

# Off to Outer Space Tomorrow Morning

## Important questions and answers

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1. Why does the poet say calendar and clock are useless in space?

Answer: The poet says this statement because in space there is no work, no day and night and no seasons. Totally there was no change in atmosphere, so there was no need of calendar and clock.

2. Why does Norman Nicholson feel that he is imprisoned in space?

Answer: Norman Nicholson would be completely isolated from the world. No one would visit him, and he wouldn't have any friends nearby. He wouldn't write or receive any letters. It would be as if he were a prisoner, alone and without contact with others.

3. Why do the tea cups circle around him in 'Off to Outer Space Tomorrow Morning'?

Answer: On Earth, things are pulled down because of gravity. But in space, there's no gravity. So, if you have a teacup or anything else in space, it would float and spin around like planets going around the Sun.

4. Give some instances of daily routine mentioned in the poem 'Off to Outer Space Tomorrow Morning'?

Answer: Writing letters, posting mail, people visiting, knocking at the door and phone contact. The speaker cannot do all these things because he is in space.

5. How has the poet described the life in space in the poem 'Off to Outer Space Tomorrow Morning'?

Answer: The poet said that the concept of day and night doesn't apply in space. There will be no communication in the form of letters and mails. Calendars and clocks are useless in space. Totally.

6. Why does the poet say 'you can take a last look' and 'you can cross out my name in the telephone book'?

OR

The speaker in 'Off to Outer Space Tomorrow Morning' is uncertain of his return. How does he express this?

Answer: The poet said that people can have a last look at him because he's getting ready to go to outer space. The word 'last' suggests that the speaker is not sure if he'll come back. He wants his name removed from the telephone book, because he won't be reachable, and no one can contact him.

7. How would people on the earth watch astronaut? Would it affect him in any way?

Answer: People on the earth watch the astronaut on television or track him through their telescope. But the astronaut would not care any of this. He would be in his own world in space.

8. "The poet is off to outer space tomorrow morning." What does he ask the readers to do?

Answer: The poet asks for his helmet to be passed on. He even asks the listener to begin the countdown and take a last look. So he says that his name can be crossed out from the telephone book as he would remain inaccessible from the next day.

9. "There won't be any calendar; there won't be any clock."

a) Who is off to outer space?

Answer: The speaker/the poet

b) Where is the speaker experiencing this?

Answer: In the outer Space

c) Why will there be no calendars or clocks?

Answer: There are no seasons, no day and night.

10. "With tea cups circling round me like the planets round the sun."

a) Where would the poet experience this?

Answer: In the space

b) Why does the speaker say so?

Answer: There is no gravity force in space.

c) What does the figure of speech refer here?

Answer: Simile

11. "You can cross out my name from the telephone book."

a) Who is the speaker?

Answer: The astronaut / the poet

b) Where is he going to?

Answer: He is going into the space.

c) Why does he want to cross out his name?

Answer: There will be no communication by phone.

12. "I'll doze when I'm sleepy and wake without a knock."

a) Who will doze?

Answer: The astronaut / the poet

b) Where is he sleeping?

Answer: In the space craft

c) Why does he do so?

Answer: Because in space there will be no days and nights.