

Astronauts Return to Earth After Horrific Explosion

Section A

Choose the best word or group of words to fit the passage and put a ring around your choice.

On April 11th, 1970, Apollo

1 **ten** **eleven** **twelve** **thirteen**
was launched towards the moon. After turning on the oxygen tank stirring fans they heard a loud bang and all the

2 **stars** **dials** **lights** **instruments**
flickered. The crew radioed to earth to say they had

3 **finished.** **been shaken up.** **a problem.** **exploded.**
The crew had to move into the

4 **Service Module** **Command Module**
Lunar Module **Odyssey**
and use it like a life boat. They changed direction to travel back to the

5 **Earth.** **Mars.** **Moon.** **Sun.**
To save power everything was switched to the lowest levels making the Lunar Module very

6 **hot.** **warm.** **cold.** **dark.**
On the fourth day they crawled back into the Command Module and parachuted back to earth.

Section B

- Where was Apollo 13 heading for?

- Name the three parts of the Apollo 13 spacecraft.

- What exploded in the Service Module?

- Why do you think that the Lunar Module was described as a 'lifeboat'?

- Which part of the spacecraft was the only part to return to the earth?

- What does the phrase 'aborted the mission' mean?

- How do you think the astronauts would have felt when they heard a large bang?

- What is meant by the sentence 'Considering what they had been through, the crew returned in excellent condition'?

- Why do you think the astronauts had not seen that a panel was missing until the Service Module was released into space?

Section C

Imagine you are on a space mission and something goes wrong. Write a short newspaper account telling what happened.