

Sample Answers

Assignment: Astronauts in Space

Collection: Reading & Writing in Response to Text Sets

Use the following answers as a reference while grading student responses to the short-answer reading questions. Keep in mind that answers may vary and this is just one way to correctly complete the assignment.

Reading Questions

Part A

5. What is the central idea of paragraph 9 in the article by Rachel Feltman? Write a sentence below stating the central idea in your own words.

Sample Answer: NASA needs to figure out how to make food that lasts even longer for the space explorations of the future.

Part A

7. What does the term **resistance** mean in paragraph 15 of the article “It’s Hard to Stay Physically Fit when You’re Floating in Space,” by Fred Bowen? Write a short definition below.

Sample Answer: pushing or pulling against something, such as an opposing force

Part B

8. Cite one detail from the article by Fred Bowen that provides a clue to the meaning of the word **resistance**. Copy and paste the quotation below.

Sample Answer: “a Resistance Exercise Device that has the astronaut pulling, pumping and squatting against the force of a vacuum”

11. Use what you have learned from reading the article by Fred Bowen to list **three** ways astronauts stay physically fit in space. Answer in your own words.

Sample Answer: Running on a treadmill while wearing a harness and belt, pedaling a stationary bike, and doing resistance exercises against the force of a vacuum

Part A

12. What is **one** similarity in how space affects the human body as described in the article by Rachel Feltman and in the article by Fred Bowen? Write a sentence answering this question in your own words below.

Sample Answer: Being in space makes astronauts' bones and muscles weaker.

Part B

13. Provide **two** details from the articles that support the answer to Part A. Provide **one** detail from the article by Rachel Feltman and **one** detail from the article by Fred Bowen. Copy and paste the quotations below.

Sample Answer: "A healthy diet is even more crucial for space farers than it is here on the surface, because spending time in space makes your body start to lose bone and muscle mass."

"Being in a weightless environment can cause muscles to grow weak and bones to become more brittle."