

THE **Oomph!** DIGEST

An Oomph! Digest Special: Aeroplanes



Flying has become a normal part of our everyday lives in the last few decades — even though it's said that only five percent of the global population has ever been on an aeroplane!

The busiest route on the planet is the South Korean Seoul–Jeju flight. In 2018, there were 250 daily scheduled connections on this 449-km-long route, carrying over 14 million passengers a year. The route was so popular that you could board a flight every 15 minutes. Meanwhile, the busiest day recorded in aviation was the 24th July 2019, with more than 225,000 flights on that day.

Although when you think of the fastest plane, you might be inclined to think of Concorde, this isn't entirely accurate anymore. Concorde might have been fast, but not as fast as the Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird, which has held the record of the fastest manned jet aircraft since 1976, flying at 2,193 miles per hour (over 3,500 kph). Developed in the 1960s, the Lockheed SR-71 was designed to be fast enough to outpace missiles.

Meanwhile, the world's smallest jet is the BD-5 Micro. Its wingspan is 14–21 feet and the craft weighs just 358 pounds! Now that's what we call lightweight flight.

The Modern History of Flight

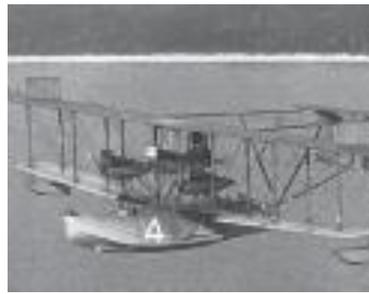
In 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright built the first functional airplane. A little more than 100 years after that small wooden one-man airplane, we've made passenger planes that carry hundreds of passengers, broken the sound barrier, flown people to the moon and a rover

to mars, and are on the verge of making spaceflight available to civilians.

Here's a timeline showing some of the highlights of the modern history of flight:



1903: The Wright brothers make the first manned, powered, controlled flight.



1919: The NC4 is the first plane to cross the Atlantic Ocean.



1927: Charles Lindbergh completes the first solo, nonstop transatlantic flight in *The Spirit of St. Louis*, traveling from New York to Paris, France.



1930s: The first Transatlantic flights take place, with PanAm and BOAC traveling from Newfoundland to Foynes and vice versa.



1940s: Transatlantic passenger flights to Foynes commence. After WWII, landplanes take over.



1950s: Flights are offered in the first commercial jet airliner, the de Havilland DH 106 Comet

The Modern History of Flight



1960s: Man lands on the moon and Boeing releases the 747.



1970s: Aérospatiale and the British Aircraft Corporation unite to develop the Concorde, the first and only supersonic civilian aircraft.



1980s: The first reusable spacecraft, Space Shuttle, is launched.



1990s: NASA sends the Mars Pathfinder to Mars to commence the first exploration on the surface of another planet.



2000s: The first nonstop, round-the-world flight by solar and battery-powered airplane is completed. Airbus release the A380 double-decker civilian passenger jet.



2010s: Virgin Galactic start civilian passenger flight into space.

