

Apollo 13

Apollo 13 followed the USA's two successful space missions to the Moon, *Apollo 11* and *12*. On 13 April, 1970, two days after launch, *Apollo 13*'s journey to the Moon went wrong. An oxygen tank burst and caused an explosion in the Service Module. The blast put the Service Module engine out of action and damaged power and life support systems on board. The major incident was calmly reported to Earth with the words "Okay, Houston, we've had a problem here". The mission to land on the Moon was abandoned and all effort was put into getting the three-man crew home safely. The astronauts used the engine of the Lunar Module, originally intended for getting on and off the Moon, to take them around the Moon and return to Earth.

Friday 17th July

English Task 1: Read 1



The *Apollo 13* crew members travelled a record distance of 400,171km (248,655 miles) from Earth.