Moonwalk: Reading tasks

1 What do you think of the moon? Choose some of the adjectives from the box, or use your own words.

For me the moon is...

beautiful strange boring mysterious important cold powerful female scientific romantic lucky

2 For many people around the world the new moon or the full moon is an important occasion. Therefore there are many new moon or full moon festivals or events. What festivals or events can you think of that are linked to the moon, either now or in the past?

3 Take it in turns to run up and answer these questions:

a What date is the Chinese Moon Festival? _____________
b Which month is the Flower Moon? _____________
c What date is Songkran? _____________
d What date does Ramadan start in 2007? _____________
e How many days does a lunar calendar have? _____________
f What date is Easter Sunday in 2007? _____________
g What date is the LowTide Festival in 2007? _____________
h What date did the first man walk on the moon? _____________

4 Now read the text more slowly and answer these questions:

a How many religious events are in the text?
b Do all these religious events use a lunar calendar?
c Songkran was originally a spring festival. Which two other festivals are also connected to the seasons?
d Why is the lunar calendar not correct?
e When does Ramadan start in 2008?
f Why do you think there is a festival during the lowest low tide?
g Do you think that a man on the moon is “a giant leap for mankind”?
h Why isn’t 21st July a public holiday in the US?