

## II/ Let's remember the context of the film : the space race

Find who did what on the timeline below :

1961

1962

March 9

April 12

May 5

May 25

July 21

February 20

made one orbit  
on board  
Korabl-Sputnik-4

orbited the earth  
once and became the  
first man in space

became the first  
American in space

challenged the nation  
to go to the Moon  
before the end of the  
60s in a speech to  
Congress

was launched on a  
sub-orbital flight. His  
capsule Liberty Bell 7  
got lost in the ocean

orbited the earth  
three times



Gus Grissom



President Kennedy



Chernushka



John Glenn  
(in *Hidden Figures*)



Youri Gagarine



Alan Shepard

## III/ Let's talk about the role women played in the space race

What are the three women's jobs at the beginning of the film ?

Who were these women ? Find their names and the jobs in which they specialize later in the film.  
Then, write your answers in the boxes around the film poster (next page).

**Names :** Katherine Johnson – Dorothy Vaughan – Mary Jackson

**Jobs :** aeronautical engineer – computer supervisor – mathematician

I can't change the color of my skin.  
So I have no choice but to be the first.

So, yes, they let women do some things  
at NASA (...) And it's not because  
we wear skirts, it's because we wear  
glasses.

Learn all we can, make ourselves valuable.  
Somewhere down the line,  
a human being is gonna have  
to push the buttons.

Genius has no race. Strength has no gender. Courage has no limit.

TARAJI HENSON OCTAVIA SPENCER JANELLE MONÁE KEVIN COSTNER KIRSTEN DUNST JIM PARSONS

**HIDDEN FIGURES**

BASED ON THE UNTOLD TRUE STORY

COMING SOON

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Name :  
Final job :

Name :  
Final job :

Name :  
Final job :

Rules and regulations :

Rules and regulations :

Focus on the obstacles these women faced in their lives and careers. Say whether they had to or weren't allowed to do the following things and rephrase them using *have to*, *mustn't* or *can't* and the appropriate subject :

*wear a skirt – author reports – read classified information – talk to Mr Harrison before being talked to – attend Pentagon briefings – be a supervisor – take an advanced extension course to become an engineer*

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Then, identify who set obstacles to them and match these rules and regulations to the people who said them in the blue boxes (on previous page).

Find at least two other examples of discrimination. What do these examples reveal about the situation of African-Americans at the time ?

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Can you remember at least two references in the film that are made to historical events connected to the struggles of African-Americans for equality ?

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#### Toolbox : expressing dos and don'ts in the past tense



Obliging : HAD TO + V

e.g. Women had to respect very specific rules.

Forbidding : WAS / WERE NOT ALLOWED TO + V

e.g. Women were not allowed to wear trousers.