

Mission to Mars

Writing Opportunities



For these writing opportunities, consult the **Glossary** to use the new topic vocabulary.

Narrative: Finish the Story

You've just pushed the meteorite off its course. Finish the story, as an entry in your shuttle's 'logbook' (the captain of the shuttle writes in the logbook every day – like a diary).

You might include:

- Another incident that happens – do you get lost? Or run out of something? Or see something?
- To continue the story once you arrive back home: who do you see? Is there a celebration?

Remember:

- Put the number of the day to start each entry like this:

Captain's Logbook

Day 305:

Today we pushed the meteorite off its course saving London. We will begin our journey home.

Instruction Writing: Surviving the Journey to Mars

"We've got an entire class of elementary school kids about to take off into space."

Having survived your experience, you are asked by NASA to write an instruction booklet for children should the same situation happen again.

You might include:

- The different tasks you had to do to survive.
- Some top tips for a safe and exciting experience.
- A chronological (time) order of the actions you needed to take.

Remember:

- Use imperative verbs (bossy words).
- Keep it fun and light-hearted.

Diary Entry: An Adventure on Mars

"We've got an entire class of elementary school kids about to take off into space."

Write a diary entry for the day when you were whizzed off to Mars. There are many exciting aspects to this day.

You might include:

- Describe your feelings and thoughts as the events occur.
- Many descriptive words (adjectives and adverbs) to make your writing interesting and exciting.

Remember:

- Contrasting conjunctions such as: even though; on the other hand; however; nevertheless.
- Time conjunctions such as: later, suddenly, just at that moment, without warning, meanwhile.

Writing an email: Alien Discovered

Imagine that instead of finding water, you found an alien on Mars. Write an email to Neil and Valentina explaining this event.

You might include:

- How and where you found the alien.
- What it looks like.
- What you will do with it – or what it will do to you!

Remember:

- Set out your writing like an email. You can use the example below to get you started:

From: yourname@rocket.com

Date: 01/09/2021

To: valentina@nasa.com; neil@nasa.com

Re: We found an alien!

Dear Neil and Valentina,
I am writing to you with some amazing news.

Acrostic Poem: MARS

In an acrostic poem, the first letter of each line spells a word going downwards. Write an acrostic poem entitled MARS - these letters will be the first letters of each line, like this:

M
A
R
S

You might include:

- Your thoughts and feelings when you were on the planet.

Remember:

- You may try to make your poem rhyme, but it doesn't have to.
- Make the poem scan so that there are about the same number of syllables (beats) on each line.