

AE Academic
English **UK**

SpaceX



Mini Lectures

EXAMPLE

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Lesson Plan: SpaceX EXAMPLE

Lessons: Lecture Listening.

Time: 1 hour.

Level: *****[B1/ B2/C1].

Lesson Aim:

To focus on one key topic and develop a range of key academic skills based on this topic.

Introduction [5 minutes]

- Introduce the topic 'SpaceX'.

Listening: Lecture & Test Questions [30-40 minutes + feedback]

Video: Available in paid download

MP3: Available in paid download

- Give out the '**Listening: Mini Lecture Worksheet**'.
- Students check key vocabulary.

Option 1

- Students look at the questions.
- Students listen & answer the questions.
- Give 2 minutes to tidy answers.
- Students listen again. Check answers & answer missed questions.
- Feedback: distribute or project **ANSWERS**.

Option 2 (harder)

- Students listen & take notes (Use paper or the PPT slides in the Appendix).
- Students listen again & add to their notes.
- Students use their notes to answer the questions.
- Feedback: distribute or project **ANSWERS**.

Post lecture extra ideas

- Write a 100-word summary of the lecture.
- Apply critical thinking strategies to the lecture. Use this critical thinking question document: <https://www.academic-englishuk.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Critical-Questions-a-linear-model-AEUK.pdf> (writing, presentation or seminar).
- Research other types of space projects (presentation or seminar).
- Research the positives and negatives of SpaceX (presentation or seminar).

Listening: Mini Lecture Worksheet

Task 1: Key Vocabulary

Check these words and phrases before listening:

<i>uncrewed</i>	<i>decelerate</i>	<i>aerodynamically</i>
<i>withstand</i>	<i>observatory</i>	<i>evoke</i>

Task 2: Lecture Listening

Listen to the lecture on SpaceX and answer the following questions:



2.1 Gap Fill

Complete the outline of Musk's plan. The first letter is already given.

Elon Musk's ambitious plan to create a human p_____ on _____ to begin in as early as 2026, via a r_____

___ / 2

2.2 Name ONE characteristic of the Super Heavy rocket.

--

___ / 1

2.3 Open Questions

Answer these questions about the Starship spacecraft.

i.	How big is Starship?	
ii.		
iii.	How much further did the SN15 prototype travel?	
iv.		
v.	Where else will Starship travel to?	

___ / 5

2.4 Multiple Choice

Answer these questions about the pros and cons of Starship. Select ONE answer only per question.

i.	What advantage is there of being able to _____	A. Learn more about the surrounding planets.
		C. Experience life on Mars.
ii.	How does Musk's estimation of the cost to launch Starship compare to others?	B. Musk's is higher.
iii.	_____ a poor decision by some experts?	A. It will waste a lot of fuel.
		B. It will cause obstructing dust and rocks.
iv.	_____ concerned about?	A. The other landers.
		C. The introduction of microbes from Earth.

___ / 4

2.4 Gap Fill

What does the lecturer say about the possibility of humans inhabiting Mars? Complete the gaps.




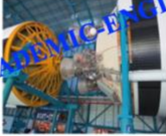






Considering the _____ made by SpaceX, it is not unrealistic to expect _____ in a few years. However, humans _____ and _____ to Mars seems less likely.

___ / 2

Total Score ___ / 14

PowerPoint Slides

Listen to the lecture and take notes using the PPT slides

<p style="text-align: center;">SpaceX</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"></div> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>AE Academic English UK</small></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Rockets & Spacecraft</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"></div> <p style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;">Super Heavy rocketSaturn VStarship</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>AE Academic English UK</small></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Starship</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"></div> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">SN15</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>AE Academic English UK</small></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Starship's advantages & people's concerns</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"></div> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>AE Academic English UK</small></p>	

Listening ANSWERS

2.1 Gap Fill

Complete the outline of Musk's plan. The first letter is already given.

Elon Musk's ambitious plan to create a human *presence* on Mars is thought to begin in as early as 2026, via a *reusable* spacecraft and booster rocket to carry cargo and crew.

____ / 2

ALL ANSWERS ARE INCLUDED IN PAID VERSION...

SpaceX: The Colonisation of Mars

by C. Watts (2022)

Hello and welcome to this short lecture about SpaceX's plan to colonise Mars. A few years ago, SpaceX founder Elon Musk declared it a priority to have a human presence on Mars. He strongly believes the first-ever mission to take humans to the Red Planet could happen in 2026, and uncrewed missions could take place even earlier. For this ambitious plan, a fully reusable spacecraft and booster rocket will be used to transport both cargo and crew.

THE FULL TRANSCRIPT IS INCLUDED IN THE PAID VERSION...