



**CLICK HERE TO ACTIVATE**

**LESSON**

PART 1





## UNIT 2



# The First Aeroplane

## Warm Up



Look at the following pictures, identify them and write their names from the box in the space provided.

Aeroplane   Glider   Kite   Rocket   Helicopter



## Read and Enjoy



Wilbur Wright and Orville Wright, popularly known as Wright Brothers, created history when they invented the first aeroplane. They designed their first aircraft that was a small **glider**. It was flown as a kite. They arched the tips of the glider wings slightly to control its balance and movement.

To get a better idea, the Wright Brothers spent hours, observing birds in flight. They noticed that birds **soared** up in wind and the curved **surface** of their wings helped them move up. Birds changed the



**glider** : a light aircraft designed to fly without using an engine

**soared** : rise high, (in the air)

**surface** : the outside or uppermost part of something



shape and **flapped** their wings to turn and control their speed. The Wright Brothers thought that they could use this method and change the shape of the wings of the glider to fly it successfully.

Over the next three years, the Wright Brothers designed many gliders that were flown **unmanned** or by pilots. They realized that a good control of the flying aircraft would be the most difficult problem. But they were not afraid of **failure**. After a successful glider test, they built and tested a big full-size glider at Kitty Hawk in North Carolina. The place was suitable because of its wind, sandy soil, hills and **remote** location.

In 1900, they were successful in flying a big 50 pound glider with 17-foot **wingspan** at Kitty Hawk again, both as unmanned and **piloted** flights.

In fact, it was the first glider having a pilot. They decided to build a bigger and better glider. Their thrill and excitement could not be expressed in words.

In 1901, the Wright Brothers flew the biggest glider ever flown. It weighed 100 pounds. But many problems occurred. The wings could not lift it high enough and sometimes, the airplane **spinned** out of control.

They were extremely disappointed but they soon overcame it. Their love for adventure helped them move on. Later, they decided to build a new and improved glider with a tail to make it stable and a wingspan of 32 feet. In 1902, the Wright Brothers flew the glider many times. The movable tail of the glider helped to balance the craft. They were happy to have succeeded. Next, they decided to build a motor-powered aircraft.

They designed a motor and a new aircraft. The aircraft weighed 700 pounds and was called the Flyer. The brothers built a **downhill track** to launch the Flyer. This helped the aircraft to gain a good airspeed to fly.



After two attempts to fly the machine, one of which was almost a small crash, Orville Wright took the Flyer for a 12-second flight on 17 December 1903. It was the first successful powered flight in history! In 1904, the flight lasted more than five minutes. The Flyer was flown by Wilbur Wright.

**flapped** : moved (wings) up and down when flying

**unmanned** : not having a pilot

**failure** : lack of success

**remote** : far away

**wingspan** : the maximum extent across the wings of an aircraft, measured from tip to tip

**piloted** : operated by a pilot

**spinned** : turned round and round quickly

**downhill track** : path that leads down from the top of the hill

## Read and Understand



### A. Read the following sentences and write 'T' for the true and 'F' for the false ones.

1. The first aircraft, designed by the Wright Brothers, was flown as a kite.
2. The Wright Brothers spent hours observing gliders.
3. In 1901, the Wright Brothers flew the smallest glider.
4. The Wright Brothers built an uphill track to launch the Flyer.
5. In 1904, the flight of the powered aircraft lasted more than five minutes.

### B. Tick (✓) the correct answer.

1. The Wright Brothers spent hours together observing  
(a) clouds  (b) birds   
(c) helicopters  (d) kites
2. The Flyer was first flown for twelve seconds in  
(a) 1910  (b) 1908   
(c) 1903  (d) 1920

### C. Answer the following questions.

1. Why did the Wright Brothers arch the tips of the wings of their first aircraft?
2. Why was the shape of the glider wings changed?
3. Where was a big full-size glider tested?
4. What was the weight of the biggest glider ever flown in 1901?
5. What was the name of the first motor-powered aeroplane?
6. Who first flew the motor-powered aeroplane for more than five minutes?

