

Amelia Earhart Activity Bundle Integrated Reading and CRITICAL THOUGHT Activities

For Grades 5-8

7 INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES
Perfect for Interactive Notebooks
Perfect for Morning Work or Assessments

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ANSWERS

Name	Answers
Amelia Earhart Reading Comprehension (Basic)	D, C, D, B
Amelia Earhart Reading Comprehension (Advanced)	B, D, D, Canary, B, A, D, C, D, C
Amelia Earhart Reading Comprehension – Gardner Island Theory	D, C, B, B, B, C, C

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Amelia Earhart Reading Comprehension

Name _____

Amelia Earhart was one of the most famous celebrities of her time. She was one of the world's first female pilots and certainly its most famous. She made daring flights and broke many flight records. She was the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean by herself. She broke the record for flying across the Atlantic Ocean in the shortest amount of time. She also flew higher in the sky than any other woman pilot of her time. She did all of this in the 1920s and 1930s - when women were expected to be in the house and take care of children. Women were rarely in the public spotlight.

Flying Around the World

In 1937, Amelia decided to fly around the world. It was a very risky flight that had never been completed by a female pilot. Amelia, however, was fearless. Her flight left California on June 1, 1937. Amelia and her airplane made stops throughout South America, Africa, Asia, and Australia. She was tired and sick during much of the flight, but carried on. At each stop she was greeted by admirers. On July 2, 1937, Amelia left New Guinea. She had to cross the Pacific Ocean to complete the flight. Amelia was supposed to land on tiny Howland Island for fuel. She couldn't find it and never made it.

What Happened?

U.S. ships searched for her for over a week but could not find her. People were devastated. They assumed she had crashed somewhere in the huge ocean. Amelia would never be found. To this day, no one knows for sure what happened to Amelia Earhart.

1. What is NOT true about Amelia Earhart?

- A. Unlike most women of the time, she was in the public spotlight
- B. She flew higher in the sky than other female pilots of the time
- C. She was the first female pilot to fly across the Atlantic Ocean
- D. She completed an around the world flight

2. What was an obstacle that Amelia faced in her around the world flight?

- A. She had so many admirers
- B. She was fearless
- C. She was sick and tired for much of it
- D. She was a female pilot

3. What happened to Amelia Earhart?

- A. She crashed in the Pacific Ocean
- B. She was found by U.S. ships
- C. She flew around the world
- D. No one knows

4. What can be inferred from the following sentence?

In 1937, Amelia decided to fly around the world. It was a very risky flight that had never been completed by a female pilot.

- A. Flying around the world was very risky
- B. The flight around the world had been completed by a male pilot or male pilots.
- C. Amelia made a bad decision in trying to fly around the world
- D. A flight around the world would never be made by a female pilot

Amelia Earhart: Main Idea and Supporting Detail Sentences

Name: _____

Below are three headings at the beginnings of paragraphs. Below the chart are the associated supporting detail sentences. Which sentences would appear under which heading? Use the numbers before the sentences so you don't have to write the entire sentence. Order matters!

Early Life	Amelia in the Sky	Amelia's Final Journey

1. Amelia's love of aviation was born when she went with her father to an air show in Los Angeles.
2. In July of 1920, Amelia bought her first airplane; a yellow Kinner airplane that she named "the Canary."
3. In 1937, Amelia decided to plan for an around-the-world flight.
4. After flying over 22,000 miles, however, Amelia's plane became lost over the vast Pacific Ocean as she was trying to find a tiny island to refuel
5. Amelia was born on July 24, 1897, in Atchison, Kansas.
6. The flight was long and difficult and Amelia made stops in countries around the world, where she was hailed as a hero.
7. Soon after, Amelia began taking flying lessons from Anita Snook, a renowned female flight instructor.
8. Amelia and her sister, Muriel, lived with their grandparents for much of their childhoods.
9. She was never heard from again.

Early Life	Amelia in the Sky	Amelia's Final Journey
5 8	1 7 2	3 6 4 9

Early Life

Amelia was born on July 24, 1897, in Atchison, Kansas. Amelia and her sister, Muriel, lived with their grandparents for much of their childhoods.

Amelia in the Sky

Amelia's love of aviation was born when she went with her father to an air show in Los Angeles. Soon after, Amelia began taking flying lessons from Anita Snook, a renowned female flight instructor. In July of 1920, Amelia bought her first airplane; a yellow Kinner airplane that she named "the Canary."

