



One Moon, Many Stories

Read the passage and answer the questions. (CEFR B1–B2)

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

1 Few things are shared by as many cultures as the full moon in autumn, yet each culture has given it a different story. In China, the moon is home to Chang'e, a woman who drank a medicine of eternal life and floated to the sky, along with a rabbit that pounds that medicine. In Japan, the same rabbit is said to pound rice cakes, perhaps because the words for full moon and pounding rice cakes sound almost the same.



2 These old stories have found new life in the space age. China named its lunar exploration program after Chang'e, and the rover it landed on the moon in 2013 was called Yutu, or Jade Rabbit. Japan's lunar orbiter, launched in 2007, was nicknamed Kaguya, after the princess in Japan's oldest tale who returns to the moon on the night of the harvest moon.

3 Science has shown that the moon is a lifeless world of rock and dust. Twelve astronauts have walked on its surface, and none of them found a rabbit. But the names we give our spacecraft suggest that we still want the moon to carry our stories.

Comprehension

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Science has proved that old stories about the moon are useless.
- (B) Many cultures tell different stories about the autumn moon, and these stories still live on in the names of spacecraft.
- (C) Only Japan and China have stories about the moon.
- (D) The rabbit on the moon was first seen by astronauts.

2. According to the passage, what does the rabbit on the moon pound in Chinese stories?

- (A) Rice plants
- (B) Rice cakes
- (C) Rocks and dust
- (D) A medicine of eternal life

3. What was the name of the rover that China landed on the moon in 2013?

- (A) Yutu
- (B) Kaguya
- (C) Jugoya
- (D) Chang'e

4. What does the word "perhaps" in paragraph 1 suggest?

- (A) The writer has proved why the Japanese rabbit pounds rice cakes.
- (B) The writer thinks the Chinese story is more correct than the Japanese one.
- (C) The reason about similar-sounding words is one possible explanation, not a proven fact.
- (D) Nobody in Japan knows the story of the moon rabbit.

5. In paragraph 2, the phrase "found new life" is closest in meaning to

- (A) were forgotten
- (B) were proved wrong
- (C) were found on the moon
- (D) became used or important again in a new way

6. Why does the writer mention that none of the twelve astronauts found a rabbit?

- (A) To criticize astronauts for not looking carefully.
- (B) To make a light contrast between scientific facts and the stories people still want to tell.
- (C) To prove that Chinese stories are more accurate than Japanese ones.
- (D) To explain why China named its rover Jade Rabbit.



Vocabulary, Paraphrase & Summary

Match the words with the definitions. Then rewrite and summarize.

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. eternal | a. to move slowly through the air or stay on top of water |
| 2. float | b. to hit something again and again with a heavy tool |
| 3. pound | c. the act of traveling to an unknown place to learn about it |
| 4. exploration | d. to send a rocket or spacecraft into the sky or into space |
| 5. launch | e. to give someone or something an informal name, not the official one |
| 6. nickname | f. the outside or top layer of something |
| 7. surface | g. to show that something is probably true without saying it directly |
| 8. suggest | h. lasting forever, without an end |

Paraphrase — say it in your own words

1. “Few things are shared by as many cultures as the full moon in autumn, yet each culture has given it a different story.”

Hint: Start with "Many cultures enjoy" and use "but" and "their own story".

2. “These old stories have found new life in the space age.”

Hint: Use "are used again" and "now that people explore space".

3. “But the names we give our spacecraft suggest that we still want the moon to carry our stories.”

Hint: Start with "Even so" and use "show" and "keep our stories alive".

Summary

Summarize the passage in about 50 words.



Debate & Opinion Essay

Prepare for a debate. Then write your opinion (100–150 words).

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

Motion: Space agencies should name their spacecraft after myths and old stories.

FOR 賛成

- Names like Kaguya and Yutu make people feel close to science, so more people follow the missions with interest.
- Old stories show a country's culture. Using them in space shares that culture with the whole world.
- Myths are about human dreams of the sky. Naming spacecraft after them connects old dreams with new science.

Add your own reason:

AGAINST 反対

- Some myths are tied to one religion or one culture, so the names may not feel fair in international projects.
- Simple names with numbers or clear descriptions are easier to understand and do not cause confusion.
- Using national myths can turn science into a tool for national pride and competition, not shared knowledge.

Add your own reason:

Opinion	<i>I believe / I think that ...</i>
Reason 1	<i>First, ... For example, ...</i>
Reason 2	<i>Second, ... In fact, ...</i>
Counter	<i>Some people say ... However, ...</i>
Conclusion	<i>In conclusion, ...</i>