

Escape game Thomas Pesquet

(Trainers)

What are the pedagogical objectives of an escape game?

The escape game activity is a training activity to develop / to reach the level 4 of each Support Me transversal competency.

Actually, the trainees are immersed in a "concrete" situation where they will have to act independently, recognize their resources, their limits, adapt to a new context, apply strategies, analyse the situations to find the solution.

The trainees will develop the Support Me transversal competencies such as: problem solving, flexibility, taking initiative, teamwork, reliability, resilience, intercultural communication, managing diversity, self-awareness and decision making.

This is an excellent way to make learners speak. By teams, they will have to cooperate, exchange in order to solve a set of puzzles. It will also help them memorise the lexicon of space.

Who is the targeted public?

Trainees with CECRL level from B2

What's the game goal?

Help Thomas Pesquet, the French astronaut to return back to earth. The button to allow him to come down is secured by a 4-digit padlock. The teams will have to solve 4 puzzles (+ 1 enigma to figure out the padlock digital order). Before having access to the puzzles, they will have to pass an aptitude test: a multiple-choice questionnaire. (They have to obtain a 5/5 score to access the puzzles).

How to win?

The team that wins is the first one that reaches to open the box and press the button on. They will have 60 minutes to complete the tasks. If they exceed this time limit, they lose. The trainer will play the role of game master. The game master may use a timer to get them involved in the game. He/ she has for objective to have at least a team that reaches the end of the mission. He/ she will have to give more or less clues to help the teams move forward in the game.

Material needed

- Box
- 4-digit padlock
- Buzzer
- Puzzles and their clues distributed in envelopes
- Instruction sheet
- Scissors and a mirror
- A Computer with Internet connexion

How to organise it?

Depending on the number of participants and the space you have, you will divide the tables into clusters. Ideally, each cluster should accommodate 3-4 learners. The table's disposition must be thought in such a way that exchanges between teams are reduced as much as possible. Each table must have the "instruction manual" on it.

The game master must have a desk where teams will come up to check their answers or to recover clues. The locked box with the 4-digit padlock containing the buzzer will also be set there.

Which pre-requisite? (not compulsory)

Before launching the game, the participants can begin by an oral comprehension

https://www.esa.int/ESA_Multimedia/Videos/2021/11/Space_Station_tour_with_your_guide_Thomas_in_4K_in_French_with_subtitles

The video is in French with English subtitles

TRAINER'S SHEET

Theme: space

Level: B1

Public: adult

Duration: about 2h

Objectives:

- Communication: collaborate and exchange to solve puzzles
- Linguistic: space lexicon
- Cultural: discovery of the French astronaut Thomas Pesquet
- Make learners speak
- Memorise the lexicon of space
- Development of transversal competencies such as problem solving, teamwork, reliability, intercultural communication and decision making

Preparatory step

Step 1: Launch the introductory video (It is in French but you can set the subtitles to English):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KLk6D2JXrzQ>

It will be used as a trigger to put the trainees in the mood. The trainer will divide the group into teams and explain them that they will have to help Thomas Pesquet come back on the Earth. The button which launches the capsule is in a box secured by a 4-digit padlock. To obtain these 4 numbers, and its order, 5 puzzles must be solved. To get clues, check the solution to the puzzles and move on to the next puzzle, learners will have to go to the command post.

Step 2: The trainees will have to pass an aptitude test in the form of a 5-question quiz. To access the puzzles, they must get a 5/5 score. This is the command post that validates or not the test.

Aptitude test: The answers are highlighted in blue

- 1st clue: correct answer to be chosen among 4 propositions
- 2nd clue: access internet to find the answer

1st puzzle:

- 1st clue: list of words to replace
- 2nd clue: identify the bold letters
- Answer: nine

2nd puzzle:

- 1st clue: photos of swan, pisces, ursa major constellation
- 2nd clue: link the constellations together following the puzzle, what appears?
- Answer: swan, pisces, ursa major constellation = represent a 1

3rd puzzle:

- 1st clue: some folding will allow you to see more clearly
- 2nd clue: A mirror may help you see more clearly!
- Answer: $304 = 7$

4th puzzle:

- 1st clue: a charade definition and explanation
- Answer: spaceship = 2

5th puzzle:

- No clues
- Answer: the order of the numbers is ascending = 1279

As the game master you may be approached by the trainees whether they need clues to solve their puzzles.

Aptitude test

1. What is a telescope?
 - A device for steering a satellite
 - A device to record TV programmes
 - A device to send messages to aliens
 - A device to observe objects in the sky
2. What was the name of the first human sent into space?
 - Iouri Gagarine
 - Neil Armstrong
 - Yang Liwei
 - Valentina Terechkova
3. In what year did Neil Armstrong walk on the moon?
 - 1948
 - 1968
 - 1969
 - 1889
4. What is our galaxy called?
 - The solar system
 - The Milky Way
 - The 3 musketeers
 - The steel veil
5. What is the order of the planets? (from the closest to the furthest from the sun)
 - Neptune – Uranus – Saturn – Jupiter – Mars – Earth – Venus – Mercury
 - Venus – Mars – Saturn – Neptune – Mercury – Earth – Jupiter – Uranus
 - Mercury – Venus – Earth – Mars – Saturn – Jupiter – Uranus – Neptune
 - Mercury – Venus – Earth – Mars – Jupiter – Saturn – Uranus – Neptune

2nd puzzle:

My first is the first word which composes the title in a well-known piece of music by Tchaikovsky

Or

My first is a majestic white bird living in water bodies in city parks or public or private gardens

