

English II

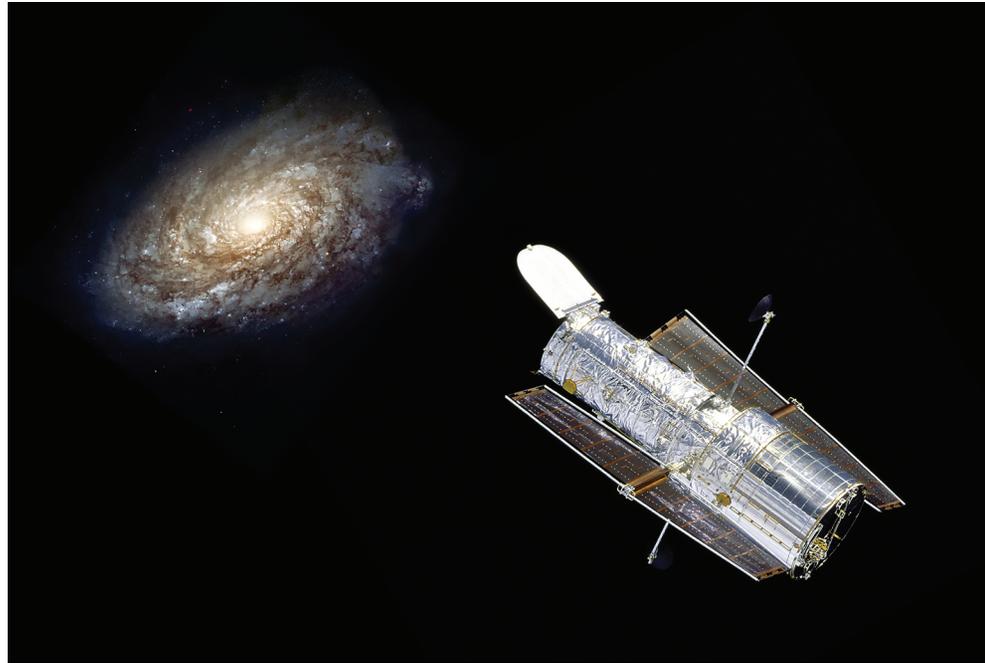
STAAR Alternate 2

Administered April 2019

RELEASED

ENGLISH II

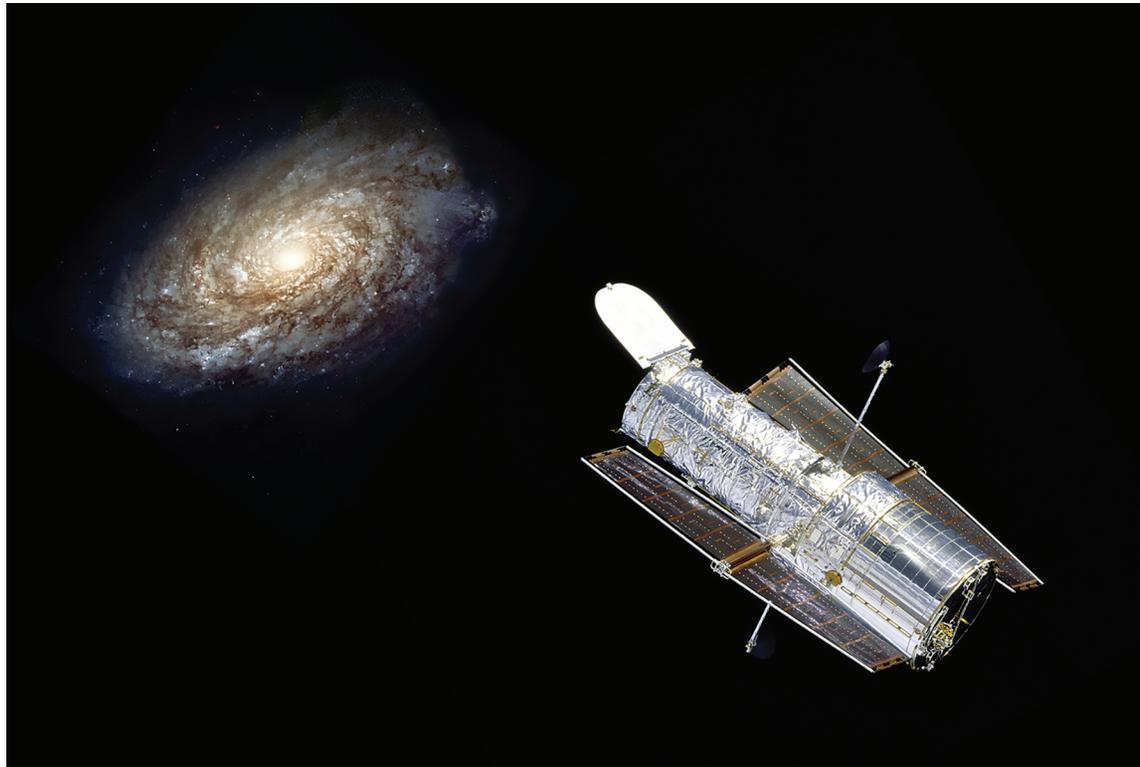
telescope



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The Hubble Space Telescope makes the planets, stars, and galaxies seem larger and closer to Earth than they really are.

2a



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The Hubble Space Telescope looks toward space. This gigantic telescope helps scientists see galaxies that are trillions of miles away from Earth. It helped scientists discover moons around Pluto that had never been seen before. Hubble also has seen comet pieces crash into the gases above Jupiter.

The telescope helps scientists see galaxies trillions of miles away from Earth.

The telescope makes comets crash into gases that are in outer space.

3a

The enormity and speed of the Hubble Space Telescope are impressive. It is as large as a school bus and weighs as much as two adult elephants. The telescope travels around Earth at approximately 5 miles per second. That would be like driving a car from New York to California in 10 minutes.



3b

loud
noise

gigantic
size

elegant
design

The Hubble Space Telescope orbits high above Earth and its gaseous atmosphere. Therefore, Hubble can see space better than telescopes on Earth can. Hubble is not the kind of telescope that you look through with your eye. Instead, Hubble uses a digital camera, like the camera on a cell phone. Then Hubble uses radio waves to transmit the photographs back to Earth from outer space. Although Hubble is now more than 25 years old, it still takes beautiful photographs, like this one of a star forming in outer space.

