# Aerospace Engineering Milestones

Aerospace Engineering · Answer Key · 25 Questions

**1. Who were the first to achieve controlled, sustained flight of a powered, heavier-than-air aircraft in 1903?**

**A) The Wright Brothers**
B) Amelia Earhart
C) Charles Lindbergh
D) Neil Armstrong

**2. Which spacecraft carried the first human to travel into outer space in 1961?**

A) Apollo 11
**B) Vostok 1**
C) Sputnik 1
D) Gemini 4

**3. What was the name of the first artificial satellite launched into Earth orbit by the Soviet Union in 1957?**

A) Explorer 1
B) Vanguard 1
**C) Sputnik 1**
D) Luna 2

**4. Who was the first human to set foot on the Moon during the Apollo 11 mission in 1969?**

A) Buzz Aldrin
B) Yuri Gagarin
C) Michael Collins
**D) Neil Armstrong**

**5. Which company produced the Boeing 747, famously known as the first wide-body 'Jumbo Jet'?**

A) Airbus
**B) Boeing**
C) Lockheed Martin
D) McDonnell Douglas

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**6. What type of engine was first successfully used for sustained jet flight in the 1930s by Frank Whittle and Hans von Ohain?**

**A) Turbojet**
B) Ramjet
C) Ion thruster
D) Solid-fuel rocket

**7. What was the first reusable spacecraft to be launched into orbit?**

**A) Space Shuttle Columbia**
B) Soyuz
C) Dragon
D) Mercury Capsule

**8. Which scientist is credited with inventing the liquid-fueled rocket, which paved the way for modern space travel?**

A) Wernher von Braun
**B) Robert Goddard**
C) Konstantin Tsiolkovsky
D) Isaac Newton

**9. Which planet did the Mariner 4 mission perform the first successful flyby of, capturing the first close-up images of another planet?**

A) Venus
B) Jupiter
**C) Mars**
D) Saturn

**10. What was the first American spacecraft to carry a human into space?**

**A) Freedom 7**
B) Friendship 7
C) Gemini 3
D) Apollo 7

**11. Which woman became the first female to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean?**

A) Sally Ride
B) Valentina Tereshkova
**C) Amelia Earhart**
D) Bessie Coleman

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**12. What is the term for the first man-made object to leave our solar system, launched in 1977?**

**A) Voyager 1**
B) Pioneer 10
C) New Horizons
D) Cassini

**13. Which country successfully launched the first woman into space in 1963?**

A) United States
**B) Soviet Union**
C) China
D) France

**14. What structure acts as the 'wing' shape that generates lift in aerodynamics?**

A) Fuselage
**B) Airfoil**
C) Empennage
D) Landing gear

**15. Which spacecraft was the first to land on another planet (Venus) and transmit data back?**

**A) Venera 7**
B) Viking 1
C) Pathfinder
D) Curiosity

**16. Who was the first person to fly solo nonstop across the Atlantic Ocean?**

**A) Charles Lindbergh**
B) Orville Wright
C) Howard Hughes
D) Richard Byrd

**17. Which planet was the first to be visited by a spacecraft in 1962 (Mariner 2)?**

A) Mercury
**B) Venus**
C) Mars
D) Jupiter

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**18. What was the name of the first international space station module launched into orbit?**

**A) Zarya**
B) Unity
C) Destiny
D) Columbus

**19. Which aerodynamic force is created to overcome weight and keep an aircraft in the air?**

A) Drag
B) Thrust
**C) Lift**
D) Gravity

**20. What invention allowed the first pilots to navigate using stars and mechanical instruments?**

**A) Sextant**
B) GPS
C) Transponder
D) Radar

**21. The X-1 was the first aircraft to accomplish what major feat in 1947?**

A) Vertical takeoff
**B) Breaking the sound barrier**
C) Crossing the Pacific
D) Refueling in mid-air

**22. Which space telescope was the first to be launched into orbit to observe the universe without atmospheric distortion?**

A) James Webb
**B) Hubble**
C) Kepler
D) Spitzer

**23. What type of propulsion system was first used to propel the first satellite into orbit?**

A) Ion engine
**B) Solid-fuel rocket**
C) Nuclear engine
D) Electric fan

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**24. Which company developed the Concorde, the first supersonic passenger airliner?**

**A) British Aircraft Corporation and Aérospatiale**

B) Boeing and Airbus

C) Lockheed and Northrop

D) Embraer and Bombardier

**25. What was the first animal to successfully orbit the Earth?**

A) A monkey

**B) A dog**

C) A cat

D) A mouse

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