
Astronomy 312

'In the Shadow of the Moon' - 2 hours

Questions to accompany a viewing of the movie.

"I believe this nation should commit itself... before this decade is out ... of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth."

- John F. Kennedy

Discussion Questions

1. What was Neil Armstrong like?
2. Who was known as "Dr. Rendezvous"? Why?
3. What was the approximate population of the Earth in the late 1960's? Now? Surprised?
4. What was "gimballing" on the Saturn V? What about it made Michael Collins nervous?
5. What was it that surprised the astronauts about the Saturn V during launch?
6. What interesting things happened as the Saturn V's first stage shut down & separated?
7. How did the astronauts variously describe the Earth as viewed from space?
8. Michael Collins says he wasn't scared but he was nervous. Why?
9. What was CAPCOM?
10. Why did Apollo 11's Lunar Module (LM) computer report 'Alarm 1202'?
11. Why was flying the LM horizontally 'bad'?
12. Why did Neil Armstrong have to change the planned landing site for Apollo 11?
13. Why was Mission Control 'turning blue' near the end of Apollo 11's moon landing?
14. The first words spoken from the surface of the Moon were...?
15. What does the surface of the Moon look like?
16. What did the astronauts have to say about Apollo being a 'hoax'?