The Wright Brothers Make History

Use the banks to fill in the missing verbs. Change the verbs to past simple and write them in the correct place. There are more verbs than you need in each bank.

Over 100 years ago, people only _____ about flying. The Wright brothers, Wilbur and Orville, were dreamers who _____ the world. Wilbur Wright was born in 1867 and Orville was born in 1871. In 1878, they _____ a paper flying toy from their father. They _____ with kites and started to think about the possibility of flight.

Bank 1: receive change dream watch play start work

When they were older, they _____ a bicycle business. They _____ the bicycle shop to design their airplanes. They _____ three aspects of flying: lift, control, and power. In 1899, they _____ their first flying machine—a kite made of wood, wire, and cloth. It had no pilot. Because of wind, it was difficult to control. They _____ to study aerodynamics.

Bank 2: finish continue construct help study start clean use paint

Finally Wilbur _____ a small machine with a gasoline engine. Wilbur _____ to fly the machine, but it _____. They _____ it and flew it for the first time on December 17, 1903, with Orville as the pilot. The airplane _____ in the air for twelve seconds. It _____ a distance of 120 feet. This historic flight _____ the world. However, only four newspapers in the U.S. _____ this historic moment.

Bank 3: change remain report lower design fix stop try mix crash travel

The Wright brothers offered their invention to the U.S. government, but the government _____ their offer at first. The government didn't believe that these men _____ a flying machine. Finally, President Theodore Roosevelt _____ their claims and _____ the inventors a contract to build airplanes for the U.S. Army.

Bank 4: reject ask answer investigate offer invest invent

December 17, 2003, _____ 100 years of flight. There was a six-day celebration at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, the location of the first flight. A crowd of 35,000 people _____ to see a replica of the first plane fly. The cost to re-create the plane was $1.2 million. However, it _____ hard that day and the plane _____ to get off the ground.

You can now see the Wright brothers' original airplane in the Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

Bank 5: rain succeed gather mark remember fail

LIVEWORKSHEETS