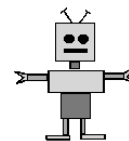
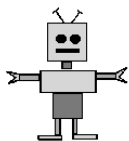
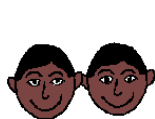
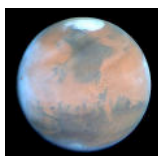


Mars

Landing



The twin robot geologists, the Mars Exploration Rovers,



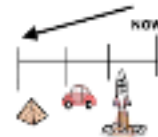
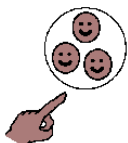
10

&

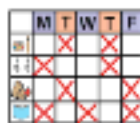
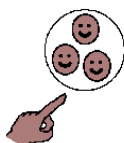


were sent toward Mars on June 10 and July

7



7, 2003. They are searching for answers about the history



of water on Mars. They are scheduled to land on

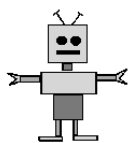


3

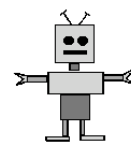
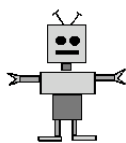
&



Mars January 3 and January 24.



&



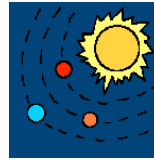
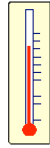
The Spirit and Opportunity rovers must



1,000,000

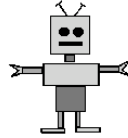
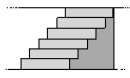
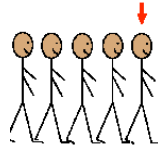


make a 286 million mile trip to Mars. They will go

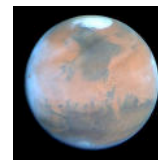
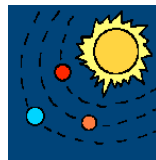


7

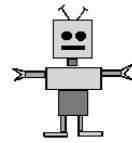
through the cold temperatures of space toward Mars for seven



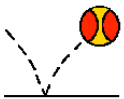
months. The first step the rover will take is when



it comes into the atmosphere of Mars going 12,000



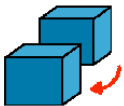
mph. The rover is protected by airbags. It could



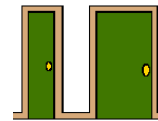
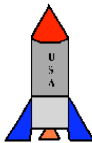
5



bounce up to five stories high on the ground



before it stops.



The goals of the mission are to search for a wide

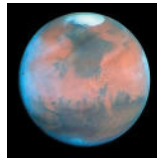
range of rocks and soils that hold clues to past



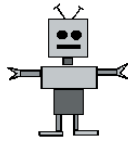
water



on



Mars. The



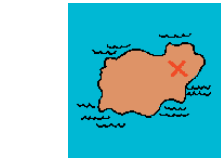
rovers



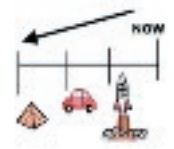
are



sent



to sites

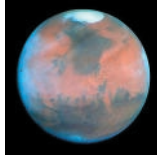


on

opposite sides of Mars that appear to have been affected



sides



of Mars



that

appear to



have

been affected



by



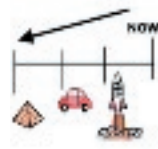
water



in

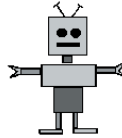


the



past. Then,

the

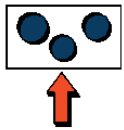


rovers will



drive

to those places to do scientific tests during their 90-day

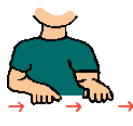


to those



places

to



do

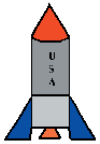


scientific tests during



their

90-day



mission.