

QUESTION 1 /20 → Ramenée sur 7

QUESTION 2 /20 → Ramenée sur 13

MINES-PONTS – GOLDEN RULES

Q1/ Compréhension

- Pas de commentaire personnel
- Pas d'intro/conclusion/paragraphes
- Inutile d'écrire ~~"The journalist says"/"According to the journalist"~~
- Pas un résumé
-  Reformuler 

EXPRESSION ECRITE (Q1/Q2/SYNTHESE)

 PAS DE FORMES CONTRACTEES (DS4 : -1/20) 

Nasa has announced it is looking for private companies to collect dust and rocks from the surface of the Moon and bring them back to Earth. The American space agency would then buy the moon samples in amounts between 50 to 500 grams for between \$15,000 and \$25,000.

The Nasa administrator, Jim Bridenstine, has announced that the moon material collection would become part of a technology development programme that would help astronauts ‘live off the land’ for future manned missions to the moon or elsewhere. Bridenstine said Nasa “is buying lunar soil from a commercial provider as it’s time to establish the regulatory certainty to extract and trade space resources.”

The collection is part of Nasa’s Artemis lunar exploration programme to land US astronauts, including the first woman, on the moon by 2024. The agency has indicated that missions further afield, to Mars for instance, will require the use of locally mined resources. Bridenstine said the effort would comply with the Outer Space Treaty of 1967, which says that no country may lay sovereign claim to the moon or other celestial bodies in much the same way that the Antarctic continent is off-limits for territorial conquest.

In May, Nasa unveiled a legal framework that would govern the behaviour of countries and companies in space and on the moon. The legal framework, known as the Artemis Accords, include the creation of ‘safety zones’ around sites where mining and exploration would take place on the lunar surface. Nasa’s top administrator has also said that the policies that will govern mining from celestial bodies would be much the same as those that currently exist for the world’s oceans.

“We do believe we can extract and utilize the resources of the moon, just as we can extract and utilize tuna from the ocean,” Bridenstine said. Unlike fisheries, however, participating celestial mining companies would be required to provide imagery of the material and the location from which it was recovered.

Nasa already has a separate programme to contract companies to fly science experiments and cargo to the moon ahead of a human landing. Those include Astrobotic, SpaceX, Blue Origin, Sierra Nevada Corp and Lockheed Martin.

Nasa’s announcement has been criticized for establishing the legal precedent that private companies can collect and sell celestial materials with the explicit blessing of Nasa and the U.S. government.

Adapted from an article in *The Guardian*, 11 September, 2020

Questions:

1. According to the journalist, what is specific about Nasa’s new lunar exploration programme? (80 words, ± 10%) Answer the question in your own words.
2. In your opinion, what advantages and disadvantages would this programme entail for the US and the rest of the world? (180 words, ± 10%)

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To open the door to sth

To pave the way for sth

To be a gateway to sth

PLAN :

- Nasa = needs to collect rocks
- Rules are needed → same as for oceans
- But since this is being done by private companies → criticisms and questions about regulation and a potential commercialization of space

Nasa's plan to send humans to the moon again is specific in that¹, as the astronauts will have to find resources to subsist there, Nasa needs to collect lunar dust and rocks. To do so, it is hiring private companies, which is a first². Private companies are also being commissioned³ to ship equipment to the moon to prepare for human missions there. Yet, although Nasa claims this is done in compliance with⁴ international treaties, the programme is seen by some as a privatization and commercialization of space.

87 words

¹ **In that** = en ce que / dans la mesure où / du fait que

² **It is a first** = unprecedented / unheard of

³ **To commission sb to do sth** = charger qn de faire qch

⁴ **In compliance** / kəm'plaiəns/ **with** = conformément à

MINES-PONTS – GOLDEN RULES

Q2/Essay

- INTRODUCTION (courte)
 - Accroche
 - Problématique
 -  Interdit de recopier la question 

- PARAGRAPHES (avec exemples)

- CONCLUSION

Introduction : ~~Nowadays, space exploration is developing, so we can wonder what its advantages and drawbacks are.~~

~~First, this program has advantages.....~~

~~However, it could lead to inequalities.....~~

~~Conclusion : It has advantages but it may lead to inequalities.~~



2. In your opinion, what **advantages and disadvantages** would **this programme** entail **for the US and the rest of the world**? (180 words, $\pm 10\%$)

Traveling to the Moon used to be a dream. Now it has become a way to obtain money and resources.

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→ Traveling to the moon used to be a dream, which has now become a reality. Unfortunately, with NASA's latest program, I fear it has become nothing more than a way to make money and exploit resources.

[Hook.....] However, to what extent is this programme really beneficial to the US and to the world?

[Hook.....] However, to what extent is this programme really beneficial to the US and to the world?

OR : While this program is clearly beneficial for the United States, what about the rest of the world?

CONCLUSIONS :

I believe that NASA's program should be viewed more as a way to ease tensions than to fuel them. ✓

This program could have many benefits but it will certainly lead to many conflicts between countries

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→ This program could have many benefits, but it will cause **too many** conflicts between countries to be considered beneficial.

- ① Although Nasa's Artemis program looks promising,
 ② **I have serious concerns** that it could have harmful consequences both on earth and in space.

At first sight, it is beneficial for the whole world as lunar and Mars exploration may be a way out⁵ in case mankind needs a planet B since planet earth is irretrievably decaying. Using private companies to carry out this task may also boost space research as competition leads to faster results, and at a lower cost. **But above all**, this a boon⁶ for the US, which can have some kind of monopoly on lunar resources and establish rules that put it at an advantage.

Therein lies the rub⁷. It will probably make America the leader, while other countries will remain followers. If the most powerful nations on earth become the most powerful ones in space, the flawed⁸ models that already exist here on earth are simply exported to space, with the same inequalities. **Similarly**, the privatization and overexploitation of resources on Earth have had disastrous consequences which should not be replicated in space.

In short, I believe the negatives outweigh the positives⁹, as the risk of repeating the mistakes made on earth is too high.
 198w.

① Accroche (≠ "Nowadays")

② Problématique / Thèse défendue

Start from the most obvious arguments

Above all (≠ also / moreover) = end with the most forceful argument

The beginning of the second paragraph echoes the end of the first one.

Similarly ≠ moreover.

Conclusion

≠ ~~*there are pros and cons~~

Answering the question and adding sth (there are pros and cons, but there are more cons than pros)

⁵ A way out = une issue

⁶ A boon = une aubaine

⁷ Therein lies the rub / There's the rub = voilà le hic

That's where the shoe pinches = c'est là que le bât blesse

⁸ Flawed = imperfect / defective

⁹ To outweigh sth = être plus lourd que / l'emporter sur

Le gouvernement =

L'industrie spatiale =

Envoyer des fusées dans l'espace permet d'exploiter plus de ressources.

Avoir la capacité d'envoyer des hommes sur la lune est un véritable progrès.

Ces dernières années Ces recherches ont apporté beaucoup d'information utiles.

*These companies are from the USA : Space X, Sierra Nevada Corp, etc.

*It disagrees with the idea that ...