

Guided Writing

Reading

1 Read the blog and choose the best title.

- a The possible environmental cost of space exploration
- b New technology makes space tourism affordable for all
- c Space exploration to pay for space tourism in the next ten years

With less money available for space exploration, governments are seeing private companies funding new projects with money from a new industry: space tourism. But what will the long-term consequences be?

Every industry needs people to run it, and if space tourism 'takes off', there will be job opportunities for pilots, cabin attendants, engineers, ground-control staff and travel agents. Also, much of the money (around \$100,000 each) that tourists pay will fund future space exploration.

However, it is not all good news. Firstly, getting a rocket through our atmosphere is dangerous – seven astronauts died in the 1980s space shuttle Challenger tragedy. Secondly, there is a cost to the environment; burning fuel from rockets will leave huge amounts of carbon on the upper part of our atmosphere. This will stay in the atmosphere and increase global warming.

Space tourism will provide job opportunities and the chance for some people to have the experience of a lifetime. However, unless a safe, clean fuel can be developed, the cost to the environment will probably be too great to sustain the industry in the long term.

SEP 19

11 COMMENTS

2 Match the paragraphs 1-4 with their functions a-d.

- 1 paragraph 1
- 2 paragraph 2
- 3 paragraph 3
- 4 paragraph 4

- a presents the disadvantages of space tourism
- b introduces the subject of space tourism
- c summarises the two arguments and makes a conclusion
- d presents the advantages of space tourism

3 Look back at the text and find four aspects of space travel in the box that are mentioned. Write them in the correct column.

too expensive job opportunities dangerous
will help develop new technology
will help pay for new space exploration
environmental damage

advantages	disadvantages