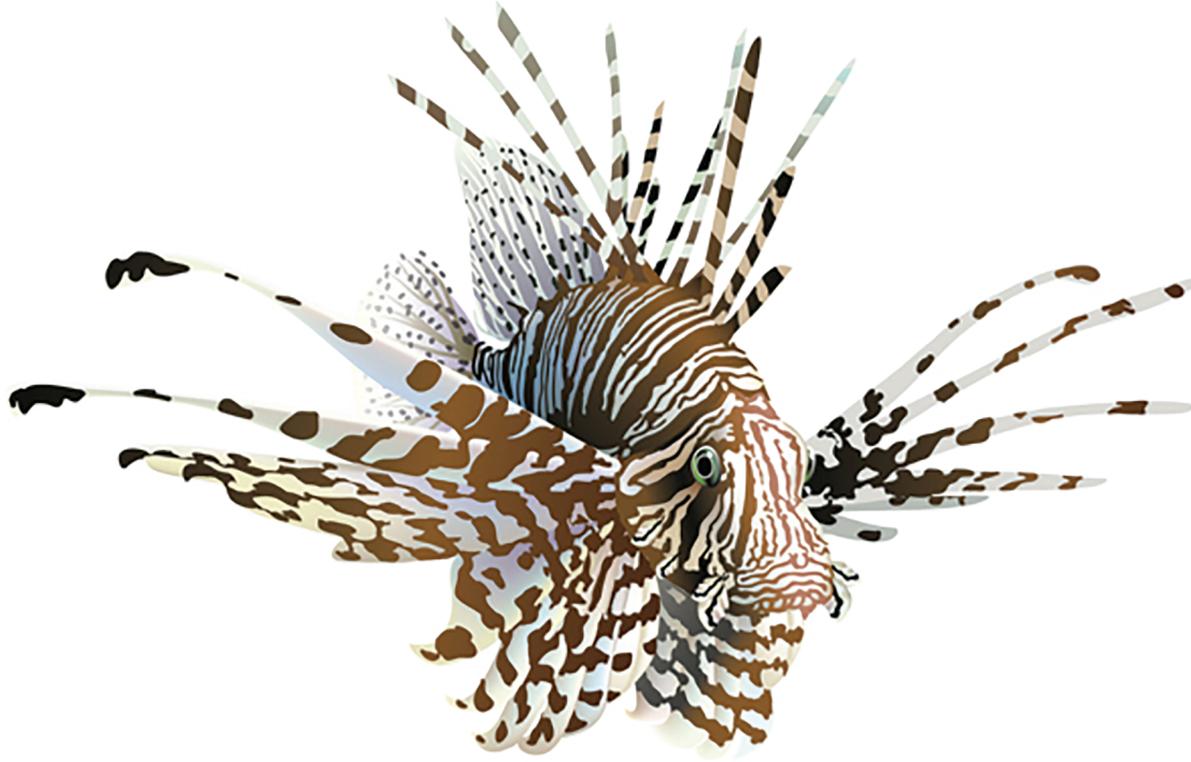


like the camera on a cell phone

back to Earth from outer space

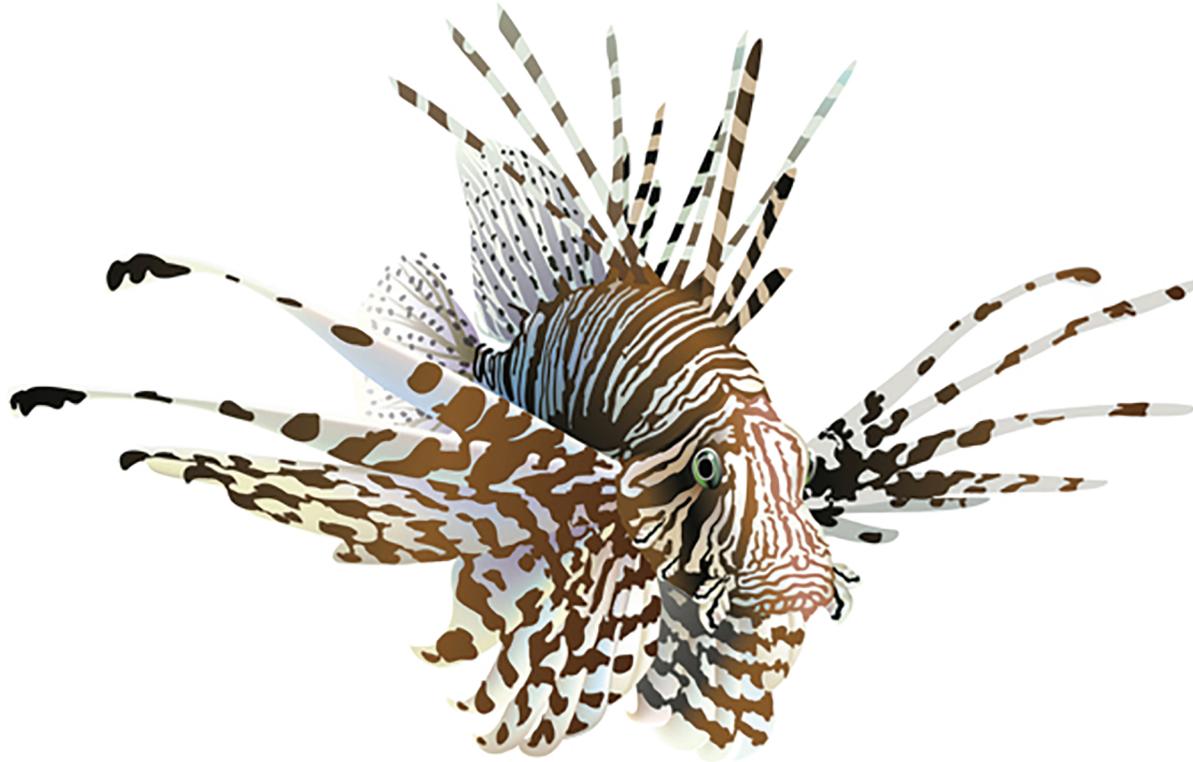
still takes beautiful photographs

The Lionfish Invasion



© Babin/Shutterstock.com

Lionfish came from oceans thousands of miles from the United States.



© Babin/Shutterstock.com

People bought lionfish for their aquariums because the fish were interesting and beautiful. When people got rid of their aquariums, they had to get rid of the fish. Many people took their unwanted lionfish to the ocean or to creeks that flowed into the ocean.

6b



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Many scientists believe that people released their unwanted lionfish from home aquariums into the Atlantic Ocean more than 25 years ago. In 1986, people had no idea that this would cause harm to the earth's ecosystems. Usually, species that come from far away don't survive in a new environment, but lionfish adapted perfectly to their new home in the Atlantic Ocean.

A female lionfish lays about two million eggs in a year. Once the eggs turn into larvae, they can float along ocean currents for hundreds of miles before developing into adult fish. This allows the lionfish to invade other nearby ecosystems. By 2013, lionfish had spread across the Caribbean Sea and as far north as the coast of Rhode Island.