### D. HOTS

1. How did love for adventure and belief in themselves help the Wright Brothers to invent the aeroplane?



## Simple Past Tense

Read the following sentences carefully.

The Wright Brothers **invented** the aeroplane.

They **flew** the Flyer in 1903.

The coloured verbs are in the simple past tense. Verbs in the simple past tense express actions that were completed in the past.

It is important to remember that 'was' and 'were' are simple past tense forms of the 'be' verb.

- Examples:**
1. The flight **was** comfortable.
  2. The passengers **were** in the lobby.
  3. You **were** in the lobby.

We use 'had' as the simple past tense form of 'have'.

**Example:** The passengers **had** their tickets.

The simple past tense is also used to express past habits.

- Examples:**
1. The Wright Brothers **spent** hours watching the flight of birds every day.
  2. The pilot always **reached** the airport much before the scheduled time.
  3. He always **carried** his flying licence when on duty.

**A. Fill in the blanks with suitable simple past tense forms of verbs given in the box.**

looked   counted   wanted   watched   worked

1. The Wright Brothers always \_\_\_\_\_ to invent an aircraft and \_\_\_\_\_ hard for it day in and day out.
2. As an air hostess, Mohini, \_\_\_\_\_ after the passengers well before she retired.
3. Rohan lived near the airport. He \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the airplanes that flew over his house every day.

**B. Complete the following paragraph by filling the blanks with the simple past tense forms of verbs given in the brackets.**

Suresh \_\_\_\_\_ (run) out when he \_\_\_\_\_ (hear) the noise of an aircraft that was up in the sky. He \_\_\_\_\_ (look) at it and \_\_\_\_\_ (catch) his mother's arm. He \_\_\_\_\_ (say), "Look, it looks so majestic." He \_\_\_\_\_ (wish) he \_\_\_\_\_ (can) travel in a plane one day.



## Past Continuous Tense

**Read the following sentences carefully.**

1. The Wright Brothers **were watching** the birds when they thought of inventing an aircraft.
2. The pilot **was flying** the aircraft when the weather became rough.

The verbs (coloured words) in the above sentences are in the **past continuous tense (Past Progressive Tense)**. We use verbs in the past continuous tense to refer to actions that took place at some particular time in the past.

For verbs in the past continuous tense, we write: was/were + verb + -ing.

- Examples :**
1. The little boy **was looking** at the flying plane when he tripped and fell.
  2. The people **were watching** the air show.

**C. Fill in the blanks with the past continuous tense forms of verbs given in the brackets.**

1. Orville Wright \_\_\_\_\_ a plane when he lost control. (fly)
2. The Wright Brothers \_\_\_\_\_ a glider when they faced some problems. (fly)
3. The aircraft \_\_\_\_\_ up when it developed a technical problem. (soar)
4. The air hostess \_\_\_\_\_ food to the passengers when the pilot made an announcement. (serve)
5. The passengers \_\_\_\_\_ the aircraft when one of them felt sick. (board)



## Past Perfect Tense

The **past perfect tense** is used when we refer to two things or events that happened in the past, one after the other. It may be necessary to indicate which action happened before the other one. So, the action that happened first is indicated in the past perfect tense and the action that took place later is indicated in the simple past tense.

- Examples :**
1. He **had eaten** his breakfast before the school bus arrived.
  2. The plane **had landed** when I reached the airport.



The verbs in colour are in the past perfect tense.

When we use verbs in the past perfect tense, we write: had + 3rd form of the verb (past participle form of the verb).

**Example:** The pilot **had flown** that plane several times but never faced any problem earlier.

### **D. Pick out the verbs in the past perfect tense only and write them in your notebook.**

1. The students had spoken to their teacher when the peon entered the classroom.
2. The airport officer had checked the flight details before he informed the passengers about it.
3. The flight for Chennai had taken off 17 hours before the flight for Bengaluru took off.

