

Off to Outer Space Tomorrow Morning

Extract question and answer

1. "There won't be any calendar, Daylight will be on the switch and winter under lock."

a) What is 'there' referred here?

Answer: 'There' is referred to 'space'.

b) Winter under lock" – what does this mean?

Answer: 'Winter under lock' means that there is no change of seasons.

c) Why are calendars useless in outer space?

Answer: There are no seasons and concept of day and night in space.

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

a) Who said this?

Answer: The astronaut

b) Where is he going to?

Answer: to the space next morning.

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

Answer: There will be no communication by phone.

3. "For with nobody to visit me and not a friend in hail,
In solitary confinement as complete as any gaol".

a) Who would feel solitary?

Answer: The astronauts

b) Why is there nobody to visit him?

Answer: Because the speaker is in the space, about twenty hundred light-years away.

c) Why does he say so?

Answer: He was confined as in jail in the capsule door of the spacecraft.

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

a) Who will doze?

Answer: The astronaut

b) Where is he sleeping?

Answer: in the space craft

c) Why does he feel so?

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

5. "For I am off to Outer Space tomorrow morning".

a) Who is going to outer space?

Answer: the poet / The astronaut

b) Why is the above line repeated in the poem?

Answer: to highlight eagerness of the speaker to start on the space voyage.

c) What does he tell the readers to do?

Answer: Start count down and cross out his name from the telephone book.

6. "With the tea cups circling round me like the planets round the Sun,"

a) Where does this happen?

Answer: in the space

b) Who does feel so?

Answer: The astronaut

c) Why is it happening only in the space?

Answer: Because there is no gravity power in space.

7. "But you needn't think I'll give you a damn for you or what you are."

a) Who does 'I' refer here?

Answer: 'I' refers to the astronaut

b) What does the phrase 'I'll give you a damn for you' mean?

Answer: This means that the astronaut would have no time to think about others.

c) Why does he say so?

Answer: Because there would be no telephone/mail contacts.

8. "Then you and every soul on earth can go and blow your top."

a) Who is the speaker of the above statement?

Answer: The astronaut

b) Where is the speaker going to?

Answer: The speaker is going to space.

c) Why does he say every soul to blow their top?

Answer: Because it takes twenty hundred light years to travel.