Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart

Read the following textbook article. Pay special attention to the past-tense forms of *be*.Then, do the activities.



Charles Lindbergh, 1902–1974

At the beginning of the twentieth century, flight **was** new. It **was** not for everyone. It **was** only for the brave and adventurous. Two adventurers **were** Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart.

Charles Lindbergh loved to fly. He **was** born in 1902, one year before the Wright brothers' historic flight. In 1927, a man offered a $25,000 reward for the first person to fly from New York to Paris nonstop. Lindbergh **was** a pilot for the United States Mail Service at that time. He wanted to win the prize. He became famous because he **was** the first person to fly alone across the Atlantic Ocean. His plane **was** in the air for 33 hours. The distance of the flight **was** 3,600 miles. There **were** thousands of people in New York to welcome him home. He **was** an American hero. He **was** only 25 years old.



Amelia Earhart, 1897–1937

Another famous American aviator[5] **was** Amelia Earhart. She **was** the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean alone. She **was** 34 years old. Americans **were** in love with Earhart. In 1937, however, she **was** on a flight around the world when her plane disappeared somewhere in the Pacific Ocean. No one really knows what happened to Earhart.

EXERCISE 1

TRUE OR FALSE- Read the teaxt and say if these sentenses are true or false.

1) At the beginning of the 20th century everybody wanted to travel by plane. _____
2) Charles was born in the 19th century. ____
3) In 1927, Charles was already and aviator. _____
4)Amelia and Charles were famous because they built the first plane. _____
5) Charles flew from New York to Paris for 33 hours nonstop. _____
6) Amelia was 25 years old when she flew across the atlantic ocean. _____
7) Earheart dissapeared in 1937.____

EXERCISE 2

Read each statement. Then write a negative statement with the words in parentheses ( ).

EXAMPLE The Wright brothers were inventors. (Earhart and Lindbergh)

Earhart and Lindbergh weren't inventors.

1. The train was common transportation in the early 1900s. (the airplane)

2. Earhart was from Kansas. (Lindbergh)

3. Lindbergh's last flight was successful. (Earhart's last flight)

4. Lindbergh's plane was in the air for many hours. (the Wright brothers' first plane)

EXERCISE 3

Read each statement. Then write a *yes/no* question with the words in parentheses ( ). Give a short answer.

EXAMPLE The Wright brothers were inventors. (Lindbergh)

Was Lindbergh an inventor? No, he wasn't.

1. The airplane was an important invention. (the telephone)

2. Thomas Edison was an inventor. (the Wright brothers)

3. Amelia Earhart was American. (Lindbergh)

4. Travel by plane is common now. (100 years ago)

EXERCISE 4 **Read each statement. Then write a *wh-* question with the words in parentheses ( ). Answer the question.**

EXAMPLE Lindbergh was very famous. (why)

A: Why was Lindbergh famous?

B: He was one of the first aviators.

1. Lindbergh was a hero. (why)

   A: _____

   B: _____

2. Lindbergh was American. (what nationality/Earhart)

   A: _____

   B: _____

3. Earhart was 34 years old when she crossed the ocean. (how old/Lindbergh)

   A: _____

   B: _____

4. Lindbergh was a famous aviator. (who/the Wright brothers)

   A: _____

   B: _____

EXERCISE 5 **Fill in the blanks with the past tense of one of the words from the box below.**

fly	think	drive	be	fall
write	put	become ✓	see	

EXAMPLE Goddard _became_ interested in rockets when he was a child.

1. He _____ a professor of physics.
2. People _____ that space travel was impossible.
3. Goddard _____ his first rocket in a car and _____ to his aunt's farm.
4. The rocket _____ for 2½ seconds and then it _____ to the ground.
5. Goddard never _____ the first moon landing.
6. *The New York Times* _____ about their mistake 49 years later.