

Africa's Celestial Ascent: Viral Space News & Starry Innovations

Space Exploration · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. Which African country was selected to host the 2026 Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program, becoming the only African nation chosen for this initiative?

- A) Nigeria
- B) South Africa
- C) Kenya**
- D) Ghana

2. Zimbabwe has been actively launching Earth observation satellites. Which satellite was launched in November 2024, marking the country's second satellite in space?

- A) ZimSat-1
- B) ZimSat-3
- C) ZimSat-2**
- D) Zim-OBS-2

3. Kenya recently launched an AI-powered Climate Camera (ClimCam) payload to the International Space Station. Which SpaceX rocket carried this payload as part of a commercial resupply mission?

- A) Falcon Heavy
- B) Starship
- C) Falcon 9**
- D) Dragon XL

4. The South African National Space Agency (SANSA) provided critical tracking and telemetry support for which recent NASA lunar mission?

- A) Artemis I
- B) Artemis III
- C) Artemis II**
- D) Apollo 11

5. Which African country is partnering with Türkiye to build a spaceport and become the first African nation to launch satellites from its own soil, with a launch planned for late 2025?

- A) Somalia**
- B) Egypt
- C) Nigeria
- D) Ethiopia

6. The African Space Agency (AfSA) was officially founded to promote cooperation between AU member states. In which city does AfSA have its headquarters?

- A) Nairobi, Kenya
- B) Cairo, Egypt**
- C) Abuja, Nigeria
- D) Pretoria, South Africa

7. Zimbabwe plans to launch a new telecommunications satellite to improve digital connectivity. Approximately how much funding is Zimbabwe seeking for this project?

- A) USD 20 million
- B) USD 200 million**
- C) USD 50 million
- D) USD 10 million

8. Kenya and the European Space Agency (ESA) have agreed on new steps to work together, including the establishment of the Africa Business Innovation Lab (ABIL). What is the primary goal of ABIL?

- A) Develop new rocket engines
- B) Support Kenyan startups using space-based technologies**
- C) Train astronauts for deep-space missions
- D) Build a lunar base

9. South Africa has a significant astronomical history. Which is the world's largest radio telescope, with its core site in South Africa, that allows scientists to study the origins of the universe?

- A) MeerKAT
- B) Very Large Telescope
- C) Square Kilometre Array (SKA)**
- D) Atacama Large Millimeter Array (ALMA)

10. Which West African nation launched its first satellite, Gainsat-1A, in August 2024, designed and built in collaboration with France's University Space Centre of Montpellier?

- A) Ghana
- B) Senegal**
- C) Nigeria
- D) Ivory Coast

11. Ghana's Space Science and Technology Institute (GSSTI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which company to enhance Ghana's space ecosystem and promote global access to space?

- A) SpaceX
- B) Blue Origin
- C) Axiom Space**
- D) Virgin Galactic

12. Nigeria has approved the launch of four new satellites to advance its space technology. Three of these satellites will carry optical payloads, and one will have what type of payload to replace a current satellite?

- A) Synthetic Aperture Radar**
- B) Infrared Spectrometer
- C) X-ray Telescope
- D) Gravitational Wave Detector