

Milestones in Aviation History

Aviation History · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. Who were the first individuals to achieve controlled, sustained, and powered heavier-than-air flight in 1903?

- A) Alberto Santos-Dumont
- B) Orville and Wilbur Wright**
- C) Louis Blériot
- D) Samuel Langley

2. What was the primary purpose of the 'Spirit of St. Louis' flown by Charles Lindbergh in 1927?

- A) To map the Atlantic Ocean
- B) To perform the first non-stop solo transatlantic flight**
- C) To deliver mail across the Pacific
- D) To test high-altitude pressurized cabins

3. Which aircraft is credited with being the first commercially successful jet airliner, entering service in 1952?

- A) Boeing 707
- B) Douglas DC-8
- C) de Havilland Comet**
- D) Sud Aviation Caravelle

4. During World War I, what was the primary tactical role of early aircraft before they were armed with machine guns?

- A) Strategic bombing
- B) Aerial reconnaissance**
- C) Air-to-air refueling
- D) Paratrooper deployment

5. What material was primarily used in the construction of the frame of the early 'Wright Flyer'?

- A) Aluminum
- B) Spruce wood**
- C) Steel tubing
- D) Composite carbon fiber

6. Who was the first female pilot to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean?

- A) Bessie Coleman
- B) Harriet Quimby
- C) Amelia Earhart**
- D) Jacqueline Cochran

7. Which aeronautical breakthrough did Frank Whittle contribute to aviation history in the 1930s?

- A) The development of the jet engine**
- B) The invention of the pressurized cockpit
- C) The creation of the fly-by-wire system
- D) The discovery of lift-to-drag ratios

8. What was the name of the Bell X-1 aircraft that Chuck Yeager piloted to break the sound barrier in 1947?

- A) Glamorous Glennis**
- B) The Flying Fortress
- C) The Starfighter
- D) Spirit of Progress

9. Which international organization was established by the 1944 Chicago Convention to oversee global civil aviation safety and standards?

- A) IATA
- B) ICAO**
- C) FAA
- D) EASA

10. What type of aircraft engine uses a propeller driven by a gas turbine?

- A) Turbojet
- B) Turboprop**
- C) Ramjet
- D) Piston engine

11. The 'Red Baron' (Manfred von Richthofen) was a famous fighter ace from which country during World War I?

- A) France
- B) United Kingdom
- C) Germany**
- D) United States

12. Which significant aviation event occurred on December 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina?

A) First flight of a helicopter

B) First successful flight of a powered, heavier-than-air aircraft

C) First crossing of the English Channel by air

D) First passenger airline service launch