Today was the most exciting day of my life! I was finally able to fulfil my ambition of travelling into space. Despite having dreamed of this since I was a young girl, and having completed extensive training, the actual journey was much more arduous and taxing than I’d ever expected.

The 4G force pushing on my chest as we took off felt like ten elephants were sitting on me, and the wave of nausea was a tsunami! I managed to distract myself with the view out of the window and suddenly we were in orbit; my body felt like a feather floating gently on the breeze but the pressure in my head felt like a sledgehammer was hitting it.

It was a day of contrasts but I wouldn’t change it!

**Quick Questions**

1. Which two words mean the same as ‘difficult’?

   ____________________  ____________________

2. Find a metaphor within the text.

   ____________________

3. Do you think the astronaut will enjoy her time in space? Explain why.

   ____________________

4. Why does the author say, ‘It was a day of contrasts’? Use the text to support your answer.

   ____________________

   ____________________
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1. Which two words mean the same as ‘difficult’?
   Accept: arduous and taxing

2. Find a metaphor within the text.
   Accept ‘the wave of nausea was a tsunami’.

3. Do you think the astronaut will enjoy her time in space? Explain why.
   Accept any reasonable answer that refers to the text, e.g. Yes because she has always wanted to do it but it is harder than she thought it would be.

4. Why does the author say, ‘It was a day of contrasts...’? Use the text to support your answer.
   Accept description of the contrasts of emotions the character has experienced, with reference to the text, e.g. ‘feather floating’ and ‘sledgehammer... hitting’ or ‘taxing’ / ‘arduous’ and ‘exciting’.