**Actuele lesbrief Engels – Perseverance**

**Voor de docent**

Mars 2020 is een robotische rovermissie van nasa naar Mars. Volgens planning wordt de missie op 17 juli 2020 gelanceerd.

**ERK-niveau**

Lezen A2 - Lezen om informatie op te doen – Kan specifieke informatie begrijpen in eenvoudige teksten. (LEA2-3a)

Leesstrategieën – Kan zijn of haar begrip van de algemene betekenis van korte teksten over alledaagse onderwerpen van concrete aard gebruiken om de vermoedelijke betekenis van onbekende woorden af te leiden uit de context.

Kan gebruikmaken van tweetalige (online) woordenboeken om woordbegrip te controleren, indien toegestaan.

**Intro**

NASA is planning a new Mars rover mission: Mars 2020. The launch is planned 17 July 2020.

Assignment 1

Read the assignment and write down the answers in English. You may use English-language Internet sources to help you. If you only know the Dutch word, use a dictionary to find the English word.

a An acronym is an abbreviation formed from the first letters of other words and pronounced as a word. NASA is an acronym. Find out what NASA stands for. Next, find out the name of the European organisation that works in the same field.

b Name at least 3 other acronyms. For each acronym, also write down what it stands for.

**“Perseverance”**

NASA is planning a new Mars rover mission: Mars 2020. NASA held a contest in the United States. They asked school kids of all ages to come up with possible names for the new Mars rover. Read the whole story [here](https://phys.org/news/2020-03-perseverance-mars-rover-july.html).

Assignment 2

Read the text. Connect the words and expressions in the two columns that have the same meaning.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. rover | *a.* activities of making something ready for something |
| 1. six-wheeled | *b.* activity of searching things and finding out more about them |
| 1. to blast off | *c.* giving protection |
| 1. Martian | *d.* having six wheels |
| 1. samples | *e.* last |
| 1. contest | *f.* to leave the ground and go into space |
| 1. explorer | *g.* a machine used for exploring the surface of a moon, planet, etc. |
| 1. setbacks | *h.* of or from the planet Mars |
| 1. curiosity | *i.* a person who travels to places where no one has ever been in order to find out what is there |
| 1. exploration | *j.* a person whose job is to design or build machines, engines, etc. |
| 1. entry | *k.* persons competing in the last part of a contest, competition, race, etc. |
| 1. finalists | *l.* problems that make it more difficult to finish things |
| 1. to become enamored | *m.* a situation in which someone is trying to win something |
| 1. engineer | *n.* small amounts of something that gives you information about the thing it was taken from |
| 1. final | *o.* to start liking something a lot |
| 1. preparations | *p.* the thing that you do or make to take part in a contest |
| 1. protective | *q.* the wish to learn or know more about something or someone |

Assignment 3

a 1 Look up what “perseverance” means.

2 Write down the Dutch translation of the word.

b Who is Alex Mather?

1 One of the first people who will travel to Mars.

2 The associate administrator who works for NASA.

3 The boy who came up with the name for the new Mars rover.

4 The boy who thought of the name “Curiosity” for a Mars rover.

c Alex wrote: “We can persevere.” What does he mean?

1 We are a species of explorers.

2 We will meet many setbacks on the way to Mars.

3 We will not give up.

4 We will win this contest.

d What are Alex Mather’s plans for the future?

1 He wants to become an astronaut and work for NASA.

2 He wants to become an engineer and work for NASA.

3 He wants to become a space explorer.

4 He wants to become a video games designer.

Assignment 4

a [Wash your hands](https://actueel.malmberg.nl/act-engels/clean-hands/).

b [Keep your distance](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRxxGyPufJ8). (6 feet = ~ 2 metres)

c [Be kind](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T3hnKqWrSBw).

d [Stay calm and carry on](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k8hj_fKsgio).