

Doc1 – BBC	Doc2 – The Conversation	Doc3 – Cartoon	Doc4 - Chart
<p>Main question : travel to space or focus on problems on Earth?</p> <p>Many companies are investing billions of £ in space travel → many critics believe the money should be spent elsewhere.</p> <p>2021 : two major events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “amateur” astronauts can pay for a trip to space - COP 26 <p>Prince William : solve problems on Earth instead of spending money on space travel</p> <p>Environmentalists agree :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is a waste of money and energy - There is no real scientific progress - It is highly polluting <p>The number of space tourists is going up and will keep growing in the years ahead</p> <p>Supporters of space travel :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will enable the development of new technologies - It can eventually lead to the development of technologies that can help protect the Earth - It could even reduce emissions <p>But environmentalists beg to differ</p>	<p>Opinion piece</p> <p>Commercial flights to the ISS are on the rise</p> <p>Companies even want to create private space stations</p> <p>Commercialisation of space / partnership with Nasa</p> <p>There aren't a lot of arguments to support human presence in space.</p> <p>Space junk / debris = major issue Impact on the environment</p> <p>Increase social inequalities (the rich pollute / the poor deal with the consequences).</p> <p>Developing space travel technologies may be a great opportunity for science and for mankind but there are too many risks.</p> <p>Debris + environmental impact + social inequalities → nothing can justify commercial spaceflights</p>	<p>Neil Armstrong</p> <p>It doesn't mean anything to be an astronaut anymore</p> <p>Anybody can be one</p> <p>(not only billionaires, judging from the appearance of the couple in the cartoon)</p>	<p>A bar chart</p> <p>How Americans see human presence in space in the next 50 years</p> <p>MOST believe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Debris will be a major problem - Space tourism will be common <p>Only 1/3 believe space colonies will exist</p> <p>[About 40% believe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other forms of life will be discovered - The US & other countries will fight in space]