Test your knowledge by finding aeroplane related words in this Word Search



RUNWAY

WHEELS

TAKE OFF

COCKPIT

SEATBELT

SEAT

PILOT

PASSENGER

OXYGEN

MEAL

LOUNGE

LANDING

JETLAG

FLIGHT

FIRST CLASS

ECONOMY

CUSTOMS

CREW

CLAIM

CHECK IN

CARRY ON

CABIN

BOARDING

ATTENDANT

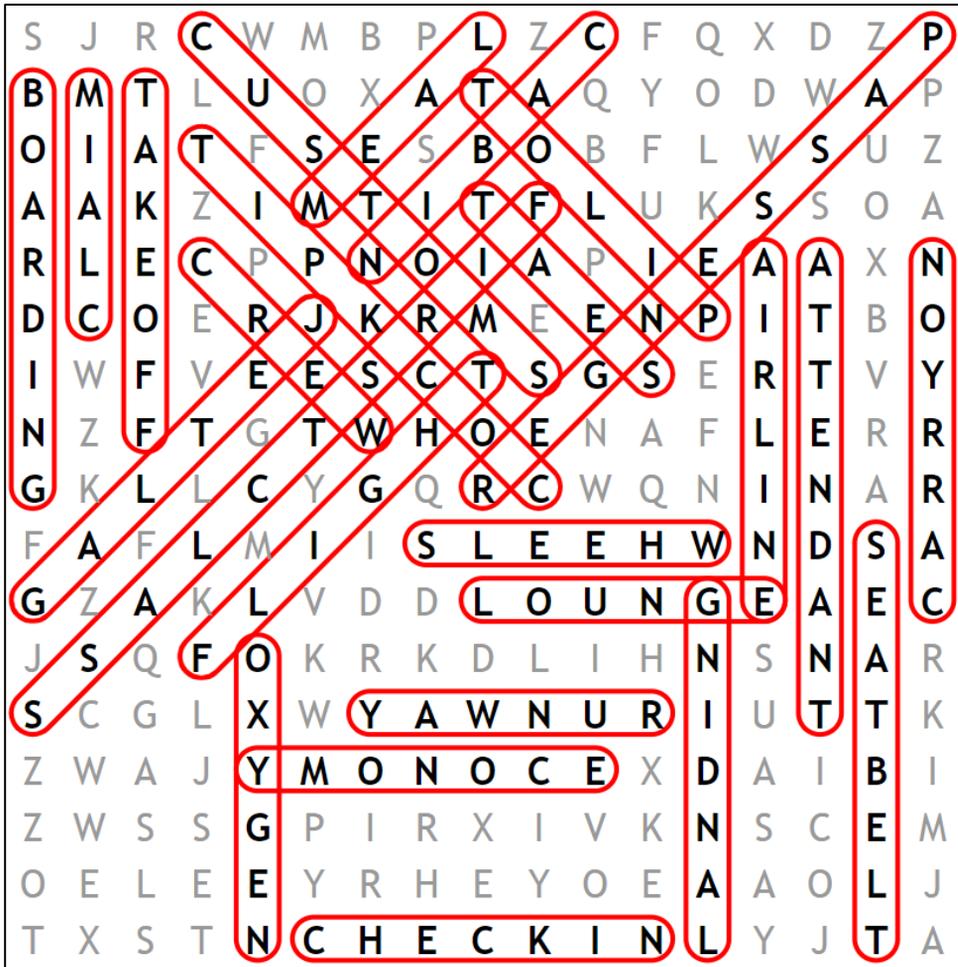
AIRLINE

Aeroplane Dynamics

So, how does a plane work? The plane's engines are designed to move it forward at high speed. That makes air flow rapidly over the wings, which throw the air down toward the ground. This generates an upward force, called lift, that overcomes the plane's weight and holds it in the sky. So, it's the engines that move a plane forward, while the wings move it upward.



Aeroplane Word Search Answers



A Plane Joke

Q: Will invisible aeroplanes ever be a thing?

A: I just can't see them taking off.

Word Scramble Puzzle

Can you unscramble this selection of scrambled parts of a plane?

1. LDNINAG RGAE
2. GWNIS
3. SPAFL
4. AEVDHREO
5. NEGNI
6. PICTCKO
7. CRSONTOL
8. UAOT ILPTO
9. RPOLELEPR
10. EUSDRDR

Quiz Answers:
1. a) 2. b) 3. c) 4. b) 5. c)

Word Scramble Answers:
1. LANDING GEAR, 2. WINGS, 3. FLAPS,
4. OVERHEAD, 5. ENGINE, 6. COCKPIT,
7. CONTROLS, 8. AUTOPILOT, 9. PROPELLER,
10. RUDDERS

Aeroplane Quiz

1. **What is the busiest flight route in the world?**
 - a) Seoul - Jeju
 - b) London - Dubai
 - c) New York - Toronto
2. **Which plane holds the record for fastest jet aircraft?**
 - a) Concorde
 - b) Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird
 - c) BD-5 Micro
3. **How much does the world's smallest jet weigh?**
 - a) 540 pounds
 - b) 102 pounds
 - c) 358 pounds
4. **What are a plane's engines designed to do?**
 - a) Move a plane upward
 - b) Move a plane forward
 - c) Move a plane to the side
5. **Who was responsible for the first manned, powered, controlled flight?**
 - a) Amelia Earhart
 - b) Charles Lindbergh
 - c) The Wright Brothers