### **E. Fill in the blanks with the past perfect tense forms of verbs given in the brackets.**

1. The Principal \_\_\_\_\_ (**speak**) to the teachers before she made an announcement.
2. My friend \_\_\_\_\_ (**cut**) the cake when her best friend reached her house.
3. The policemen \_\_\_\_\_ (**enter**) the lounge before the criminal tried to escape.

## LET'S SPELL

We can rearrange letters of a given word to form a new word. Such words are called **anagrams**.

**Example:** time → item

### **A. Tick (✓) the correct anagram for each given word and write in the blank.**

- |         |       |              |          |       |               |
|---------|-------|--------------|----------|-------|---------------|
| 1. ear  | _____ | (are/air)    | 2. palm  | _____ | (lamp/maple)  |
| 3. chin | _____ | (kinch/inch) | 4. waist | _____ | (sweat/waits) |
| 5. face | _____ | (lace/cafe)  | 6. knee  | _____ | (keen/lean)   |



**B. Complete the following words by filling the missing letters. Take help of the words given in the box.**

speed history pound invent control curved wings remote

1. h\_\_st\_\_r\_\_
2. \_\_nve\_\_t
3. s\_\_e\_\_d
4. p\_\_\_\_nd
5. w\_\_\_\_s
6. \_\_\_\_nt\_\_\_\_\_
7. r\_\_\_\_o\_\_\_\_
8. c\_\_\_\_ve\_\_

## VOCABULARY

### Word Power

**Match the words in column A with their synonyms (words with similar meanings) in column B.**

#### Column A

1. observing
2. change
3. suitable
4. happy
5. remote
6. test

( )  
( )  
( )  
( )  
( )  
( )

#### Column B

- (a) alter
- (b) appropriate
- (c) glad
- (d) noticing
- (e) trial
- (f) far away

## LET'S READ

**Read the following passage :**

India has many Airports. Therefore travelling has become easy for people. Aeroplanes have always been the most convenient mode of transport, because they save a lot of time when compared to other means of transport. There are large number of Airports that connect Indian cities with International cities. They are called International Airports. Some International Airports are Amritsar International Airport and Indira Gandhi International Airport. The domestic Airports in India connect the major parts of the country. Some domestic Airports are at Patna, Goa, Nagpur and so on. There are a total of 449 Airports in India of various kinds. Flights of many Airline Companies carry passengers from one place to the other. Some of them are Indian Airlines, Jet Airways, British Airways and Fly Emirates.

**Now answer the questions.**

1. Why do people like to travel by aeroplanes?
2. Name one international airport in India.
3. What is the total number of airports in India?
4. Name any two airline companies that operate airplanes in India.
5. Have you ever travelled by an aeroplane? If yes, how did you feel while flying? If not, would you like to travel by a plane?



## LET'S PRACTISE

Follow your teacher while he/she is saying and pronounce the words correctly.

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| i:             | e              |
| 1. <u>feed</u> | 1. <u>led</u>  |
| 2. <u>seen</u> | 2. <u>pet</u>  |
| 3. <u>deep</u> | 3. <u>fed</u>  |
| 4. <u>feet</u> | 4. <u>shed</u> |
| 5. <u>seed</u> | 5. <u>red</u>  |



## LET'S CONVERSE

Read the following conversation and enact it out with your partner in the class.

**Akash** : It is very foggy today.

**Indira** : Yes, it is.

**Akash** : Many flights have been cancelled today.

**Indira** : Really?

**Akash** : My father was supposed to go to Chennai in the morning. But he came back from the airport.

**Indira** : Oh! Actually an aircraft cannot take off if there is too much fog.

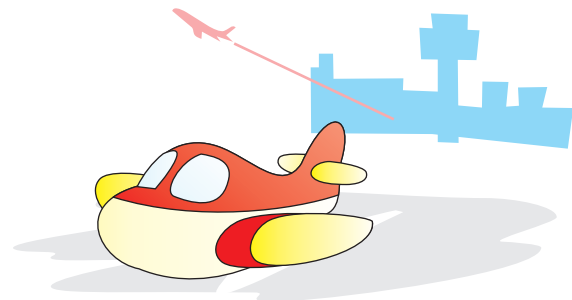
**Akash** : You are right. Even our school bus moves very slowly on such a foggy day because the driver cannot see the road clearly.

