

## Mock Exam II

Space Race is the world's biggest Money Waster.

### Outline:

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Attention Grabber/Hook
- 1.2 Background information
- 1.3 Thesis Statement: The space race, despite showcasing a country's technological advancements, is the world's biggest expenditure with limited benefits to mankind.

#### 2. Main Body

- 2.1 Economic Impact of Space Race
  - 2.1.1 Apollo mission expenditure
  - 2.1.2 Opportunity costs.
- 2.2 Limited Practical Impact of Space Race
  - 2.2.1 Short term vs Long term Benefits
  - 2.2.2 Limited effect on average person.

### 2.3 Alternative Investments

2.3.1 Environmental Conservation

2.3.2 Infrastructure Development.

### 2.4 Social and Ethical Consideration

2.4.1 Social Inequity

2.4.2 Prioritize urgent humanitarian need over space exploration.

### 2.5 Scientific and Educational implications

2.5.1 Research of other vital areas.

### 2.6 International Relations and Politics

2.6.1 Political Motive

2.6.2 Global competition

## 3. Conclusion

3.1 Summary of Arguments

3.2 Concluding thoughts.

## The Essay

The memoirs of former Soviet Union Premier, Nikita Khrushchev, clearly admitted that in 1960's Soviet Union expenditure on space technology was staggering. In 1960's, USSR's budget on space program was 5-6% percent. Also the

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launch of Sputnik and Yuri Gagarin's historic orbit in 1957 and 1961 respectively, cause a lot of economic mishaps. The most important aspect is that it was all happening when the average Soviet citizen was facing chronic shortages of basic commodities like food, clothing and household items. Furthermore, the resources was diverted towards space exploration rather than other vital sectors i.e agriculture. So it suffered due to lack of investments and modernization leading to severe food shortage in Soviet Union. This stark contrast demonstrates that space exploration missions are often taken at the expense of mislocating human resources that could be better utilized elsewhere. The billions spent on the space missions could be spent on improving the living standard of people. Moreover, not only USSR many other countries also adopt the same path. This happens because one country's space advancement engages other country in international arena to compete in space race. This causes the competition between them. The consequences of this competition are faced by average human.

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The space race despite showcasing a country's technological advancement, is the world's biggest expenditure with limited benefits to mankind and average human life. The whole world is prioritizing space exploration over human development. This is leading towards the disparities among the humans.

The first and the foremost is the economic impacts of space race on the already devastating humans. According to the **Worldbank**, in 2022, a total of 712 million people globally were living in extreme poverty with earning of less than 2.15 dollars per day. This is the extreme poverty line. The condition of people are getting worse day by day but the space expenditure is thriving every passing day according to **Space Foundation Analysis**, the global space economy totaled 546 billion dollars in 2022. This shows the contrast that the globally instead of investing on human development and maintaining human condition, investment is on space exploration. Moreover, US's Apollo missions from 1968 to 1972 costs

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approximately 257 billion dollars as per **NASA**. At that time, the poverty rate of US was 31.1 percent. Instead of directing money towards people's education, healthcare or food supply, the interest was in space that had no significant impact on the lives of people. If this money was invested on common people rather than on absurd space mission then inequality and suffering of common people could be lessened and they contribute in society more effectively.

The second important reason that makes the space race a total waste of world's investment is its limited impact on humans practically. The billions costing missions are no concern of average man. The common man is suffering from hunger, disease and disasters. He is busy fighting for his survival in the world. The condition of common people is getting worse. As per the **United Nation's report**, the projections are that nearly 670 million people globally will still be facing hunger in 2030. Moreover, the life expectancy is decreasing and mortality rate is increasing.

according to the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation. These facts and figures shows that the condition of common man around the globe is deteriorating. However, space missions of different countries are taking pace. ~~at~~ The space missions such as going to moon and studying black holes etc have no direct impact of people. Also the high cost of space mission could be used in human development. Furthermore, the space exploration has long term benefits but common people are in dire need of short term benefits that could elevate their condition. The long term benefits of space exploration does not compensate for the 'needs' immediate of mankind. Space race has some benefits but they are not equal to the poor living condition of people around the globe. A common<sup>man</sup> who is struggling with life has no or little interest in space mission.