ONE BIG QUESTION

TEACHER'S GUIDE

Listening activities and suggested answers

How did Apollo 13 get back to Earth?

This version: English | Duration: 7:52 (about 8 min)

Publication forthcoming. Planned languages: Finnish and English. Public episode links have not yet been confirmed.

Introduce the questions before listening. Students write answers after the whole episode. Discuss their answers as a class or in pairs.

Suggested answers are in italics. Accept students' own wording when the meaning is correct.

1 Why did the oxygen leak threaten more than breathing?

Fuel cells also used oxygen to make electricity and water. The leak threatened breathable oxygen, power and water together.

2 How did the lunar module Aquarius help save the crew?

It had its own oxygen, batteries and controls. Three astronauts used it as a lifeboat while saving the command capsule's power for the final return.

3 How were the wrong-shaped carbon dioxide filters made to work?

Engineers designed an adapter using supplies already aboard. The crew used a bag, cardboard, a hose and tape to make a sealed air path through the filter.

4 Design an adapter on paper

The air path passes through the filter and into the hose without open gaps at the joints. A bag, cardboard and tape are episode examples. Copying the exact historical device is not required.

Teaching tip: Ask students to trace the air path with a finger on their drawing.