



Spelling and Vocabulary

Blast Off!

atmosphere	gravity	parachute
capsule	headphones	precious
computer	instrument	signal
countdown	launch	traveller
explosion	module	technicians
flights	nervous	weighed

Find the words from the list above which complete the following sentences, and write out each word in the space provided.

1 Yuri Gagarin was _____ as he prepared for the first space flight. (Clue: anxious, excitable, highly strung)

2 Suddenly, the pre-launch _____ was stopped. (Clue: numbering in reverse order, the series ending in zero)

3 There was a long wait while _____ replaced the faulty hatch on the capsule. (Clue: people with technical skill, mechanics)

4 The G-force acting on Yuri was caused by the pull of _____ . (Clue: the attraction of the Earth, pulling someone down)

5 Nine minutes after liftoff the spacecraft was free of Earth's _____ . (Clue: the envelope of air around the Earth)

6 Vostok 1 was steered by a _____ on Earth, not by Yuri. (Clue: an electronic machine that can be programmed)

7 On test _____ the retro rockets had not always fired properly. (Clue: moving through the air, the path of a plane or spacecraft in space)

8 The _____ lights in the capsule started flickering. (Clue: electronic readouts or controls, panels giving information)

9 The mission controllers heard a loud _____ . (Clue: huge noise as something detonates or bursts)

10 Yuri floated down to earth under his _____ . (Clue: an umbrella-like rescue apparatus for safe descent from a height)