Spending – for or against?

Some people think that it is worth spending money to find out more about the other planets and about the Universe.



- 1 Which people agree with spending money on space research, and which are against it?
- **2** Which people do *you* agree with? Explain why you agree with them.
- **3** Find the arguments in favour of spending money on space research and decide an order of importance for them, from most to least important.
 - A I think it's great that people can find out what happens inside stars! And I'd love to go to Mars!
 - **B** I'm an engineer in the aerospace industry, because I was interested in space when I was a teenager. It's a good career!
 - **C** Billions of people in the world don't have enough to eat, but rich countries are spending all that money on finding out if there is water on Mars.
 - **D** I suppose some people think it is interesting, but what good does it do to know about other planets?
 - **E** Is there life on other planets? That's a really great question I'd love to know the answer!
 - F There's lots of technology around that was developed for space craft. Things like packaging for foods that makes them last longer, and even faster golf balls!
 - **G** We wouldn't have satellite TV if people hadn't gone into space.
 - **H** We can spend money on satellites for useful things like weather forecasts, but why spend all that money just to look at stars?
 - I If people want new technology, it would be cheaper just to develop it instead of paying for a whole space programme!
 - **J** An asteroid might hit the Earth one day. We might need to go into space to stop it hitting us.

I can...

- express my own views
- try to understand other people's points of view.