**8年级（上）英语第42课时（第11周）**

**《Weather on Mars》学程拓展**

**阅读短文，按要求完成阅读练习：**

Life on another planet

Daniel wants to find out more about life in space in the future. He has found the following article by a famous scientist who thinks humans could live on Mars by the next century.

Moving to Mars

Some people believe that humans could live on the planet Mars by the year 2100. Our own planet, the Earth, is becoming more and more crowded and dirty because of the rapid increase in population. It is hoped that people could start all over again and build a better world on Mars. Here is what life there could be like.

At present, our spaceship are too slow to carry large numbers of passengers to Mars — it would take months. With the development of technology, by the year 2100, the journey might only take about 20 minutes in spacecraft that travel at the speed of light! However, the spaceship would travel so fast that the journey to Mars might be quite uncomfortable. Many people would feel ill. Humans cannot live without water, oxygen(氧气) or food.  So far, nobody knows whether there would be enough water or oxygen on Mars for people there. Moreover, scientists are not sure whether plants could grow on Mars. Food would most probably be in the form of pills（药片的形式） and would not be so tasty.  Gravity could be another problem. The gravity on Mars is only about three-eighths of that on the Earth. People would have to wear boots that are specially designed to prevent themselves from floating off into space. Compared with life on the Earth, life on Mars would be better in some ways. People could have more space. They might live in houses with huge comfortable rooms. Also, robots would do most of their work so that they could have more time to relax.  There would probably be no schools on Mars. Every student would have a computer at home connected to the network. They would study at online schools with “e-teachers”. Life on Mars would be interesting as well as challenging.

题一：

Daniel needs to check the meanings of some words in the article. Help him match the words on the left with the meanings on the right. Write the correct letters in the blanks.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. crowded    2. rapid    3. population    4. passenger    5. tasty  6. compare | a. decide in what way things are similar or different  b. having a nice taste  c. full of people  d. happening in a short period of time  e. a person who rides in a car, bus, train, etc. but does not drive it  f. the total number of people in an area, a country, etc. |

题二：

Daniel is telling Simon about the article. Simon is very interested and is asking many questions. Help Daniel answer Simon’s questions. Circle the correct letters.

1. Why would people move to Mars?

A. The Earth is crowded and dirty.

B. People want to make friends with those from another planet.

C. Flying to Mars would be fun.

2. How long does it take to fly to Mars at present?

A. Hours.     B. Months.       C. Years.

3. What would the flight to Mars be like by the year 2100?

A. Fast and comfortable.

B . Fast but uncomfortable.

C. Slow but comfortable.

4. What would food on Mars be like?

A. Very tasty.      B. Very sweet.    C. Not very tasty.

5. Would gravity be a problem on Mars?

A. No, it’s not a problem.

B. Yes, many people would get lost.

C. Yes, and people would wear special boots.

6. Where might people live on Mars?

A. In houses with huge rooms.    B. On spacecraft.   C. In sleeping bags.

7. What would schools be like on Mars?

A. Very small.       B. Online schools.   C. Very big.

Keys:

题一：1.c; 2.d; 3.f; 4.e; 5.b; 6.a

题二：

1. A.; 2. B ; 3. B; 4. C; 5. C; 6. A; 7. B