

Can a Solar System Moon Host Life?..... Name _____

2010: The Year We Make Contact

In the year 1999, a perfectly smooth and indestructible, rectangular object is found buried on the moon. The existence of the “monolith” is kept secret by the American government and it is determined to be 4 million years old, far older than the human race itself. Eighteen months later in 2001, the U.S. launches the Discovery, the first ship bound for the exploration of Jupiter. Unknown to its crew, the true objective of its mission is to find out why the monolith sent a radio signal toward the planet. Along the way, astronauts David Bowman and Frank Poole have reason to believe that HAL-9000, the ship’s computer, is malfunctioning and must be turned off, fearing that it may endanger the mission. HAL knows of the mission’s true goals and when he discovers Bowman’s and Poole’s plan to disconnect him, he strikes first. Based on the belief that his existence is necessary for the mission to succeed, HAL kills Poole as well as 3 other crew members in hibernation. But Bowman is able to turn HAL off and in so doing, stumbles across a message in the computer’s memory that informs him of the monolith’s existence and its radio transmission. When the Discovery finally arrived at Jupiter, Bowman found a monolith much larger than the lunar one in orbit around the planet near its moon, Io. Bowman left the Discovery in an exploratory pod and approached the 2 kilometer long monolith. His last transmitted words, recorded by the ship’s communication system were, “My God, its full of stars”.....

- 1. This movie was made in 1984. What is the political inaccuracy in this movie because of major world events that have occurred since then?*
- 2. Why do the Americans and Russians end up undertaking a joint mission to Jupiter to revive the Discovery, despite their hostilities?*
- 3. What is happening to Discovery’s orbit that Dr. Floyd finds so shocking?*
- 4. Why is the eccentric Dr. Chandra an important member of the crew?*
- 5. What is the main reason crew members are placed in a state of hibernation during most of the trip to Jupiter?*
- 6. What life related chemicals are astonishingly found by the Leonov’s probe existing on Europa?*
- 7. What is “air-braking” and why must the Leonov use it?*

8. *Why does Max “bug out” inside the Discovery?*

9. *What is the mathematical importance of the monolith’s 1 by 4 by 9 proportions?*

10. *Why must all space walkers, pods, and probes pass through 2 doors before passing out into space?*

11. *Back on Earth, what happens to the former wife of David Bowman (the member of the Discovery’s crew who disappeared after his “My God, its full of stars” transmission from a pod over the monolith) after Max gets “too close” to the monolith?*

12. *Why must the crews on the Leonov and the Discovery end their relations?*

13. *What mysterious warning is sent to Dr. Floyd on the Discovery and who delivers it?*

14. *How is the Leonov able to leave earlier than was previously planned?*

15. *Of what is the growing black spot on Jupiter made and what is its final effect on the planet?*

“Something’s going to happen..... something wonderful.”