Amelia's Final Journey

In 1937, Amelia decided to plan for an around-the-world flight. The flight was long and difficult and Amelia made stops in countries around the world, where she was hailed as a hero. After flying over 22,000 miles, however, Amelia's plane became lost over the vast Pacific Ocean as she was trying to find a tiny island to refuel. She was never heard from again.

Virtual History Teacher
Amelia Earhart Test

Name: _____

Instructions: You are playing the role of a history teacher who is grading the test below. See the questions and your “student’s” answers. Grade the quality of the answers on a scale of 1-4, “1” being a poor answer and “4” being a great answer. For each answer you grade, use your knowledge of Amelia Earhart, or, reference the mrnussbaum.com online biography, to add the missing pieces.

Question 1: How did Amelia become interested in flying?	Score:
Student Answer: Amelia became interesting in flying when she took her first flying lessons.	
Your Response:	

Question 2: What were some of Amelia’s accomplishments before her last flight?	Score:
Student Answer: Amelia became a famous pilot and broke a lot of records.	
Your Response:	

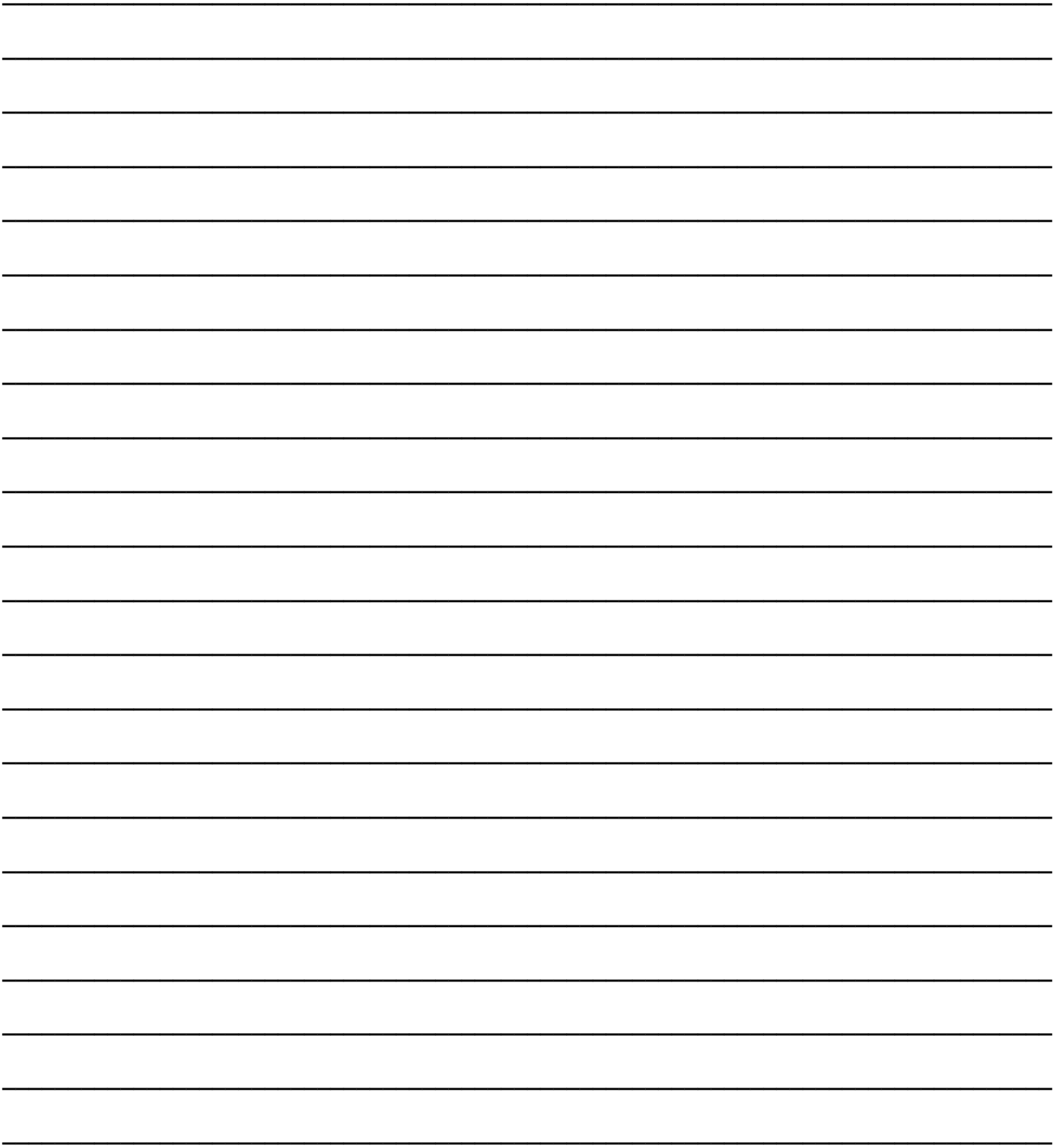
Question 3: What might have happened to Amelia Earhart?	Score:
Student Answer: Amelia and her co-pilot probably crashed in the Pacific Ocean.	
Your Response:	

