



Worksheet 1. Reading: *Living in Space*

Read this passage based on a real entry in astronaut Ed Lu's journal. It was written in the spring of 2003 when he was on an expedition to the International Space Station. After you read the passage, answer the questions on the next page.



Living in Space

Life up here in space is very **different** from life **down** on earth. The main difference is this: on earth, things **fall** down to the floor, but up here, they don't fall to the floor.

Instead, they **float** in the air.

On earth, we walk from one place to another, but up here we don't walk normally. We float around **inside** the **module**. It's like flying. We go **straight ahead** until we **grab** onto something or we **hit** a **wall**. And sometimes we **bump** into objects. With practice, we learn how to **control** our movements. We **push** ourselves from object to object, or we move along and hold onto the **handrails**.

We don't have a real kitchen **aboard** the **spacecraft**, but we do have a kitchen table. We can't set things down on it, but we have **bungee straps** and **Velcro** on the tabletop so our food containers, spoons, napkins, etc. don't fly away. If the salt flies away, we have to go after it to **pull** it back. Of course there are no chairs around the table. We float around the table while we prepare our meals and eat.

space shuttle = a vehicle that is designed to go into space and return to Earth

module = a part of the space shuttle that can separate from it



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Answer the questions. Circle a. or b.

1. What is this passage about?
 - a. An airplane trip
 - b. How things work in space

2. How do people move around on a spacecraft?
 - a. They walk normally.
 - b. They float or fly.

3. What happens to things in space?
 - a. They fall down.
 - b. They float.

4. What do astronauts grab onto?
 - a. A wall
 - b. A handrail

5. What do astronauts often hit by accident?
 - a. A wall
 - b. A handrail

6. Which sentence is true?
 - a. The astronauts sit down to eat together.
 - b. The astronauts float around when they eat.