

The Great Plane Race

Charles Browne



Summary

This book is about the race to be first to fly from New York to France.

Contents

Before Reading	Think Ahead	2
	Vocabulary	3
During Reading	Comprehension	5
After Reading	Think About It	8

Before Reading

Think Ahead

Look at the pictures and answer the questions.



1. What is under the wing of the plane?

2. What is a road for a plane called?

3. What is the driver of the car trapped in?

4. What is the driver of the car using to listen to music?

Vocabulary

A Read and match.



• a. distant

• b. parachute

• c. loyalty

• d. parade

• e. disaster

• f. graduate

• g. careers

• h. imagination

B Write the word for each definition.

discourage

airmail

inspire

engine

ace

1. _____ the part of a vehicle that produces power to make the vehicle move
2. _____ to try to persuade someone not to do something
3. _____ letters and packages sent by plane
4. _____ excellent; very skilled at
5. _____ to make someone want to do something

C Choose the word that means about the same as the underlined words.

1. These days, airplanes travel over oceans regularly.
 - a. attempt
 - b. distant
 - c. barnstorm
 - d. cross
2. Raymond Orteig started a flying competition.
 - a. accomplishment
 - b. parade
 - c. ace
 - d. contest
3. Lindbergh's success inspired people's power to create in their minds.
 - a. graduates
 - b. imaginations
 - c. radios
 - d. contests
4. Many of the first non-stop flights between New York and France ended in terrible accidents.
 - a. disaster
 - b. barnstorm
 - c. parade
 - d. distant

Comprehension

A Match the pictures with the correct sentences.

- a. The giant 3-engine Sigorsky S-35 plane used by Fonck.
- b. Lindbergh preparing his plane called the *Spirit of St. Louis*.
- c. A modern-day barnstormer performing flying tricks.



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____

B Choose the best answer.

1. Why did Rene Fonck's plane crash?
 - a. The plane did not have enough fuel.
 - b. The weather caused them to land early.
 - c. The plane was too heavy to fly.
 - d. He did not finish building his plane on time.
2. Which job did Lindbergh NOT have during his career?

a. Doing plane tricks in different American states	b. Working for the United Air Service
c. Working in a hotel in New York	d. Delivering mail
3. Why was Lindbergh successful?
 - a. He made the plane lighter so it could fly further.
 - b. He designed new wings for the plane.
 - c. He built a larger engine for the plane.
 - d. He built a longer runway for the plane to take off.

C Choose the correct phrase for each picture. One (1) choice will not be used.

- a. Inside the cabin of Lindbergh's plane
- b. People in France celebrating Lindbergh's accomplishment
- c. An early example of barnstorming
- d. A runway for a plane to take off and land
- e. The man who offered a reward for flying from France to New York



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____

D Read each sentence. Write "T" if it is true or "F" if it is false.

1. _____ Lindbergh had never flown a plane by himself before he bought his first one.
2. _____ Orteig's hotel guests were mostly American pilots.
3. _____ Lindbergh named his plane in honor of some people from a city in Missouri.
4. _____ Lindbergh was more famous than the other pilots who wanted to cross the Atlantic.
5. _____ All of the pilots built airplanes with a single engine.

E Complete the sentences with the correct words.

1. Lindbergh _____ at the top of his class from the United States Air Service.
inspired graduated
2. Before Lindbergh's success, six well-known pilots lost their lives _____ to win the Orteig Prize.
attempting discouraging
3. During the celebration of Lindbergh's success, people caused a huge _____ in the streets.
barnstorm traffic jam
4. It took Lindbergh about 33 hours to _____ from New York to France.
cross distant
5. Lindbergh was given a(n) _____ in New York City.
parade accomplishment

F Number the events in order from 1=first to 5=last.

- a. _____ Lindbergh got a job delivering mail by airplane.
- b. _____ There was a big parade for Lindbergh to celebrate his accomplishment.
- c. _____ Lindbergh took off from the runway in New York missing some telephone lines by about 6 meters.
- d. _____ Lindbergh worked for the Nebraska Aircraft Corporation, where he learned to repair planes.
- e. _____ Lindbergh bought an airplane for 500 dollars.

Think About It

A Look in the reader to write the answers to the following 5-W questions.

Who?	What?	When?	Where?	Why?
A French pilot, _____ _____, attempted to fly a large plane with 3 engines.	Lindbergh removed the window, radio, parachute and _____ to lighten the plane.	In _____, a letter was written inviting pilots to fly from New York to Paris.	The <i>Spirit of St. Louis</i> landed in _____ _____, which is close to Paris.	Orteig gave a reward for the flight in order to improve the _____ between the United States and France.

B Complete the sentences below with your own ideas.

From this book, I learned _____

_____.

Before I read this book, I knew _____

_____.

Now I also know _____

_____.