

Read the following passage and answer questions 1 through 5.

Space Hotels

- 1 For the average person, taking a trip to outer space seems like something in a science-fiction story. However, providing ordinary people with the opportunity to vacation in space is becoming a reality.
- 2 When Richard Branson, owner of an aircraft company called Virgin Atlantic Airways, announced plans to build a spaceport (an airport for spacecraft) in New Mexico, many people doubted it could happen. Yet, the spaceport is being built. One of Branson's newest companies, Virgin Galactic, plans to provide 50,000 people with tours of space within its first 10 years. Virgin Galactic already has at least 300 people registered for a trip to space. Branson has hinted at possible future plans for a space hotel. He once told a news group, "It will enable people to go into space, to become astronauts, to see the Earth, to enjoy weightlessness." However, Branson is not alone in trying to make space tourism possible for everyone.
- 3 In Barcelona, Spain, architect and aerospace engineer Xavier Claramunt developed an idea of a space hotel. To make Claramunt's dream possible, four companies have formed Galactic Suite Limited. They have plans to become the world's largest chain of space resorts.
- 4 Galactic Suite Limited has plans to open the first space hotel, Galactic Suite Space Resort. The hotel will be made up of three living units, a recreational unit, and a service unit. The hotel will be able to house four guests and two astronaut pilots for a three night stay. Yet, the company does not plan to send guests into space unprepared.
- 5 To prepare them for the conditions in space, guests will receive 16 weeks of astronaut training on a tropical island in the Caribbean Sea. In a life-sized model of the space suite that re-creates conditions in space, guests will participate in activities to prepare them for their stay. Once training is completed, they will board a Russian spacecraft and head to the space resort. Traveling at a speed of 30,000 kilometers per hour, the spacecraft will take a day and a half to reach the hotel from the island. Even with the training, it is unlikely that anything can truly prepare guests. A vacation in space will be an adventure of their lives.





- 6 When the spacecraft docks at the Galactic Suite Space Resort 280 miles above Earth, guests will leave the spacecraft and step inside the space hotel. Each guest will be assigned to a living unit. In their chambers, guests will be provided with Velcro™ suits. Wearing the suits, guests will be able to stick to the walls as they eat or sleep. The Velcro suits will help keep the guests in place. Since catching a glimpse of Earth from space will be the main reason most guests want to travel to a space hotel, they will be able to open and close viewing windows and watch as the hotel orbits Earth 15 times a day.
- 7 The hotel will offer activities that are commonly provided by hotels on Earth. Guests will be able to enjoy the unique physical conditions in space by exercising on board the orbiting hotel. Meals will also be available in the space hotel. At least 43 people have already reserved a spot with the Galactic Suite Space Resort.
- 8 Considering the plans for the spaceports and the hotel that are already underway, people who doubt the possibility of tourism in space may want to hold back their doubt for now. Vacations in outer space may be a reality in the near future.

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- 1 **The main idea of the article is that space travel —**
- A may be a possibility for ordinary people in the future
 - B is a goal of businessmen and scientists
 - C requires astronaut training and preparation in the Caribbean
 - D will allow people to view Earth
- 2 **Which sentence would best belong in a summary of the article?**
- F Galactic Suite Limited will try to open the first space hotel.
 - G Two astronaut pilots will fly the spacecraft to the hotel.
 - H Training for travel to the space hotel will be on a tropical island.
 - J A Russian spacecraft will transport guests to the space hotel.
- 3 **Based on the article, space hotel guests would wear Velcro suits mainly to —**
- A resemble trained astronauts
 - B exercise in the living area
 - C prevent floating in the chambers
 - D move from the spacecraft to the hotel
- 4 **According to the article, how many guests will the first space hotel hold at one time?**
- F 15
 - G 10
 - H 4
 - J 2
- 5 **Paragraphs 6 and 7 mainly provide details about the —**
- A services a space hotel will provide for guests
 - B spacecraft docking process
 - C situations guests will experience in space
 - D view from the space hotel

