

Artemis II crew bugged by Microsoft Outlook problems

6th April 2026



A history-making space mission is well under way with NASA's Artemis II spacecraft venturing towards the far side of the Moon. Artemis launched to great fanfare on Wednesday. The 10-day odyssey will take its four astronauts farther away from Earth than humans have ever been. Despite the enormous technical demands of the mission, the crew has also been dogged by email problems. Astronaut Reid Wiseman relayed the problem to Mission Control in Texas. He said: "I have two Microsoft Outlooks and neither one of those is working. Reboot it and check our software and those two Outlooks." NASA reloaded Outlook's files to correct a configuration issue.

Artemis II is the first crewed mission to go beyond low Earth orbit since Apollo 17 in December 1972. It will travel a record-breaking 406,773 km from Earth and 7,600 km beyond the Moon. It is the beginning of NASA's aim to return humans to the Moon and eventually establish a long-term presence there. The astronauts are engaged in a full-scale test for future Moon landings. The crew will test life support systems, communications, navigation, and deep-space operations. Hopefully, the Outlook problem will be a one-off blip. NASA hopes the current mission will pave the way for Artemis IV to land on the lunar surface. The USA hopes a moon landing will take place in 2028.

Sources: [engadget.com](https://www.engadget.com) / [techcrunch.com](https://www.techcrunch.com) / [seattletimes.com](https://www.seattletimes.com)

Writing

We need to spend much more money on space travel. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

making history / space mission / spacecraft / the Moon / astronauts / email / issues / Earth / NASA / Moon landings / life support / communications / navigation / blip

True / False

- 1) The article says Artemis II is going to the dark side of the Moon. T / F
- 2) There was a fun fair at the launch of Artemis II on Wednesday. T / F
- 3) The next Artemis mission will see dogs go into space. T / F
- 4) The email problems were corrected by NASA. T / F
- 5) The last time astronauts went beyond low Earth orbit was in 1972. T / F
- 6) Artemis II will travel more than 76,000 km past the Moon. T / F
- 7) The crew will go deep-sea diving to train for their next mission. T / F
- 8) The USA is looking to land on the Moon in 2028. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. mission | a. passed on |
| 2. demands | b. format |
| 3. dogged | c. existence |
| 4. relayed | d. requirements |
| 5. configuration | e. prepare |
| 6. eventually | f. actions |
| 7. presence | g. journey |
| 8. operations | h. nonrecurring |
| 9. one-off | i. ultimately |
| 10. pave the way | j. beset |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think of space travel?
- b) What do you think the Artemis II mission will teach us?
- c) What would you like to know about the Moon?
- d) What do you think being an astronaut is like?
- e) How would you cope with being in space for 10 days?
- f) What email problems do you regularly encounter?
- g) What is the best email client?
- h) How would you feel looking at Earth from space?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. A history-making space mission is well under | a. support systems |
| 2. venturing towards the far | b. software |
| 3. Artemis launched to great | c. to the Moon |
| 4. the crew has also been dogged by | d. side of the Moon |
| 5. Reboot it and check our | e. off blip |
| 6. go beyond low Earth | f. email problems |
| 7. NASA's aim to return humans | g. way |
| 8. The crew will test life | h. the way |
| 9. the Outlook problem will be a one- | i. fanfare |
| 10. the current mission will pave | j. orbit |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- Do you think we should spend more money on space travel?
- What do you know about the Apollo space missions?
- What would it be like to live on the Moon?
- What do you think of space wars?
- Why are so many people trying to get to Mars?
- What do you think of space tourism?
- What questions would you like to ask the astronauts?

Spelling

- ignrvneut towards the far side of the Moon
- Artemis launched to great faarnef
- The 10-day yosdesy
- take its four tstraaosnu farther away
- the noesumor technical demands
- correct a tniigfcrnuao issue
- the first wderce mission
- establish a long-term ceerneys
- gdgnaee in a full-scale test
- support systems, communications, ivntaniaog
- deep-space eoatpisonr
- land on the uarnl surface

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. j	4. a	5. b
6. i	7. c	8. f	9. h	10. e

Comprehension Questions

Listen to / read the news article. Answer these questions. (Answers are on p. 27 of the 27-page PDF.)

1.	Where does the article say Artemis II is heading?
2.	How long will the astronauts be on board the spacecraft?
3.	What have the astronauts been dogged by?
4.	Where is mission control for the Artemis II journey?
5.	What did NASA do to correct a configuration issue?
6.	When was the last time a crewed mission went beyond low Earth orbit?
7.	How far past the Moon will Artemis II travel?
8.	What does NASA want to establish on the Moon?
9.	What kind of systems will the Artemis II crew test?
10.	When does the USA hope to land on the Moon?

Speaking – Email Problems

Rank these with your partner. Put the biggest problems at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| • Hitting "send" too soon | • Storage full |
| • Spam mail | • Too much mail |
| • Phishing mail | • Emails not sent |
| • Attachments too big | • Losing emails |

Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	F	4	T	5	T	6	F	7	F	8	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.