I thought aviation was incredibly exciting and I liked model rockets I used to fly model rockets when I was in elementary school and just making stuff go fast and high it was a really exciting and of course if you'd asked me if I want to be an astronaut I would have said you know absolutely but but it wasn't something that I carried as a goal since childhood and then in college I became an engineer and learned how stuff works and how to build things and I got a job in an aerospace company and we were building satellites and
satellite parts and I got to meet a few astronauts and while when I met them I realized that hey it's a job and I never even thought of being an astronaut as a job and then I heard they were taking applications for that job so I thought well geez who doesn't who doesn't want to be an astronaut I mean everybody wants to be an ass not in my mind so got the application filled it in mailed it off and almost forgot about it I just felt like I bought the lottery ticket stuck in my pocket forgot about it and I was really surprised when they gave me a
call and asked me if I want to interview

and equally surprised when I got selected for the class of 96

it's fun I mean it's sort of back to school we for the first two years we're

called asking our candidates or ask

hands for short and ask and training is learning everything you can about NASA

so we go to all the center's and we try to we learn about what they do it's all

about learning how the space station works when I joined it was all about learning how the Space Shuttle works and then it's all the skills that you're

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going to need to be an astronaut so some robotic skills and some space walking skills and some fix-it skills and some speaking skills and so it's it's sort of going to school for almost two years and then when you come out of it you're ineligible astronaut for assignment and I guess there's four years after i joined that I got selected for my first nation ah it felt pretty normal pretty quickly uh when we go up in the space shuttle we don't dock for about until the third day and so that means we have you know two full days of living in the space shuttle
to kind of get used to weightlessness to

get used to brushing your teeth and

weightlessness and putting on your socks

which is comically difficult to do in

weightlessness and so you sort of

adapted that sort of doing your everyday

stuff in weightlessness now you get into

the station and it's a real benefit

there's just a lot more room the space

station is outfitted with lots of

computers to provide you some

entertainment and also communications

with home so you can talk to your family

virtually every day and so that feels a
lot more normal and so living on the space station I thought was a very fast adaptation the two great things about being in space from a personal point of view or floating and looking out the window looking out the window is a spectacular privilege we're 200 and something miles above the surface of the earth we're going 17,000 miles an hour we cover most of the populated landmass because of our inclination of our orbit to look down at the earth and see both very familiar sights like your hometown and unfamiliar sites like the middle of
Australia which is incredibly beautiful

dan tani

that was a motivator every day for space

in space for me so even out the little

window it was amazing so now you put the

helmet on spacesuit on you get in the

air lock and close the door behind you

you open the door out into space and now

your window has become a full 180 degree

mask view and the thing about spacewalks

is we're not out there for the view

we're out there to do the work

and i would say every space rock will

tell you the view is great that we think

my memory of the spacewalks really is

NASA Kennedy - In Their Own Words_ Astronaut Dan Tani_pOernXaSfx0 - transcript (automated).txt[15/09/2019 15:55:07]
what's here and I had to force myself to

101 00:04:27,750 --> 00:04:33,389
have moments where I could appreciate

102 00:04:29,959 --> 00:04:34,769
the setting and the view and and take

103 00:04:33,389 --> 00:04:37,288
some pictures and sort of remember it

104 00:04:34,769 --> 00:04:38,758
that way it is spectacular it's amazing

105 00:04:37,288 --> 00:04:40,349
to hold on to the space station you're

106 00:04:38,759 --> 00:04:43,650
going 17 and a half thousand miles an

107 00:04:40,350 --> 00:04:45,509
hour and hold on and just sort of look

108 00:04:43,649 --> 00:04:47,038
down at your feet and 200 miles under

109 00:04:45,509 --> 00:04:49,410
your feet there goes the coast of

110 00:04:47,038 --> 00:04:51,360
California and then whoops nine minutes

111 00:04:49,410 --> 00:04:52,949
later there it goes in New York City as

112 00:04:51,360 --> 00:05:00,629
you're flying over and then on your way

113 00:04:52,949 --> 00:05:04,139
to Europe well the biggest surprise to

114 00:05:00,629 --> 00:05:07,800
me was that when you're in space with
the weightlessness it is I call

weightlessness 75% enjoyable 75%

unbelievably fun twenty-five percent

just a pain in the neck and the pain in

the neck aspect is you're used to on the

ground you're used to doing things

without thinking you used to writing

something down putting the pen down the

pen stays there and the paper stays

there and you can turn around and when

you turn back the Pens there the papers

there well since everything floats in

space you have to think absolutely about

everything you touch and everything that
you want to touch when you're eating in space you have to generally people will eat one thing at a time because to eat your meat and your potatoes and your drink you have to hold down tie down find a fix each item between if you're going to pick up something new otherwise you're just juggling stuff and stuff will you'll get out of control one of the pleasures are coming back to space to the ground was not having to think about eating not having to think about my utensils I can put them down and it was magic they just stayed right there