



Affiliation No. 1130703
Academic session 2024-25
NOTES

Prepared By: Arpana Kamat
Prepared On:

LESSON NO.4 :KALPANA CHAWLA
Shared on:

*** Pre-activity**

State your ambition and also draw its equipment, according to your imagination.

*** Word Meanings**

1. Astronaut – a person who travels in a space
2. Certified – approved legally
3. Crew – those on board
4. Pollinating – fertilizing with pollen
5. Journalist – news reporter

A. Answer the following questions.

1. Where was Kalpana Chawla born? Why is she called an Indian – American?

Ans: Kalpana Chawla was born in Karnal, Haryana. She was called an Indian-American because she went to US and became its naturalized citizen.

2. When and why did she go to the U.S.? Who did she marry?

Ans: She went to US after completing a Bachelor of Science degree in aeronautical engineering for pursuing master's degree. She married flight instructor Jean-Pierre Harrison.

3. How did she become an astronaut? What gave her the idea that she could be an astronaut?

Ans: After qualifying as a pilot, Chawla applied to NASA space shuttle program. She was first hired as a research Scientist at NASA. In 1994 she was selected at NASA for training as an astronaut. It was her success as a pilot which gave her the idea that she could become an astronaut.

4. What abilities must an astronaut have, according to the journalist?

Ans: According to the journalist, it takes enormous ability to be an astronaut. An astronaut must know a lot about everything, from biology to astrophysics to aeronautical engineering. In this age of super-specialization, you must have encyclopaedic knowledge to be an astronaut.

5. Describe Kalpana Chawla's first mission in space.

Ans: Kalpana Chawla's first mission was in the space shuttle Columbia. It was 15 days, 16 hours and 34 minutes. During this time, she went around the earth 252 times travelling 1.45 million km. The crew performed experiments such as pollinating plants to observe food growth in space. It also made test for making stronger metals and faster computer chips. It was all done for a price tag of 56 million dollars.

6. What does Kalpana Chawla say about pursuing a dream? Do you agree with her that success is possible?

Ans: Kalpana Chawla, a girl from a small town, touched the skies. In her message to college students of Chandigarh, from space, she said that it was always possible to realise one's dream. One could certainly get success provided one had the vision and the courage. Yes, I do agree with her on this point.

*** Post-activity:**

State the moral of the lesson, which can make change in your life.