

# Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Quote Accurately

Read the short story and answer each question.



## Life on the International Space Station

The International Space Station (ISS) is a laboratory that orbits Earth about 250 miles above the surface. Astronauts live and work there for months at a time. From the ISS, they can see 16 sunrises and sunsets *every single day* because of how fast it orbits Earth.

Life on the space station is very different from life on Earth. Because there is no gravity in space, astronauts float instead of walk. Even simple tasks—like brushing teeth or pouring water—require creative solutions.

Sleeping also works differently. Astronauts sleep in small, zip-up sleeping bags attached to the wall so they don't float away while resting.

Food is specially packaged to avoid floating crumbs, which can damage equipment or be accidentally inhaled. Instead of drinking from cups, astronauts use straws attached to sealed bags of liquid.

Astronauts also conduct science experiments in space. Some of these experiments help doctors understand how the human body reacts to zero gravity. Others test how plants grow without soil or how fire behaves in space.

The ISS is a team effort, shared by space agencies from several countries. Working together in space helps countries share knowledge, resources, and discoveries.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Life on the International Space Station

1. Why do astronauts attach their sleeping bags to the wall?

- A. So they don't float away while sleeping
- B. So they stay warm during the night
- C. So they can protect themselves from space dust
- D. So they can be near their tools and supplies

2. Which detail from the passage explains how astronauts drink liquids in space?

- A. They drink from water fountains attached to the wall.
- B. They sip liquids from bags using straws.
- C. They use special cups that stick to their gloves.
- D. They melt ice to create water.

3. Fill in the blank:

Astronauts on the ISS see 16 \_\_\_\_\_ every day because the station orbits Earth so quickly.

4. Choose one sentence from the text that clearly explains how the ISS is different from Earth. Why is this detail important?

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5. What can you infer about why countries work together on the space station instead of sending separate missions?

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# Parent and Teacher Guide

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**Guide Reading Level:** T

**Lexile Level:** 900L-1050L

**Grade Level:** 5th Grade, Beginning of the Year

**Genre:** Informational – Science/Technology

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## Introducing the Text

*“Today’s text explains what it’s like to live and work on the International Space Station. As students read, encourage them to highlight clear facts and also think about what the text implies but doesn’t say directly. They’ll practice quoting the text to support both literal and inferential answers.”*

**Vocabulary:** orbit, gravity, sealed, zero gravity, experiments

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## Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you already know about astronauts and life in space?
  2. Why might life be more difficult without gravity?
  3. What kinds of things would you want to learn by doing science in space?
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## During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What are some specific ways life in space is different from Earth?
  2. What does the author say directly, and what can we figure out from context?
  3. Why might crumbs or floating water be dangerous in space?
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## After Reading Discussion Questions

1. What quote best explains the daily challenges astronauts face?
  2. What can we infer about the teamwork needed to run the ISS?
  3. How do the explicit details and inferences work together to help us understand life in space?
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## Activity Idea

Have students create a two-column chart labeled “Stated in the Text” and “Inferred from the Text.” Ask them to list at least 3 examples under each, and include quotes to support their ideas. They can share their insights with partners or groups.

