

Good morning. I'm reporting from Cambridge in the UK, where an exciting event is taking place. Amazon UK is attempting its first drone customer delivery. The first ever delivery is low-key. The only person around is the customer themselves. The drone delivery is happening in the countryside. The package has just been dropped off carefully and the drone has taken off again.

Let's think for a moment about how the drone got here. The customer ordered their goods online and selected Prime Air delivery service. If you live within 7 miles – or 11 kilometres – of an Amazon fulfilment centre and your order doesn't weigh too much, you may be eligible to have goods delivered to your front garden by drone.

The order was then processed by Amazon. The goods were then selected at the centre, packaged and transferred to the dispatch section where they are taken on by the drone. The customer provides the all-clear to land to Amazon.

The drone is then dispatched. Currently drones must fly under a height of 122 metres. That means that unless a drone was flying over an airport when a plane was taking off or landing, there wouldn't be threat of collision. That's reassuring, as there have been concerns about what impacts drones will have on air traffic control if they fly close to airports. The drone completes its delivery within the prescribed thirty-minute window, depositing the customer's order outside the home of the customer. The order is now complete, and the drone goes back to the fulfilment centre (or distribution centre to you and me).

In 2016, Amazon sold an incredible 600 items a second. Think about how many drones would've been needed to ship items. Multiple orders can be made by customers, of course, and as long as the weight limit is not exceeded, they can be dispatched via a single drone. Some might say that could cause a safety risk.

Well, the first drone to deliver a package to an Amazon customer carried a bag of popcorn and an Amazon Fire TV stick. Customers who subscribe to Amazon Prime Air can choose from numerous items to be delivered by drone, all part of the service. Of course, a drone can only carry packages that weigh up to 2.6 kilograms so you couldn't buy a desk and have it delivered by drone, at least for the moment. Who knows what the future might bring!

Text Dependent Questions:

1. What is the purpose of the first drone delivery described in the text?

- A. To deliver goods to a customer
- B. To test the capabilities of the drone
- C. To advertise Amazon Prime Air
- D. To report on the event in Cambridge

2. According to the text, who is eligible to have goods delivered by drone?

- A. Anyone who lives in Cambridge
- B. Customers who order goods online
- C. People who live within 7 miles of an Amazon fulfilment center
- D. Those who subscribe to Amazon Prime Air

3. How are goods selected for drone delivery?

- A. The customer selects the items online
- B. Amazon processes the order and selects the goods
- C. The drone picks the goods from the fulfillment center
- D. The dispatch section chooses the goods for delivery

4. What is the maximum height that drones are allowed to fly under?
- A. 122 meters
 - B. 7 miles
 - C. 11 kilometers
 - D. 30 minutes
5. What potential safety risk is mentioned in the text?
- A. Drones flying too close to airports
 - B. Customers ordering multiple items
 - C. Customers exceeding the weight limit
 - D. Drones colliding with planes
6. What was the first package delivered by drone to an Amazon customer?
- A. A bag of popcorn and an Amazon Fire TV stick
 - B. Numerous items chosen by the customer
 - C. A desk and other heavy items
 - D. Goods that weighed more than 2.6 kilograms
7. What is the main advantage of using drones for delivery?
- A. Faster delivery times
 - B. Lower delivery costs
 - C. Increased safety for air traffic control
 - D. Ability to deliver heavy items
8. How many items did Amazon sell per second in 2016?
- A. 600
 - B. 60
 - C. 6
 - D. 6,000
9. What is the weight limit for packages delivered by drone?
- A. 7 miles
 - B. 11 kilometers
 - C. 2.6 kilograms
 - D. 122 meters
10. What does the text suggest about the future of drone delivery?
- A. It will become the primary method of delivery for all goods
 - B. It will be limited to small, lightweight items
 - C. It will replace traditional delivery methods completely
 - D. It is uncertain and could bring about new possibilities