

Australia's Latest Space Missions, Artemis II Support, and Astronomical Discoveries

Space Exploration · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. What significant role did Australia play in supporting NASA's Artemis II mission?

- A) Provided the primary launchpad for the Orion spacecraft.
- B) Managed critical deep space communication networks.**
- C) Designed and manufactured the main propulsion system for the Orion spacecraft.
- D) Trained all astronauts for the Artemis II mission.

2. Which Australian-developed nanosatellite, designed to demonstrate advanced spacecraft technologies, recently concluded its over 25-month mission?

- A) AstroVoyager
- B) CubeSat-AU
- C) SpIRIT**
- D) RegolithExplorer

3. The European Space Agency's (ESA) newest deep space antenna, which entered nominal operations in April 2026, is located in which Australian state?

- A) New South Wales
- B) Queensland
- C) Western Australia**
- D) Victoria

4. Which Australian university led the SpIRIT mission in collaboration with the Italian Space Agency?

- A) University of Sydney
- B) University of Melbourne**
- C) University of Queensland
- D) Monash University

5. What type of scientific instrument, contributed by the Italian Space Agency, was a main payload on Australia's SpIRIT satellite?

- A) An X-ray detector**
- B) A solar panel diagnostic tool
- C) A gravitational wave sensor
- D) A comet-tracking camera

6. Australian scientists played a key role in producing a detailed image of the Milky Way's turbulent core using which powerful radio telescope array located in Chile?

- A) The Hubble Space Telescope
- B) The James Webb Space Telescope
- C) The Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA)**
- D) The Square Kilometre Array (SKA)

7. Who is the current Head of the Australian Space Agency?

- A) Katherine Bennell-Pegg
- B) Enrico Palermo**
- C) Brad Tucker
- D) Michelle Dickinson

8. In April 2026, Australia reaffirmed its commitment to the safety and sustainability of outer space at which international forum?

- A) The International Astronautical Congress
- B) The United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)**
- C) The Global Space Exploration Conference
- D) The World Economic Forum

9. Which Australian company is developing next-generation space radar systems with support from the South Australian government's Manufacturing Growth Accelerator (MGA) program?

- A) Gilmour Space Technologies
- B) Neumann Space
- C) AICRAFT**
- D) Spiral Blue

10. The Australian National University (ANU) demonstrated advanced laser (optical) communications for NASA's Artemis II mission using its:

- A) Radio Telescope Array
- B) Quantum Optical Ground Station**
- C) Atmospheric Monitoring Satellite
- D) Deep Space Network Antenna