



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

[Return to the Moon](#)



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Return to the Moon 返回月球

Working Together in Space 合作在太空

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

Scientists in the UK have expressed their enthusiasm for China's plans to explore the Moon with **robotic spacecraft**, and are keen to **take part** in the adventure.

British scientists are **seeking** to **collaborate** with their Chinese **counterparts** on the Cheng'e programme. This four-phase programme could see the return of **astronauts** to the moon's surface for the first time since the Apollo 17 mission in 1972.

Ties between the Chinese and UK space community have been strengthened since a visit to China made by a team of British **academics**, agency officials, and space scientists earlier this year. At that time discussions took place regarding the UK building **scientific instruments** for the second phase of China's **lunar missions**.

One British academic who **participated** in the discussions, Professor John Zarnecki of the Open University said, "I think they are looking for significant collaboration. They have got good technology themselves but they will admit that they are fairly new in space science; so they don't have all of the instrument capabilities and so on."

China has already established itself as the third space superpower, having successfully **launched** two **manned spaceflights** – last year two Chinese astronauts spent five days **in orbit** before safely returning to Earth. But China's space ambitions don't stop there. As well as a **lunar landing**, plans are being made to set up a permanent **space station**.

The UK, on the other hand, has had a more modest space programme. Only a handful of Britons have **broken free** of the Earth's **atmosphere**. Most recently, UK-born astronaut, Piers Sellers, spent thirteen days on board the American space shuttle Discovery.

However, British space exploration has not always gone according to plan. The Beagle 2 **probe** to Mars **disappeared without a trace** on Christmas Day 2003.

Glossary 词汇表

robotic spacecraft - 机器人宇宙飞船	take part - 参与, 参加
seeking - 寻找	collaborate - 合作
counterparts - 相对应的人, 同仁	astronauts - 宇航员
ties - 关系, 联系	academics - 学习, 学术
scientific instruments - 科学仪器	lunar missions - 月球探测使命
participated - 参加, 参与	launched - 发射
manned spaceflights - 载人航天	in orbit - 进入轨道
lunar landing - 登陆月球	space station - 空间站
broken free - 挣脱, 脱离	atmosphere - 大气
probe - 探测	disappeared without a trace - 消失得无影无踪

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

1. British scientists want to compete with China on a programme to explore the moon. **True / False**
2. The moon was last visited in 1972. **True / False**
3. China is one of 3 countries that have put men into space. **True / False**
4. China has plans to set up a temporary space station. **True / False**
5. British probe, Beagle 2 had a successful mission to Mars. **True / False**

2. Idioms 习惯用语

Look at the idioms below. Each one is connected to space.

Match the idiom to its definition.

请看下列习惯用语，它们都与太空有关。

请将习语与各自的定义对应起来。

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. over the moon | a. full of emotion, hopes or dreams in a way that is not necessarily realistic |
| 2. starry-eyed | b. extremely happy |
| 3. once in a blue moon | c. very infrequent |
| 4. rising star | d. a person who is becoming important or famous |

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the idioms above.

现在请用以上的某个习语完成下列句子。

1. John is a real _____ in the company. After just 8 months, he got the highest sales figures and was promoted.
2. I am so _____. I just got my exam results – I have top marks in all my subjects.
3. She is so _____. She works in a factory but she thinks that one day she will be famous and rich and meet a handsome man who will make all her dreams come true.
4. I only see my aunt once in a _____, as she lives so far away, I can't get to her house often.

3. Matching vocabulary 词语配对

Match the Chinese words for planets to their English equivalents.

为下列有关行星的名词找到相应的英语单词.

- | | |
|-------|------------|
| 1. 土星 | a. Sun |
| 2. 地球 | b. Moon |
| 3. 月球 | c. Earth |
| 4. 火星 | d. Saturn |
| 5. 水星 | e. Mercury |
| 6. 太阳 | f. Mars |

Now complete the sentences with the correct planet (in English).

用上列英语单词完成下列句子.

1. The Beagle 2 probe disappeared on _____ during a British space mission.
2. The _____ rises in the east and sets in the west.
3. In Britain, we say a man lives on the _____ but in China, it's a woman.
4. The closest planet to the sun is _____.
5. _____ is famous for the rings made of ice particles around it.
6. Humans live on the planet _____.

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with space in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (→), vertically (↓) or diagonally (↘)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与太空有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的(→) 垂直的(↓) 或对角的(↘)形式出现。

m	v	e	v	n	m	e	w	f	r	b	s
i	a	s	t	r	o	n	a	u	t	n	p
s	h	r	b	j	o	d	e	j	g	r	a
s	v	b	m	t	n	u	g	i	o	m	c
i	f	r	h	j	e	s	a	b	f	e	e
o	h	s	h	u	t	t	l	e	r	t	c
n	k	g	d	e	n	g	a	n	d	t	r
h	u	m	k	a	t	g	x	y	p	l	a
t	u	c	e	d	o	b	y	f	r	e	t
s	o	r	b	i	t	n	t	s	o	h	r
r	g	s	v	t	j	s	s	r	b	h	j
q	s	a	t	e	l	l	i	t	e	h	e

shuttle	astronaut	orbit	mission	spacecraft
galaxy	satellite	rocket	moon	probe

Answers 答案

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以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假?请圈出正确答案。

- British scientists want to compete with China on a programme to explore the moon. **False**
- The moon was last visited in 1972. **True**
- China is one of 3 countries that have put men into space. **True**
- China has plans to set up a temporary space station. **False**
- British probe, Beagle 2 had a successful mission to Mars. **False**

3. Matching vocabulary 词语配对

Match the Chinese words for planets to their English equivalents.

为下列有关行星的名词找到相应的英语单词。

- | | |
|------|------|
| 1. d | 4. f |
| 2. c | 5. e |
| 3. b | 6. a |

Now complete the sentences with the correct planet (in English).

用上列英语单词完成下列句子。

- The Beagle 2 probe disappeared on **Mars** during a British space mission.
- The **Sun** rises in the east and sets in the west.
- In Britain, we say a man lives on the **Moon** but in China, it's a woman.
- The closest planet to the sun is **Mercury**.
- Saturn** is famous for the rings made of ice particles around it.
- Humans live on the planet **Earth**

2. Idioms 习惯用语

Look at the idioms below. Each one is connected to space. Match the idiom to its definition.

请看下列习惯用语,它们都与太空有关。请将习语与各自的定义对应起来。

- b
- a
- c
- d

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the idioms above.

现在请用以上的某个习语完成下列句子。

- John is a real **rising star** in the company. After just 8 months, he got the highest sales figures and was promoted.
- I am so **over the moon**. I just got my exam results – I have top marks in all my subjects.
- She is so **starry-eyed**. She works in a factory but she thinks that one day she will be famous and rich and meet a handsome man who will make all her dreams come true.
- I only see my aunt once in a **blue moon** as she lives so far away, I can't get to her house often.

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

m					m					s
i	a	s	t	r	o	n	a	u	t	p
s					o					a
s					n		g			c
i							a			e
o		s	h	u	t	t	l	e		c
n				e			a			r
			k				x		p	a
		c					y		r	t
		o	r	b	i	t			o	
r									b	
		s	a	t	e	l	l	i	t	e