

# Tim Peake

## Early Life

Timothy Nigel 'Tim' Peake was born in Chichester, West Sussex, England, on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1972. He grew up in a nearby village. He lived with his older sister, Fiona, and his parents. His mother, Angela, was a midwife and his father, Nigel, was a journalist. Tim's fascination with flying began at an early age when his father took him to air shows to watch aircraft.



He studied at the Chichester High School for Boys, leaving in 1990 to attend the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

## Military Career

Tim followed his passion for flying and trained to be a pilot. He worked in the military for 18 years, flying all types of helicopters and aircraft.

Tim later trained to be an instructor, before flying Apache helicopters with the US Army.

## European Space Agency

In 2008, the European Space Agency (ESA) announced it was accepting applications for new astronauts. Tim saw the advert online and decided to apply, along with 8000 other people!

In 2009, following various exams and assessments, Tim received a phone call from the ESA offering him one of the six available places with the European Astronaut Corps.

## Blast Off!

On 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015, Tim Peake launched alongside Yuri Malenchenko and Tim Kopra, at 11:03 a.m. Tim reached his destination at 5:33 p.m. and docked two hours later, becoming the first British ESA astronaut to live onboard the International Space Station. He spent six months living in space, during which time he completed the first spacewalk by a British astronaut. This was watched by millions of people on Earth with excitement.

## Coming Home

Tim returned to Earth on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016, landing in Kazakhstan. During his

mission, Tim had taken 3000 orbits of Earth, covering about 125 million km. It took two months for Tim's body to recover from the effects of zero gravity.

#### Did You Know?

- Tim had to learn Russian – the language used by the ESA – during his training.
- Tim's first meal onboard the ISS was a bacon sandwich and cup of tea.
- During Tim's return to Earth, he travelled at 25 times the speed of sound.

# Questions

1. Which one of these people is not a member of Tim's family? Tick one.

- Yuri
- Fiona
- Angela
- Nigel

2. Draw a line to match the event to the year it happened.

Tim applied to become an astronaut with the European Space Agency.

1990

Tim started training with the European Astronaut Corps.

2008

Tim went to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

2009

3. What did Tim fly for the US Army? Tick one.

- aeroplanes
- Apache helicopters
- aircraft
- the International Space Station

4. Which language did Tim have to learn during his training to become an astronaut? Tick one.

- British
- French
- English
- Russian

5. How long did it take Tim's body to recover from the effects of zero gravity?

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6. Why did Tim choose to become a pilot?

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7. Why do you think Tim applied to become an astronaut?

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8. Explain why it might have taken six years for Tim to train to be an astronaut.

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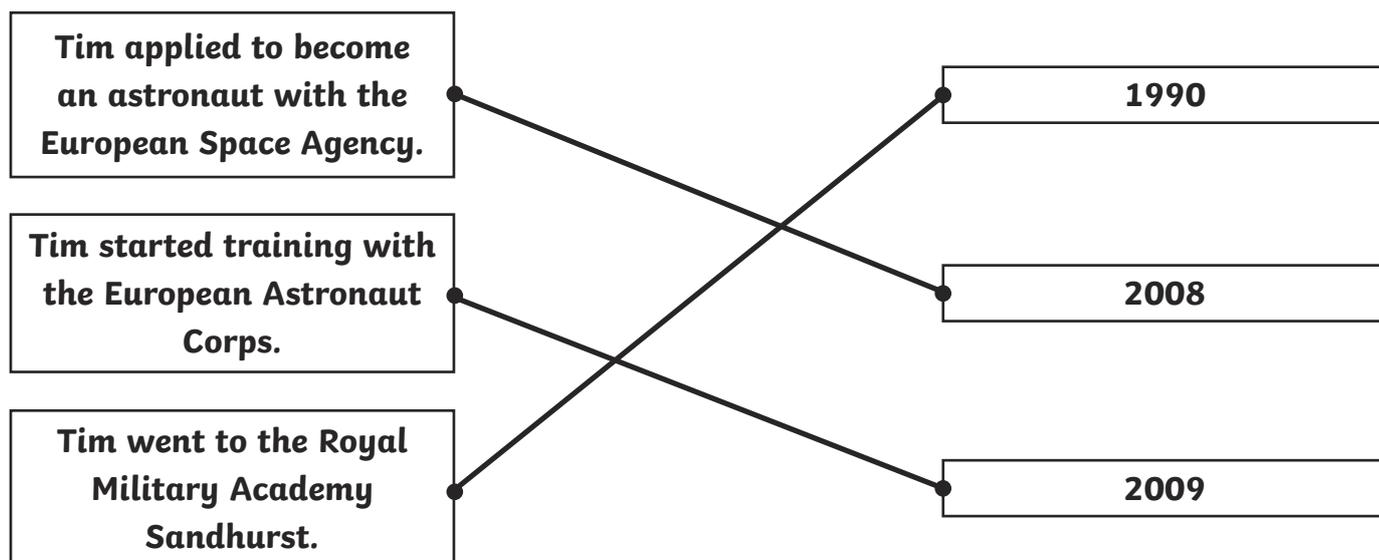
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# Answers

1. Which one of these people is not a member of Tim's family? Tick one.

- Yuri
- Fiona
- Angela
- Nigel

2. Draw a line to match the event to the year it happened.



3. What did Tim fly for the US Army? Tick one.

- aeroplanes
- Apache helicopters
- aircraft
- the International Space Station

4. Which language did Tim have to learn during his training to become an astronaut? Tick one.

- British
- French
- English
- Russian

5. How long did it take Tim's body to recover from the effects of zero gravity?

**It took Tim's body two months to recover from the effects of zero gravity.**

6. Why did Tim choose to become a pilot?

**Tim chose to become a pilot because of his fascination for flying.**

7. Why do you think Tim applied to become an astronaut?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think Tim applied to become an astronaut because it is the ultimate flying experience for someone who has a passion for flying.**

8. Explain why it might have taken six years for Tim to train to be an astronaut.

**Accept any suitable answer, such as: It would have taken Tim six years to train to be an astronaut because he had to learn how to do the job safely and there was a lot to learn.**