Talk with an Astronaut Study Guide

**Vocabulary**
1. monitors- screens
2. role- purpose
3. accomplishments- successes
4. specifics- details
5. focus- a main point of interest
6. gravity- the force that makes things fall to the ground

**Comprehension**

1. What trait did Ochoa’s mother pass on to her?
   
   She passed on an enjoyment of learning.

2. When Ochoa talked about her experiences in school, what was her main point?
   
   It’s okay to change your mind.

3. Why didn’t Ochoa consider being an astronaut when she was a child?
   
   She knew that women had never been astronauts.

4. Why does NASA focus more on training than going on missions?
   
   Astronauts have to learn how to handle all problems that may occur while on missions.

5. How is Ellen Ochoa different from other astronauts?
   
   She is the first Hispanic American woman to go into space.

6. According to the selection, how does Ochoa feel about being an astronaut?
   
   She is excited and confident.

7. How do the photographs add to the selection?
   
   They show some of the equipment astronauts use.
8. The selection includes photographs of spaceships and astronauts at work. What other graphic sources would relate to the information in the selection?

Photos with labels and captions explaining the tools and their uses would also be helpful.

9. What is the most likely reason the selection was written?

to teach readers about Ellen Ochoa’s experiences

10. The selection is a series of questions and answers between fifth-grade students and Ellen Ochoa. What is a likely reason this selection was presented in this manner?

So fifth graders could see what other fifth graders have said and to see how they interviewed an astronaut.

11. Put the following events in order:

   2 Ochoa trained for three years.
   1 Ochoa studied physics.
   4 Ochoa operated a robot arm in space.
   3 Ochoa went on her first mission.