

# Amelia Earhart - a famous pilot

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- ✓ You are going to read a text about a famous American woman pilot: Amelia Earhart.
- ✓ First watch a short video and choose the correct answers.

**1 She was the first woman to**

- A) fly solo an airplane
- B) fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean

**2 In 1937 when she was flying around the world**

- A) she probably crashed into the Pacific Ocean and died
- B) she crashed and died when she was landing in the USA



### **Amelia's childhood and how she got interested in flying**

Amelia Earhart was born in 1897 in Kansas where she also grew up. She was a very active girl: She rode horses very well, played baseball, basketball, and went fishing with their father. Amelia was preparing to go to university but suddenly the First World War started so she stayed home. Amelia Earhart first became interested in flying during this time. She talked carefully with many pilots who were at the hospital in the town where she lived.

### **Amelia's early years of flying, first woman to fly across the Atlantic**

She got her official pilot's license in 1920. Then she wanted her own plane. She earned most of the money to buy it by working for a telephone company. In 1928 she bought the plane. Amelia soon began taking part in air shows. She crashed one time in a field of cabbage (zeli) plants. The accident did not stop her from flying. Flying was fun, but it was too expensive for Amelia. So, she taught English to immigrants and then became a social worker. In 1931, Amelia married American publisher George Putnam, who helped her with the money for flying.

She decided to be the first woman to fly across the Atlantic ocean. On May 20, 1932, Amelia took off from Newfoundland, Canada. She flew east in a small red and gold plane. Amelia had problems with ice on the wings and fog from the ocean. But fortunately, nothing happened. After fifteen hours she safely landed in Ireland. She became the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean alone.

### **Trip around the world and the disappearance**

In the next few years, Amelia Earhart set more records. She was the first pilot to fly from Hawaii to California alone. She was the first to fly from Mexico City to New York City without stopping.

Amelia decided to use fly slowly with her navigator Fred Noonan around the world - It was a distance of 43,000 kilometers in 1937. But this was their last flight. When they were in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, they could not find Howland Island. Their fuel was getting low and their plane probably crashed in the Pacific Ocean. Nobody found the plane or their bodies.

### **A Read the text. Are the sentences True (pravda) or False (lež)?**

- |    |   |   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|---|
| 1) | She grew up in California.                                    | T | x | F |
| 2) | During the First World War she went to university.            | T | x | F |
| 3) | She paid for her first plane by working at a phone company.   | T | x | F |
| 4) | She was also an English teacher.                              | T | x | F |
| 5) | When she flew across the Atlantic Ocean she had a blue plane. | T | x | F |
| 6) | She died during her flight around the world.                  | T | x | F |

**B Read the text again and put the events in the correct order.**

During the First World War she became interested in flying when she was talking to army pilots.

She flew across the Atlantic Ocean.

She got married to George Putnam.

She bought her first plane and she once crashed into a field with cabbage.

She flew from Hawaii to California.

She was born in 1897.

She flew with Fred Noonan around the world.

1st

2nd

3rd

4th

5th

6th

7th