7a



7b

to show the states where people have lionfish in their aquariums

to show that lionfish did not survive their new environment

to show the population of lionfish along the Atlantic coast

8a

Scientists believe that lionfish populations will continue to grow unless a solution is found soon. Local fish may become endangered or even extinct, causing seabirds and sea mammals that eat native fish for food to suffer. For now, people are buying diving equipment and spears to hunt the lionfish that threaten native fish and the environment of the Atlantic coastal waters near the United States.



Reinhard Dirscherl/Alamy Stock Photo



Karen Doody/Stocktrek Images/Getty Images

One method for controlling the fast-growing population of lionfish is something that people are very good at—eating them! Lionfish are delicious and a healthy choice for human hearts. Some restaurants do serve lionfish, but the fish are difficult to catch. The only way to catch lionfish is to dive into the water and spear them, one at a time. Once they are caught, their spines must be carefully removed.

Divers in Honduras are trying out another method for controlling the lionfish population. They are training sharks to eat lionfish. Scientists hope that the spread of lionfish can be slowed down until a more permanent solution can be discovered.

to encourage readers to go diving

to inform readers about the problem of the fast-growing population of lionfish

to explain to readers how to carefully remove the lionfish's poisonous spines

Meb Keflezighi: Never Giving Up



© Foto Arena LTDA / Alamy Stock Photo

Meb Keflezighi is an American marathon runner. He was the 2004 Olympic silver medalist in the marathon. He always stays true to his motto: "Never give up on your dreams."



© Foto Arena LTDA /Alamy Stock Photo

During the 2016 Olympic marathon, Keflezighi had been running for more than two hours when he slipped in a puddle of water and fell to the ground. Keflezighi had been feeling sick that day and had stopped seven times during the race. But instead of quitting when he fell down, Keflezighi did a few push-ups, stood up, and finished the race. He stayed true to his motto: "Never give up on your dreams."

