

Name: _____ Date: _____

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Vocabulary:

"Disaster in Space"

1. catapult (CAT-uh-puhlt) *noun or verb*; A catapult is a device that hurls objects through the air. In ancient times, catapults were used to throw large stones or arrows at enemies.

The verb *catapult* can mean "to throw or launch something through the air" or "to be thrown or launched through the air." It can also mean "to quickly move up or ahead." For example, starring in a hit movie could catapult an actor's career.

2. critical (CRIT-ih-kuhl) *adjective*; This word has several meanings. It can mean "to have a negative opinion of" or "related to critics" (people who review things like books and movies). *Critical* can also mean "involving careful thought or judgment" (as in "critical thinking") or "at a very important moment or turning point" (as in "The team is at a critical point in the season"). Another meaning of critical is "absolutely necessary."

3. dismal (DIZ-muhl) *adjective*; If something is dismal, it is depressing, sad, and gloomy. In the photo below, a girl looks out the window at the dismal weather.

4. lunar (LOO-ner) *adjective*; *Lunar* means "related to the moon." A lunar landing is a landing on the moon. A lunar mission is a mission to the moon.

5. monitor (MAHN-ih-tur) *noun or verb*; A monitor is a device or a person who checks closely to see how something is doing. The verb *monitor* means "to watch or check on something over a period of time."

6. orbit (OHR-bit) *noun or verb*; An orbit is a path that one object in space takes around another one. In a year, the Earth travels around the sun once; the path that the Earth takes is its orbit.

As a verb, *orbit* means "to travel around something in a curved path." The Earth orbits the sun.

7. satellite (SAT-uhl-lahyt) *noun*; A satellite is a thing that orbits something larger than it. A satellite can be a natural object, such as a planet. A satellite can also be an object that humans have placed into orbit.

8. vie (VAHY) *verb*; To vie for something is to compete for it. In a race, runners vie for first place. Kids might vie for their parents' attention. The dogs in the photo below are vying for the ball.