

13th September 2022

People in the Northern Hemisphere caught the full moon vividly last weekend when it made its yearly appearance as the “Harvest Moon”. The Harvest Moon, occurring annually in September or October, officially marks the end of summer. It is the full moon closest to the date on the calendar when day and night are of equal length. The Harvest Moon is probably the most **iconically** named of all the full moons. Although it was unusually early in 2022, what sets it apart from other full moons is that it has historically helped farmers work exceedingly late into the day at the **climax** of the agricultural “harvest”. Interestingly, the next full moon, in October, is known as the “Hunter’s Moon”. The two full moons, the Harvest Moon and the Hunter’s Moon, are visible on the 10th September and the 11th October respectively. The moon was rising for three nights **consecutively** from Friday to Sunday. The reason being that instead of rising at the average interval of fifty minutes later each day, the Harvest Moon farther north of the equator rises around twenty-five minutes later each day at dusk, roughly half the time. To the **naked eye** the Harvest Moon seemingly creates the illusion of being larger and brighter than any other full moon. It was relatively bright because it hugged the horizon closely. To observers in Europe, in the mid-latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere or thereabouts, this means that the view is even more stunning than anywhere else in the world.

Q1. _____

Take the category “somewhere to watch something special”. What places can you think of for this category that are *everyday places* - *famous places* - *interesting places*.

Q2. _____

Which bolded words in the text mean: *famously* - *visible to a human* - *a peak moment* - *indicating a change* - *a continuing series of events*

Q3. _____

“farmers work *exceedingly* late into the day”

What does the italicised word above mean: *not enough* - *just right* - *very much*?

Q4. _____

Comprehension questions:

1. How often is a Harvest Moon?
2. What does the Harvest Moon signify?
3. How did it become known as Harvest Moon?
4. Why is the Harvest Moon visible the night before and the night after?
5. Where is the best place on Earth to watch the Harvest Moon?

Q5. _____

Link the five synonym pairs:

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. equal | A. viewer |
| 2. mark | B. signal |
| 3. visible | C. identical |
| 4. observer | D. distance |
| 5. interval | E. viewable |

Q6. _____

Spell the words correctly:

occurring **l a n u a l y n** in September
are **v e b i s l i** on the 10th September
it was **a e l r e y v l t i** bright
the average **v i e l n r a t** of fifty minutes
to **b o r s r s e v e** in Europe

Q7. _____

Discussion questions / Writing practice:

What role will the moon play for future societies?

What is your most memorable “Where were you when...” stories?

Q8. _____

10 C1 revision keywords: underlined in text.