

Video Pause Guide

Lesson Title: Rivals in Orbit: How the Space Race Began and Ended in Cooperation

Use the table as your script. Read the Teacher Prompt, pause, then have students record the Model Note in their Guided Notes.

Part 1 (Space Race — Part 1)

Pause	Teacher prompt (say)	Model note (students write)
01:55	What shocked Americans in 1957, and why did it matter?	1957: USSR launches Sputnik. U.S. fears falling behind and possible space-based weapons; start of Space race.
02:43	How did the U.S. respond, and why make NASA civilian?	1958: Explorer 1 succeeds; NASA created a civilian agency to emphasize science and transparency.
04:12	Who was chosen to fly and why?	Test pilots chosen → Mercury Seven (1959). Trained for risk and precision.
05:27	Compare early human flights.	USSR: Yuri Gagarin first human & first orbit (Apr 1961). USA: Alan Shepard first American (May 1961), suborbital.
6:16	What goal did JFK set and why set a deadline?	Land on the Moon before 1970 to regain leadership, focus money/effort, inspire nation.
End	Why did Glenn's orbit matter?	1962: John Glenn orbits Earth → major morale boost; Mercury proves survival/orbit → leads to Gemini to learn working in space.

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Part 2 (Space Race — Part 2)

Pause	Teacher prompt (say)	Model note (students write)
00:49	What must astronauts prove in Gemini?	Work in space: EVA/spacewalks, rendezvous/docking, long duration flights
02:40	Why were early spacewalks so hard?	Newton's 3rd law: push = drift. Astronauts tired; tools/footing missing.
03:12	What changed EVA success?	Underwater training + added handholds/footholds/straps → efficient EVAs.
04:31	Define 'go fever' and its result.	Go fever = rushing despite risks. Apollo 1 tragedy → redesign; stricter safety.
05:25	Why did Apollo 8 matter in 1968?	First to orbit the Moon; huge morale boost in a hard year; proved Saturn V capability.
06:48	What did Apollo 11 mean?	1969: Moon landing; U.S. meets JFK goal; pride increases though interest later fades.
End	What does Apollo-Soyuz show?	1975 U.S. - USSR cooperation; from rivalry to limited partnership → beginning of international efforts