

Unit 3

Name:

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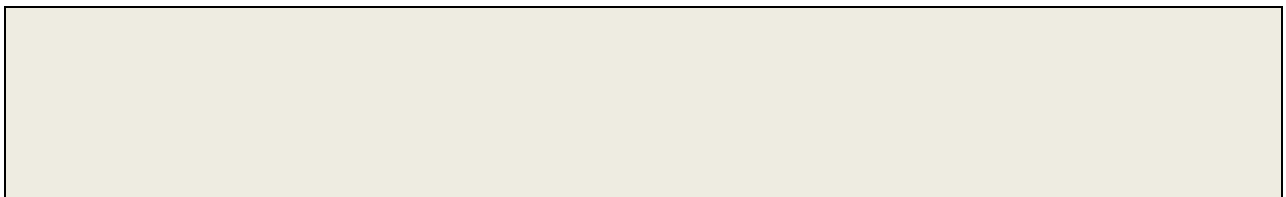
3-5 Section 1: Explanation Writing

Choose from one of the following topics to write your explanation.

- Explain the three types of planets in our solar system: terrestrial, gas giants, and planetoids.
- Explain three parts of the space race between the United States and Russia.
- Explain three ways an astronaut's needs are met on a spacecraft.
- Explain the backgrounds and locations of three constellations in the night sky (Use different ones than those provided in this Unit.)
- Explain three achievements Canadians have accomplished in Space such as Alberta's first student-launched satellite in 2017.
- Explain how a space-related item located in a Science museum (Telus World of Science; Telus Spark) works. Divide into three parts.
- Explain three parts of an asteroid's typical day or dangers routinely faced.
- Other

Organize Your Explanation

1. Begin with a focus statement that tells what the explanation will be about.
2. The main ideas of three categories are written in three topic sentences.
3. The body sentences present specific details of each of the three categories.
4. The closing sentence makes a final statement about the topic.
5. You may include a picture(s) for further explanation and clarity if needed.



3-5 Explanation Rubric

Criteria	Excellent 5	Proficient 4	Satisfactory 3	Limited 2
Content /5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I explored the topic <i>insightfully</i>.• I used <i>precise, well-chosen</i> details.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I explored the topic <i>thoughtfully</i>.• I used <i>credible, logical</i> details.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I explored the topic <i>predictably</i>.• I used <i>general, basic</i> details.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I explored the topic <i>haphazardly</i>.• I used <i>limited, confusing</i> details.
Organization /5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I controlled focus <i>skillfully</i> with focus statement, three main ideas and supporting details.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I controlled focus <i>purposefully</i> with focus statement, three main ideas and supporting details.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I controlled focus <i>basically</i> with focus statement, three main ideas and supporting details.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I <i>struggled to</i> control focus with focus statement, three main ideas and supporting details.
Voice: Words and Sentences /5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I communicated <i>engagingly</i> with <i>precise</i> words and <i>well-varied</i> sentences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I communicated <i>credibly</i> with <i>apt</i> words and <i>systematically varied</i> sentences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I communicated <i>clearly</i> with <i>inconsistently</i> varied sentences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I communicated <i>unclearly</i> with <i>unvaried</i> sentences.
Conventions /5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I communicated <i>accurately</i> with <i>no</i> errors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I communicated <i>thoughtfully</i> with <i>few</i> errors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I communicated <i>clearly</i> with <i>some</i> errors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I communicated <i>unclearly</i> with <i>many</i> errors.
Insufficient	Your attempt to respond is <i>insufficient</i> . Contact your teacher to discuss suggestions for improvement.			
Total: /20				
Assessment	Areas of Strength:			
	Target for Improvement:			

Total of Section 1: /20 marks

Section 2: Unit 3 Reflection

Look back at the important things you learned during this unit, remembering what you did and what you learned.

Three key learning goals were: *Make connections to what you already know and wonder about space, use scientific terms to describe and explain information, and research and present information about space.*

Consider how these experiences helped you answer the unit's guiding question: What does it mean to explore?

Write a personal letter to Earth in the role of an astronaut about what it means to explore. Use the format below.

Replace date, name, address etc. with fictitious information you will provide.

	Your (Astronaut's) Street Address City, AB Postal Code
Date	
Name of Recipient	
Street Address	
City, Province Abbreviation(AB) Postal Code	
Dear _____:	
Your Personal Message	
Sincerely,	
Signature	

Your Name

3-5 Letter Rubric

Criteria	Excellent 5	Proficient 4	Satisfactory 3	Limited 2
Content /5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I explored the topic <i>insightfully</i>.• I used <i>precise, well-chosen</i> details.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I explored the topic <i>thoughtfully</i>.• I used <i>credible, logical</i> details.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I explored the topic <i>predictably</i>.• I used <i>general, basic</i> details.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I explored the topic <i>haphazardly</i>.• I used <i>limited, confusing</i> details.
Presentation /5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I used personal letter format <i>skillfully</i> with date, address, greeting, body, and signature.• I communicated <i>engagingly</i> with <i>no</i> errors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I used personal letter format <i>purposefully</i> with date, address, greeting, body, and signature.• I communicated <i>thoughtfully</i> with <i>few</i> errors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I used personal letter format <i>basically</i> with date, address, greeting, body, and signature.• I communicated <i>clearly</i> with <i>some</i> errors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I <i>struggled to</i> use personal letter format with date, address, greeting, body, and signature.• I communicated <i>unclearly</i> with <i>many</i> errors.
Insufficient	Your attempt to respond is <i>insufficient</i> . Contact your teacher to discuss suggestions for improvement.			
Total: /10				
Assessment	Areas of Strength:			
	Target for Improvement:			

Total of Section 2: /10 marks

Overall Total: /30 marks



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