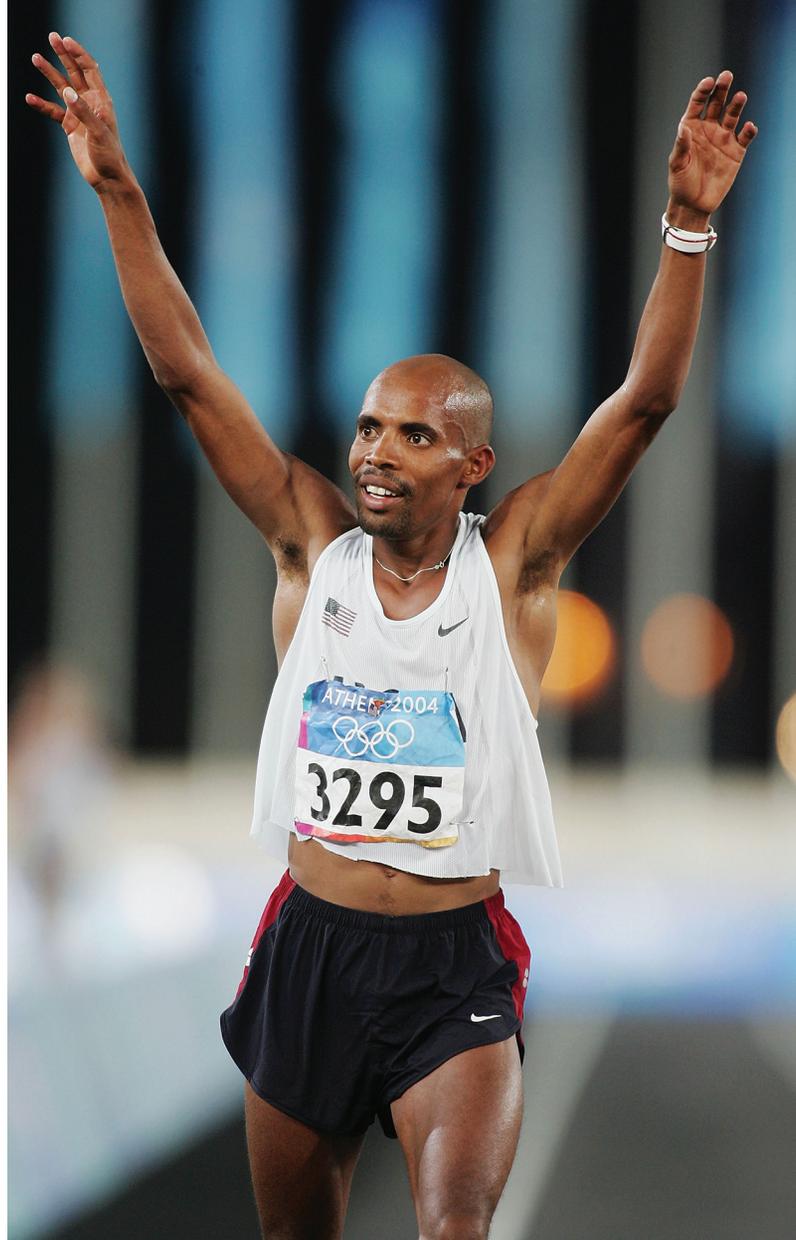


© AP Photo/Petr David Jozek



© REUTERS/Alamy Stock Photo

11a



© Photo by Clive Mason/Getty Images

Keflezighi grew up in a small rural village in eastern Africa. He was 12 years old when he moved with his family to the United States and settled in San Diego, California. For Keflezighi, learning English was very challenging. When Keflezighi was in the seventh grade, the P.E. teacher told the class to run a mile. Keflezighi left the other kids behind in the dust. He went on to race in high school, winning many marathon races. He got a scholarship to run for the University of California in Los Angeles, where he won four NCAA championships. In 1988, when he graduated, Keflezighi became a U.S. citizen.

11a



© ROBERTO SCHMIDT/AFP/Getty Images

Keflezighi went on to have a brilliant athletic career. He competed in four Olympic Games and many marathon races, including the New York City Marathon and the Boston Marathon. In the 2004 Olympics, Keflezighi was the first American marathon runner since 1976 to receive a medal.

taught Keflezighi to speak English

told Keflezighi's class to run a mile

watched Keflezighi run in the Boston Marathon

12a

When the time came for Keflezighi to compete in the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio, he was 41 years old. As marathon runners get older, it becomes more difficult for them to train. Keflezighi had to overcome the challenge of aging.



© Foto Arena LTDA /Alamy Stock Photo

In 2016, when Keflezighi found himself facedown on the pavement, he thought about all the difficulties he had been through. He stood up. He refused to give up on his dreams. Then he started running again. He finished the race in 33rd place.

Keflezighi is able to continue to run because of his smart training. He pushes himself, but he also knows when to rest. In his book *Meb for Mortals: How to Run, Think, and Eat Like a Champion Marathoner* advice about the training and attitude that lead to success.



© Photo by Sandy Huffaker/Corbis via Getty Images

Keflezighi wanted to tell people about all the races he had won in the Olympic Games between 2004 and 2016.

Keflezighi wanted to share with people what he knows about training for the Olympic Games and marathon races.

Keflezighi wanted to compete in the 2016 Olympic Games.

A service dog is trained.



© iStock.com/andresr

A service dog is trained to work for a person with a disability.



© iStock.com/andrest

Service dogs begin their training as puppies to assist people with specific tasks. These dogs provide support for people who are blind or deaf. They can also help other people.