**Indira** : Yes. I agree with you.

## RHYME TIME

Read aloud the following poem and then recite it in groups.

The aircraft is up in the air,  
The weather is clear and fair,  
I look at the blue sky and sigh,  
I wish I could fly.  
The wings of the aircraft brightly shine,  
Everything seems to be just fine,  
The pilot and the air hostess work with a smile,  
Within minutes we've covered many a mile.



Now answer the following.

A. Read the following sentences and say whether they are true or false.

1. The aircraft did not take off in the air. \_\_\_\_\_
2. The weather was stormy. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The pilot and the air hostess worked happily. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The aircraft did not cover many miles. \_\_\_\_\_

B. Find four pairs of words from the poem that rhyme. The first one has been done for you as an example.

1. air fair
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_



## WRITING SKILLS

### Transcription

Copy the following passage neatly in your notebook. Punctuate it and use capital letters wherever needed. (Remember you should use capital letters to begin a sentence and the names of persons in the passage.)

birds changed the shape and flapped their wings to turn and control their speed the wright brothers thought that they could use this method and change the shape of the wings of the glider to fly it successfully

## HOMEWORK

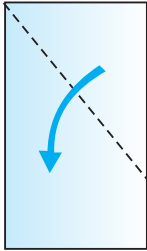
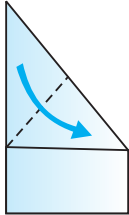
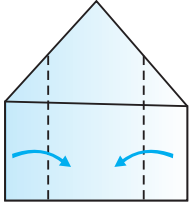
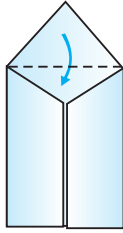
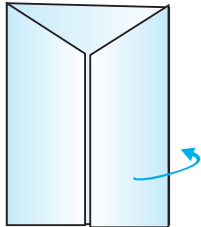
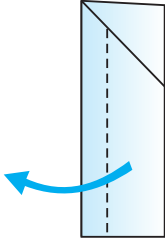
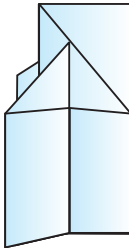
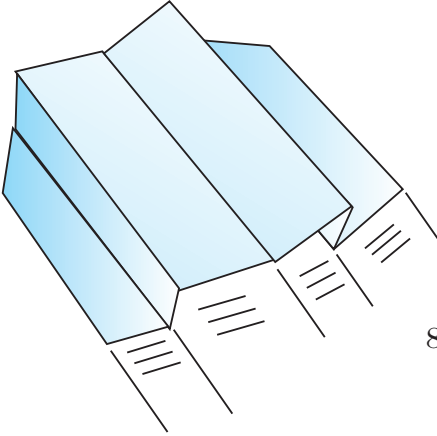
Complete the following passage by filling in appropriate words.

The invention of the aeroplane changed the way \_\_\_\_\_ travel. Travelling by plane takes \_\_\_\_\_ time and one can go from one place to \_\_\_\_\_ in comfort. Danny \_\_\_\_\_ to become a pilot and \_\_\_\_\_ a huge plane. He often talks \_\_\_\_\_ his parents about this.

## PROJECT WORK

Follow these steps to make a paper aeroplane or you may use some other method to do so.

Take a sheet of paper. First fold the two longer edges together, crease and open out. This is to make the vertical centre line.

				
1. Fold the top edge to lie along left edge.	2. Fold the left edge to lie along the horizontal edge.	3. Fold the two sides to the centre.	4. Fold the top point down.	5. Fold in half behind.
				
6. Fold the top flap to the left. Fold the rear flap in the same way ...	7. ... like this. Open out.	8. Launch the plane into the air and watch it fly.		

## VALUE CORNER / LIFE SKILLS

You should believe in yourself and determine what you want to do. Success will surely greet you.