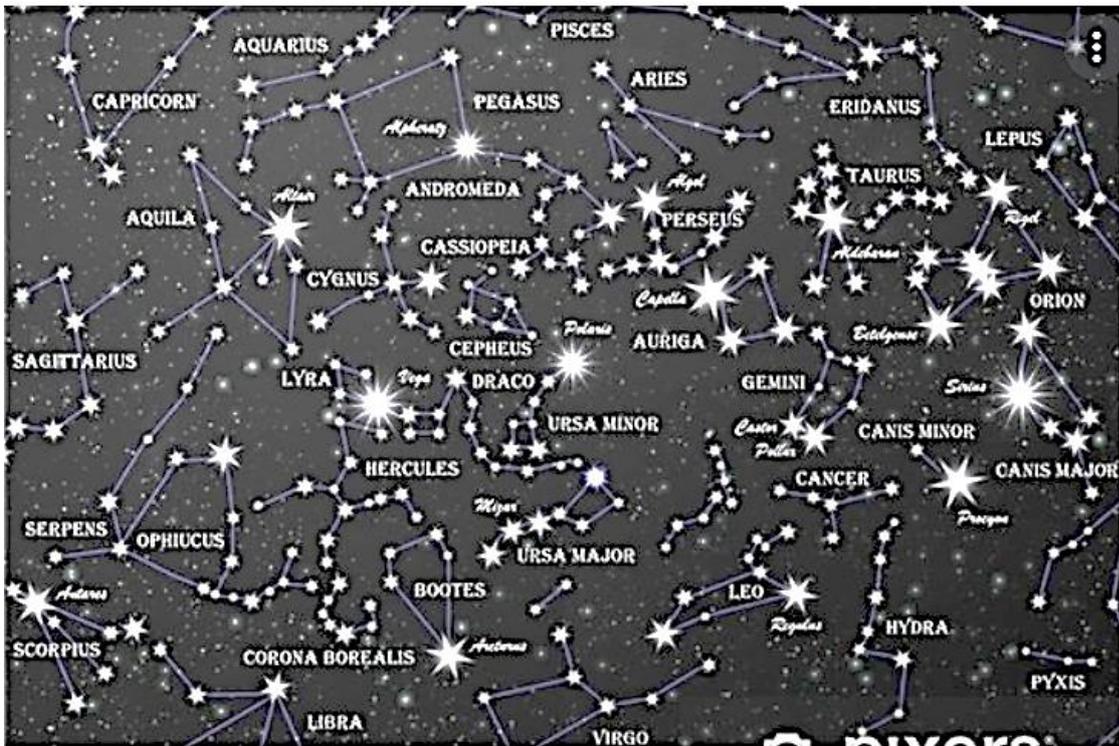
My second is the astrological sign of Thomas Pesquet (he was born on 27 February 1978)

My third is the third largest constellation in the sky (looks like a saucepan)

1st clue: The answers they must find are: Cygnus, Pisces and Ursa Major



2nd clue: The answers you find correspond to constellations that you may link on the drawing below, what you can see appearing?

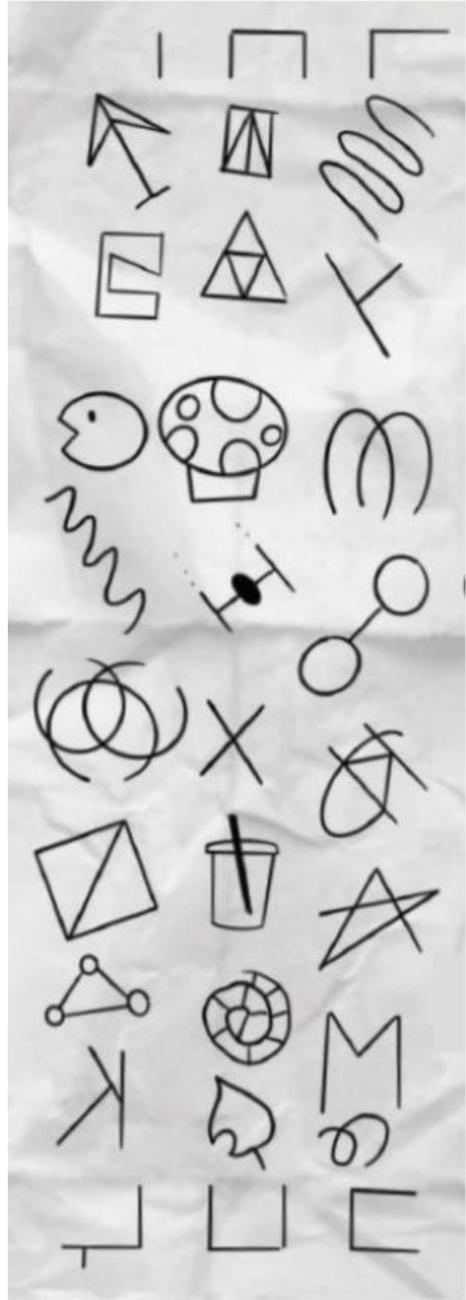


3rd puzzle:

(The addition will be necessary)

1st clue: some folding will allow you to see more clearly

2nd clue: A mirror may help you see more clearly!



4th puzzle:

(The number of syllables is the key to the puzzle)

My first is beyond the atmosphere

My second carries goods

The whole thing allows us to move around in space.

1st clue: A charade is a game which aims to make people guess a word by breaking it down into syllables.

Final puzzle:

O	N	U	T	I	F	A	D	G	E	S	C	D	M	R	H	B
∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞

∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞

No clues provided for this last puzzle.

Answer they have to find:

The order of the numbers is ascending