They can help people.

They can also help people
with physical and
emotional disabilities.



Service dog training includes opening doors and pushing buttons on elevators, and also service dogs are trained to alert their owner to changing situations. Some service dogs are trained to sense when their owner needs comfort. People with seizure and anxiety disorders rely heavily on their service dogs for support.

Service dog training includes opening doors and pushing buttons on elevators. Also, service dogs are trained to alert their owner to changing situations.

Service dog training includes opening doors and pushing. Buttons on elevators and also are trained to alert their owner to changing situations.

Service dog training includes opening doors and pushing buttons on elevators. Also, trained to alert their owner service dogs are changing situations.



© iStock.com/Michael Krinke

Service dogs have an important job. They are not simply pets. Their work is to give support to their disabled owner. Although it is not required, most service animals wear a vest, harness, or some other identification to let others know that the dog is "on duty."

They are not simply pets, or their work is to give support to their disabled owner.

They are not simply pets, nor their work is to give support to their disabled owner.

They are not simply pets, and their work is to give support to their disabled owner.

Iceland, a country in Europe, is an interest place for many reasons.



© iStock.com/vitalymateha

Iceland, a country in Europe, is an interesting place for many reasons.

18a



© iStock.com/vitalymateina

Iceland has wondering differences, including summer days with no darkness and winter days with little sunlight.

wonderful

wandered



© kavram/Shutterstock.com

Iceland has become one of the fast-growing tourist destinations in the world. The rugged countryside, tall waterfalls, and ancient glaciers are very different from other parts of the world. Unique food, culture, and rich Nordic history make Iceland intriguing to visitors.

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Iceland has become one of the fastest-growing tourist destinations in the world.

20a



Iceland has a community of artists, musicians, and chefs who provide entertainment in frequent fairs. The long summers and dark, cold winters have resulted in one of the world's most unique places to visit.

The long summers and dark, cold winters have made Iceland one of the world's most uniquiest places to visit.

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