jack and told him his plan.
- d All the astronauts finally moved from the lunar module to the command module.
- e The *Iwo Jima* was on the Atlantic Ocean.
- f The three astronauts were in orange parachutes.

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## Chapters 1–3

1 **Underline** the wrong word and put the right one.

- a Jim Lovell was on Apollo 13 because Neil Armstrong had a problem in one ear.  
.....
- b In the simulator, Ken had to get the Y over the picture of the lunar module.  
.....
- c Jim said that he was a better pilot when he was not angry.  
.....
- d Jeffrey had a lot of questions about his father's life.  
.....

## Chapter 4

2 **Circle** the right answers.

- a The three astronauts went up to the top of the rocket and .....  
1) ... then they got into the command module.  
2) ... then they got into the lunar module.
- b Fire shot down from the engines, .....  
1) ... of the Saturn rocket.  
2) ... of the Odyssey rocket.
- c Odyssey contacted Houston because .....  
1) ... they were lost.  
2) ... the center engine light was out.
- d Fred said that life is harder .....  
1) ... on a spaceship.  
2) ... without gravity.

## Chapters 5–6

3 **Match** the questions and the answers.

- a How do astronauts cook? .....
  - b What does Jeffrey call to the big television? .....
  - c How small is the lunar module? .....
  - d What did Houston tell Apollo to do? .....
  - e What happened to the lights in the controls? .....
  - f What did Jim see when he looked out the window? .....
- 1) They carry bags of dry food and put hot water on it to eat it.
  - 2) Thin white smoke coming out of the command module.
  - 3) "Don't forget my moon rock."
  - 4) They were going crazy.
  - 5) Only as big as a closet.
  - 6) They told them to change the oxygen tanks.

## Chapters 7–9

4 **Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?**

- a Jim thought that they would die inside the inside the command module.
- b Houston tells Apollo to get inside the lunar module.
- c The computer was on the lunar module.
- d Jack thought that the machines were getting too cold and they work not turn back on.
- e Kranz thought that using the engine behind the module to shoot Apollo back to Earth was a very good idea.

## Chapters 10–12

5 **Circle** the right words.

- a It was Jim Lovell's *second time / third time* behind the moon.
- b The Apollo men realized that after more than three days in space the would not have enough *food / water*.
- c Kranz decided that they should work on the problems on *the simulator / lunar module*.
- d While Ken worked on the simulator, the astronauts started to turn off *the machines and engines / television*.

## Chapters 13–14

6 **Finish** the sentences.

- a In space, the astronauts were tired .....
- b Jack thought that they would fly past the Earth and move .....
- c There was no gravity so food and papers .....
- d Jim was happy because .....

## Chapters 15–18

7 **Choose** the right word from the box.

moon rocks   lunar module   wet   measles  
Mission Control

- a ..... spoke to John Arthur on the simulator radio.
- b Ken is working because he hasn't got the .....
- c Jack thought that the control would not work because they were .....
- d Ken called to the other astronauts in the .....
- e There are no ..... in the command module. It is too light.