



Hugo is a clever engineer.  
You can see him making a rocket.  
Will the rocket work? Can it lift Hugo?

Hugo is going to test the rocket.  
Ratty wants to come with him.  
“Sorry, mate.” Hugo says. “You must stay here. A ride on a rocket is too dangerous for little rats.”

The countdown is beginning: Five - four - three - two - one - zero -  
There is a loud noise.  
The launch is a success.  
But does Hugo know how to fly?  
It’s going up and down - to the left and to the right. Is he a good pilot?

Finally Hugo can control his flight.  
But what’s this? Ratty has come with him!  
He is tied to his shoe. Well then...

Both are enjoying the flight.  
They fly over the town, then along the river and finally under the bridge.

What about a happy landing?  
Not now, later... Flying is great fun.  
Then the fuel tank is empty. The rocket stops its noise and they go down very quickly. They crash into a waste bin.  
The flight is over.

**engineer:** professional working on engines  
**mate:** pal, friend, buddy  
**launch:** start  
**success:** hit, triumph

**fuel:** gas, kerosene, coal, wood  
**empty:** opposite of full  
**crash:** run into

### Change into the present continuous tense:

- He makes a rocket: ... *He is making a rocket. (or: He’s making...)*.....
- He tests the rocket. ....
- The countdown begins. ....
- It goes up and down. ....
- We enjoy the flight. ....
- Does Ratty go with him? .....
- Do you fly over the town? .....
- Do they land there? .....
- Why does the noise stop? .....