

PLANES AND FLIGHT TRIVIA QUIZ



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1> In 1804, what "father of aerodynamics" is credited with building the first successful glider?

- a. Orville Wright
- b. Leonardo da Vinci
- c. George Cayley
- d. Thomas Edison

2> How does a plane use Bernoulli's principle?

- a. To get off the ground
- b. To maximize revenue per seat
- c. To fly in darkness
- d. To land safely

3> A plane's ailerons trade lift on one wing for drag on the other. What happens then?

- a. The plane takes off
- b. The plane banks
- c. The plane reverses
- d. The plane descends

4> In 1938, Douglas "Wrong Way" Corrigan blamed dense clouds and compass failure when his flight from New York failed to land in California. Where did he land instead?

- a. Tokyo, Japan
- b. Toronto, Ontario
- c. London, England
- d. Havana, Cuba

5> What airport is abbreviated ORD because it was once known as Orchard Field?

- a. LAX
- b. O'Hare
- c. Heathrow
- d. JFK

6> In a Lockheed Vega named Winnie Mae, what was Wiley Post the first person to do in 1933?

- a. Fly a jet airplane successfully
- b. Fly solo around the world
- c. Bail out of an airplane
- d. Fly over the North Pole

7> During World War I, which country's pilots would you most likely have found in a SPAD?

- a. Italy
- b. Germany
- c. France
- d. Japan

8> Most aircraft are classified as fixed wing. But which of these would be rotary wing?

- a. Airship
- b. Jet
- c. Helicopter
- d. VTOL

9> What is the difference between a dirigible and a blimp?

- a. Dirigibles are rigid
- b. Dirigibles are much, much smaller
- c. Dirigibles use helium
- d. Dirigibles are British

10> Which of these is not one of the four primary forces acting on an airplane?

- a. Drag
- b. Lift
- c. Yaw
- d. Thrust

11> For what leader is a major Paris airport named?

- a. Napoleon
- b. Charlemagne
- c. Charles De Gaulle
- d. Robespierre

12> What did the "DC" stand for in the names of such planes as the DC-3?

- a. Douglas Commercial
- b. Direct Continental
- c. District of Columbia
- d. Don't Crash

13> Although Alberto Santos-Dumont was from a family of Brazilian coffee barons, he was the first person to fly in what continent, doing so in 1906?

- a. North America
- b. Europe
- c. Asia
- d. Australia

14> Thomas Selfridge holds what unfortunate aviation distinction?

- a. First person to get airsick
- b. First person to be bumped from a flight
- c. First person to die in a plane crash
- d. First pilot shot down in war

15> Most airports have three-letter abbreviations. In what country do almost all of these abbreviations begin with the letter Y?

- a. Yugoslavia
- b. Canada
- c. Japan
- d. Great Britain

Answers:

- 1> George Cayley - It was, though, unpiloted.
- 2> To get off the ground - Faster moving fluids (such as air) have lower pressure. The wing is shaped to move air faster over it than under it, so the wing moves up to the lower-pressure zone. By angling the wings, you can push more air underneath downward, which produces the "equal and opposite reaction" of the air pushing the wings upward.
- 3> The plane banks - You use the ailerons to bank and turn by trading lift on one wing for drag on the other.
- 4> London, England - He likely made the trip, even though he was denied permission to fly for safety reasons
- 5> O'Hare - It was renamed for Lieutenant Edward 'Butch' O'Hare, a decorated navy flyer killed in action when he was 29 years old. His father, though, was Easy Eddie O'Hare, one of Al Capone's attorneys.
- 6> Fly solo around the world - Post also used the Winnie Mae to set a world record for flying around the world, in 1931, along with Australian-American navigator Harold Charles Gatty
- 7> France - SPAD is short for (Societe pour l'Aviation et ses Derives.
- 8> Helicopter - When the blades of the main rotor rotate, they create airflow over them, resulting in lift. This also produces torque, or rotational force, which is countered by additional rotors, usually in the tail. This keeps the fuselage from spinning around the main rotor, rather than the other way around.
- 9> Dirigibles are rigid - The non-rigid kinds you see today are blimps.
- 10> Yaw - The fourth force is weight. Yaw is actually the use of the rudder to move the nose left or right.
- 11> Charles De Gaulle - Paris is also served by Orly.
- 12> Douglas Commercial - The Douglas Aircraft Company's DC-1 got rid of interior metal-spar skeletons
- 13> Europe - In fact, his 14-bis may have beaten the Wright brothers. Their fixed-wing plane needed to be catapulted since it used skids instead of wheels. Therefore, it technically wasn't taking off on its own power.
- 14> First person to die in a plane crash - He was Orville Wright's passenger on September 17, 1908, when the propeller fell off four minutes in.
- 15> Canada - Ottawa, for example, is YUL.