

Captain: With our passenger safely on board, we prepare for lift-off. *(to crew)* Set Galactic's co-ordinates for Mars!

Crew: **Aye Aye Captain!** *(always with a salute)*

6. Passage to Mars

Captain: (letter A) Now breathing comfortably through our state of the art oxygen supply, Neil tells us about life as a young astronaut with the famous Lunar Settlement Division. He was named after the first man on the Moon, Neil Armstrong and so was surely destined for greatness! But now, as he gazes down at his home, quickly disappearing in the fiery blast from our rocket engines, Neil is sad. He is no doubt experiencing the come-down from all that contaminated air.

Major Neil: **I was the last to join them and now the last to leave. I spent two decades staring at planet earth, as every corner slowly turned from blue to black. I've had a bird's eye view of our inhumanity. Believe me, it does something to you after a while.**

Captain: We peer down at Earth. He is right. It looks dreadful. How could we have let this happen? How can we possibly help? There have been expeditions to Mars before, but none have ever returned. The 300-million-mile journey is fraught with danger. Was our rocket fast enough to escape the pull of Earth's gravity? Had we launched at the right time when the worlds were closest together or would we run out of fuel? Everything from this point on was just theory. Some of us wished we had never even started!

Major Neil: **What is the one language that everyone in the universe can understand, regardless of where you come from or which God you believe in?**

All: **Music!**

Major Neil: **So, when you reach Mars you must make musical contact. Or all is lost. Peace and Hope!** *(with signs)*

All: **Be with you as you go!** *(with signs)*

Captain: *(shouting above music at letter C)* We're approaching Mars! *(noise intensifies and crew sway backwards and forwards as indicated on score)* I don't think this will be as straightforward as the moon landing! We need more power!

Crew: **I'm giving her all she's got Captain!**

Captain: London, we have a problem!

As the ship finally crash-lands, one crew member vomits into a bag labelled "Space Sick".

At letter D The crew place a flag into the ground, which is blessed by the chaplain, and they explore the landscape (walking without gravity). At Letter E the crew freeze (incl non-playing musicians!).

Crew: *(after pause at end)* **Hey there, do you like to play music too?** *(crew relax)*

6 Passage to Mars Underscore

David Stanley

♩=140 Sci-fi March

Piano *ff*

8^{va}

A

Captain: Now breathing comfortably...

4 **♩=80**

Ob.

Pno. *p*

8

Ob.

Pno.

13

Pno.

17

Ob.

Pno.

1.

B

Major Neil: What is the one language...

21 ^{2.}

Pno.

Crew: Music!

Cue to move to letter C: Crew shout "Be with you as you go"

26

Pno.

C

♩=140 Sci-fi March

Captain: We're approaching Mars... I don't think this will be as straightforward as the moon landing!

(crew's arms move)

27 (crew's shoulders move)

f accel.

Pno.

Captain: We need more power! Crew: I'm giving it all she's got Captain!

(crew sway right) "Whoah!" etc

31

Pno.

Captain: London, we have a problem!

(crew sway left)

(crew falls forward)

35

Pno.

(crew falls back)

(crew all over the place!)

8va

A crew member vomits!

39

Pno.

ff

D

First time: The crew place a flag into the Martian ground, moving without gravity. The flag is blessed by the chaplain. On the repeat the crew walk on the spot, wave and sign without gravity.

♩=120

43

Pno.

E

rall.

Maestoso ♩=110

The crew freeze (incl. musicians)

49

Pno.

To Br.

Brass

To Tba.

fff

fff

55

Br.

63

Br.

rit.

p

After pause..."Hey there, do you like to play music too?" (crew relax)