



Comprehension Paper – resource booklet

You will need to read use the text and images in this booklet to help you with questions in **Section A** and **Section C**.

Read the text and study the images carefully. You can highlight, underline or make notes in this booklet.

Section A

Man’s attempt to land on the Moon – real and imagined

Question 1

Use the passage below and the images on the opposite page to complete the table in Question 1 of the answer booklet.

One early example of lunar fiction was Lucian’s *A True Story* written in the second century. In the story, Lucian sails westwards through the Strait of Gibraltar in order to explore lands beyond. Shortly after arriving on an island, they are lifted by a whirlwind and deposited on the Moon seven days later. There they find themselves embroiled in a full-scale war between the king of the Moon and the king of the Sun, which involves armies of stalk-and-mushroom men, acorn dogs and cloud centaurs.

In 1638 Francis Godwin produced his *Man in the Moon*. In this work Gonsales, a Spaniard, is forced to flee the country and ends up on the island of St Helena. There he discovers a species of wild swan – the gansa – able to carry substantial loads and build a device that allows him to harness many of them together and fly around the island. He attempts to fly home, but his birds fly higher and higher, towards the Moon, which they reach after a journey of twelve days. There Gonsales encounters the Lunars, a tall Christian people inhabiting what appears to be a utopian paradise.

From the Earth to the Moon by Jules Verne was written in 1865 and is set in the United States. The story opens shortly after the end of the American Civil War. The Gun Club, dedicated to the design of weapons of all kinds (especially cannons), comes together when Impey Barbicane, its president, calls them to support his latest idea. He’s done some calculations, and believes that they could construct a cannon capable of shooting a projectile to the Moon. In the end, the projectile is successfully launched. The sequel, *Around the Moon*, deals with what happens to the three men in their travels from the earth to the Moon.

The First Men in the Moon by HG Wells was written thirty-six years later. The narrator is a man called Bedford who meets a famous physicist Mr Cavor, who is developing a new material called cavorite, which can negate the force of gravity. Cavor decides to build a spherical spaceship and persuades Bedford to undertake a voyage to the Moon. On the surface of the Moon the two men discover a desolate landscape, but as the sun rises, the thin, frozen atmosphere vaporises and strange plants begin to grow with extraordinary rapidity. They encounter ‘great beasts’, ‘monsters of mere fatness’, which they call ‘mooncalves’.

Image A

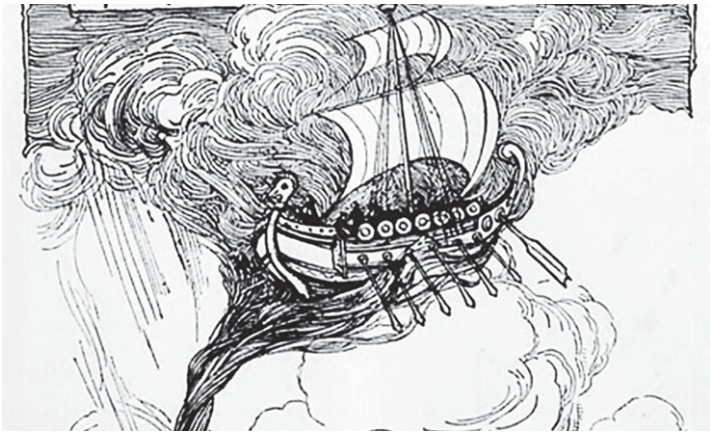


Image B



Image C

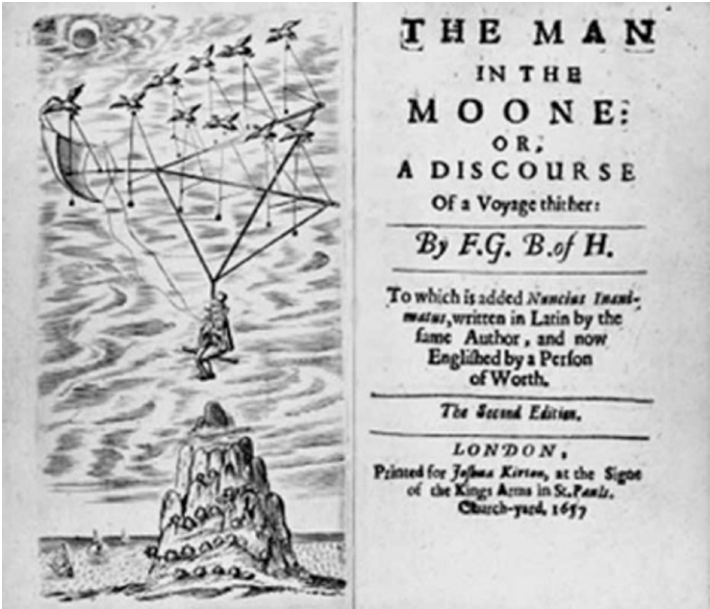
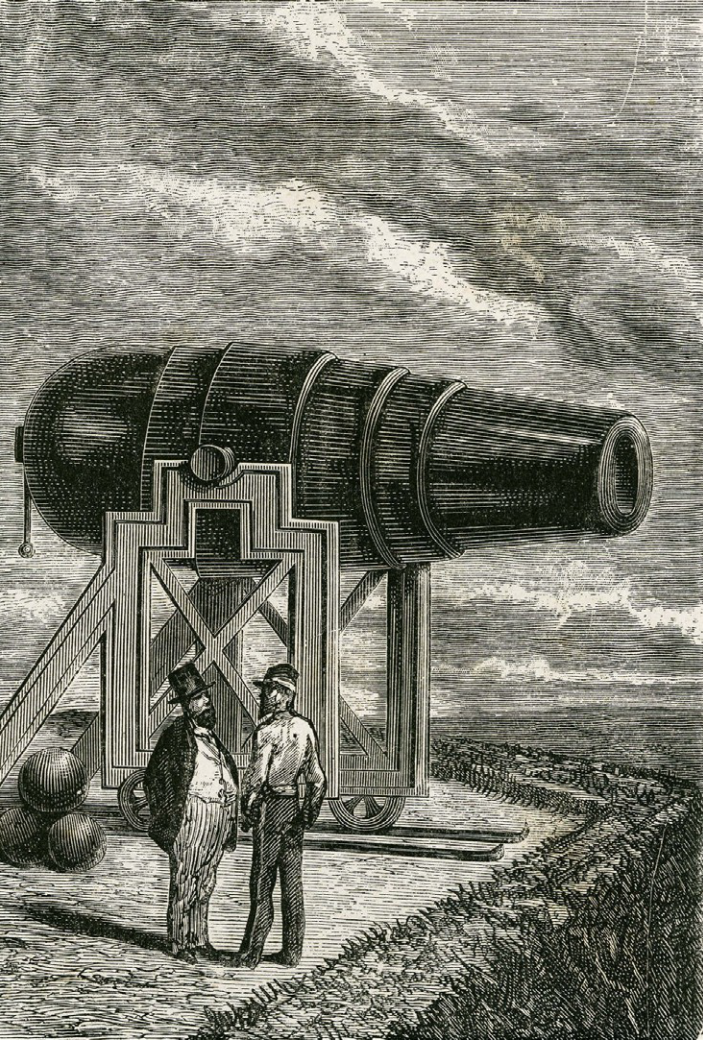


Image D



Section C

The Moon and meteorite craters

Question 3

The results of the scientists’ experiments are shown here. Use these results to complete Question 3 in the answer booklet.

