


Directions: Read the poem below and answer the questions 1-6.

<p>Wilbur Wright and Orville Wright  <i>Rosemary and Stephen Vincent Benet</i></p>	
<p>Said Orville Wright to Wilbur Wright          "These birds are very trying.          I'm sick of hearing them cheep-cheep          About the fun of flying.          A bird has feathers, it is true.          That much I freely grant.          But, must that stop us, W?"          Said Wilbur Wright, "It shan't."</p>	<p>They glided here, they glided there,          They sometimes skinned their noses.          ----For learning how to rule the air          Was not a bed of roses----          But each would murmur, afterward,          While patching up his bro,          "Are we discouraged, W?"          "Of course we are not, O!"</p>
	
<p>And so they built a glider, first,          And then they built another.          ---- There never were two brothers more          Devoted to each other.          They ran a dusty little shop          For bicycle-repairing,          And bought each other soda-pop          And praised each other's daring.</p>	<p>And finally, at Kitty Hawk          In Nineteen-Three (let's cheer it!)          The first real airplane really flew          With Orville there to steer it!          ----And kingdoms may forget their kings          And dogs forget their bites,          But, not till Man forgets his wings,          Will men forget the Wrights.</p>

1. (Analyze Text)

*For learning how to rule the air --- Was not a bed of roses...* What do these words imply?

- a. that it had no real importance
- b. that it was as easy as planting flowers
- c. that it took too long to accomplish
- d. that it was a very difficult task.

2. (Conclusions/Inferences)

Based on the text, how do the poets feel about the Wright brothers?

- a. The poets think the brothers are to be admired.
- b. The poets think of the brothers as friends.
- c. The poets think the brothers drank too much soda pop.
- d. The poets think the brothers were careless.

3. (Details/Facts)

According to the poem, what business did the Wrights work at together?

- a. bottling soda pop
- b. canning vegetables
- c. repairing bicycles
- d. selling bicycles

4. (Cause and Effect)

What happened when the brothers heard the birds "cheep cheep about the fun of flying?"

- a. Orville became very ill.
- b. They started trying to make a glider.
- c. They praised each other's daring.
- d. Wilbur bought Orville a soda pop.

**5. (Main Idea / Essential Message)**

Which stanza best express the main idea of the poem?

- a. Stanza 1
- b. Stanza 2
- c. Stanza 3
- d. Stanza 4

**6. (Synthesis)**

Why did the author choose to highlight this particular subject? Use specific information and details from the passage to support your answer.

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