

Out of difficulties grow miracles.

-Jean De La Bruyere

If we could only get the Endeavour off the ground – [next launch attempt Wednesday!](#)



[KSC-2009-3790](#) --- CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. – On Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida, smoke fills the pad as the Atlas V/Centaur carrying NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, or LRO, and NASA's Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite, known as LCROSS, lifts off. LRO and LCROSS are the first missions in NASA's plan to return humans to the moon and begin establishing a lunar outpost by 2020. The LRO also includes seven instruments that will help NASA characterize the moon's surface: DIVINER, LAMP, LEND, LOLA, CRATER, Mini-RF and LROC. Launch was on-time at 5:32 p.m. EDT. Photo credit: NASA/Tom Farrar, Kevin O'Connell

preeminent

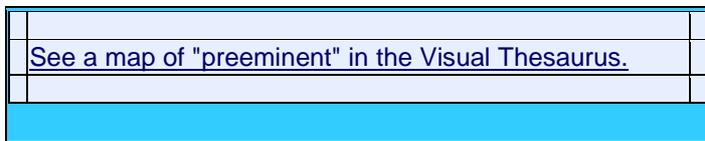
\pre-EM-uh-nunt\ 
adjective [Play Podcast](#)

Meaning

: having paramount rank, dignity, or importance : outstanding, supreme

Example Sentence

Carrie considered herself lucky to have one of the country's preeminent novelists as her writing professor.



Did you know?

What is noteworthy about the following sentence? "Mount McKinley is a prominent eminence in the Alaskan landscape." You very likely recognized two words that are closely related to "preeminent" — "prominent" and "eminence." All three words are rooted in the Latin verb stem "-minēre," meaning "to stand out." But did you note as well the related word "mount"? Not too surprisingly, "-minēre" is related to "mons," the Latin word for "mountain." That relationship leads us in turn to "paramount," a word closely related in meaning to "preeminent."

*Indicates the sense illustrated in the example sentence.

Best Regards,

Ron Van Alstyne

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