

Chapter 2: Neerja Bhanot

Fill-in-the-Blanks

1. Neerja Bhanot was born on _____ in Chandigarh.
2. Neerja's parents were _____ and _____.
3. Later, Neerja's family moved to _____, then called Bombay.
4. Neerja was a sensitive and _____ young woman.
5. In 1985, Neerja got married to her husband in the _____.
6. Under the strain of _____ pressure, Neerja returned to her parents' home.
7. Neerja joined the training for a _____ with Pan Am airlines.
8. On _____, 1986, she returned from a modelling assignment.
9. The plane was hijacked by four heavily armed _____.
10. Neerja was the senior _____ on the flight.
11. The hijackers wanted to target the _____ passengers.
12. Neerja collected all the _____ passports and hid them.
13. The _____ crew of the plane deserted the passengers.
14. Neerja kept the passengers _____ and calm.
15. She was shot while protecting _____.
16. Neerja Bhanot was awarded the _____, India's highest civilian award for bravery.
17. She also received the _____-e-Insaniyat award from Pakistan.
18. Neerja's heroic actions were described as "brave in life, _____ in death."
19. Her parents set up a trust with an initial amount of _____ lakh.
20. The trust gives awards to _____ airline crew members.

21. The Pan Am citation mentioned that Neerja was called upon under the most _____ conditions.
22. Neerja's bravery saved the lives of _____ passengers.
23. She exhibited great _____ and presence of mind during the hijack.
24. The hijack lasted for _____ hours.
25. Neerja shouted the hijack _____ to alert the captain.
26. Neerja helped passengers escape by opening the _____ doors.
27. The terrorists opened fire when they realized the passengers were trying to _____.
28. The Ashok Chakra citation stated Neerja's _____ to passengers will remain a lasting tribute.
29. Neerja was known for her sense of _____ and beautiful face.
30. Neerja's story is an inspiration to the _____ of our country.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What was Neerja Bhanot's role during the Pan Am flight hijacking in 1986?
 - a) A passenger who helped coordinate the escape
 - b) An undercover security officer assigned to the flight
 - c) The senior flight purser who took command after cockpit crew fled
 - d) A trainee flight attendant observing senior crew members
2. How did Neerja protect American passengers during the hijacking?

- a) She collected and hid their passports to confuse terrorists
 - b) She disguised them as crew members
 - c) She moved them to a secured compartment
 - d) She taught them phrases in Hindi to blend in
3. What heroic action directly led to Neerja's death?
- a) Attempting to negotiate with the hijackers
 - b) Trying to overpower the armed terrorists
 - c) Shielding three children from gunfire
 - d) Preventing the plane from taking off again
4. Which of these awards was NOT received by Neerja Bhanot posthumously?
- a) Ashok Chakra (India)
 - b) Bharat Ratna (India)
 - c) Tamgha-e-Insaniyat (Pakistan)
 - d) Medal of Heroism (USA)
5. What did Neerja's parents establish in her memory?
- a) A women's empowerment organization
 - b) A memorial at the Karachi airport
 - c) A flight safety training academy
 - d) A trust giving awards for bravery and social justice

6. Why did the cockpit crew's actions during the hijacking shock people?

- a) They cooperated with the hijackers
- b) They abandoned the plane and passengers
- c) They caused the plane to crash-land
- d) They refused medical help for injured passengers

7. What personal challenge had Neerja faced before becoming a flight attendant?

- a) A failed arranged marriage with dowry pressures
- b) Discrimination as a female pilot trainee
- c) Financial struggles during her modelling career
- d) Health issues preventing her from finishing education

8. How did Neerja first alert authorities about the hijacking?

- a) By sending a radio message to air traffic control
- b) By shouting the hijack code while being restrained
- c) By activating the plane's emergency transponder
- d) By writing a note passed to ground staff

9. What was the duration of the hijacking ordeal?

- a) Approximately 17 hours
- b) Less than 2 hours

c) Nearly 24 hours

d) About 8 hours

10. Which quality BEST describes Neerja's actions during the crisis?

a) Innovation in creating escape plans

b) Compassion in prioritizing children's safety

c) Leadership in maintaining calm and organizing evacuation

d) All of the above