Answers:

Question 1: How did Amelia become interested in flying?	Score:
Student Answer: Amelia became interesting in flying when she took her first flying lessons.	
Your Response: Amelia first became interested in flying after her father took her to an aerial show in Los Angeles, California. It was here, where she got to ride in an open-cockpit flight over the city. Following that flight, Amelia took flying lessons from Anita Snook and soon bought her first airplane.	

Question 2: What were some of Amelia's accomplishments before her last flight?	Score:
Student Answer: Amelia became a famous pilot and broke a lot of records.	
Your Response: In 1927, Amelia became the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean (although she did so as a passenger). She would eventually become the first woman pilot to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Furthermore, she would break the longest flight and highest altitude records for female pilots, as well as the record for flying across the Atlantic Ocean in the shortest amount of time.	

Question 3: What might have happened to Amelia Earhart?	Score:
Student Answer: Amelia and her co-pilot probably crashed in the Pacific Ocean.	
Your Response: While it is likely that Amelia Earhart crashed in the Pacific Ocean, there are several other theories. It is possible that Earhart crash-landed and survived, or, crash-landed and was taken prisoner by the Japanese. One far-fetched theory claims she made an anonymous return to the United States and lived the rest of her life as a housewife in New Jersey.	



AMELIA EARHART Reading Comprehension

Amelia Earhart was born on July 24, 1897, in Atchison, Kansas, at her grandparents' house. Soon after her birth, her parents separated. Nevertheless, Amelia's sister, Muriel, was born two years later. Amelia's early years were spent with her wealthy grandparents. The two girls lived with their grandparents until Amelia was 10. Amelia's father, Edwin, eventually took an executive job with Rock Island Railroad in Des Moines, Iowa, and reunited with the girls' mother, Amy. The Earhart family quickly climbed the social ladder, but it was short lived. Edwin began to drink heavily. In 1914, his drinking drove Amy to take the two girls to live with friends in Chicago, Illinois.

In 1917, Amelia entered a nursing school and witnessed the horrors of war. She served as a voluntary aid detachment nurse at a military hospital until the Armistice in November 1918. She would later say:

“There, for the first time, I realized what the World War meant. Instead of new uniforms and brass bands, I saw only the result of four years' desperate struggle: men without arms and legs, men who were paralyzed, and men who were blind.”

In the fall of 1919, Amelia enrolled as a pre-med student at Columbia University. In 1920, her parents had reunited in California. She decided to leave Columbia and join them. Her love for aviation was born when her father took her to an aerial show, in which she got to ride in an open-cockpit flight over Los Angeles.

Amelia started taking flight lessons with Anita Snook at Kinner Field near Long Beach, California. She caught on quickly and soon became an excellent pilot. In July of 1920, Amelia purchased her first plane. It was a bright yellow Kinner airplane. She named it “The Canary.” In October of 1922, just a few years after taking up flying, she began attempting to break records. She first broke the altitude record of 14,000 feet. As aviation became more and more popular, records were constantly broken as pilots pushed the limits of aviation.

In 1925, Amelia took a position at Denison House in Boston as a social worker. While there, Amelia got a call that would change her life forever. On April 27th, 1926, Captain Hilton Railey called her to take part in a flight across the Atlantic Ocean. She would only be a passenger. Wilmer Stultz and Louis Gordon flew the plane, but Amelia became the first woman to make the trip across the Atlantic. Although she believed the attention she

received was unwarranted, she was more determined than ever to make the trip herself. While in London and back in the United States, Amelia toured the countries, giving lectures and speeches.

On May 20, 1932, five years after Charles Lindbergh flew across the Atlantic, Amelia began her journey to cross the Atlantic Ocean. Despite eventually veering off course, she broke several records on the historic flight. Not only did she become the first woman to fly the Atlantic solo and the only person to do it twice, she also broke the records for the longest flight by a woman and for crossing the Atlantic Ocean in the shortest time. During this time, Amelia had made many important friends. She had agreed to marry millionaire publisher George Putnam, and had even taken First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt on a flight.

In 1935, Amelia started planning for an around-the-world flight. On her first attempt, she crashed during takeoff. Amelia would have to wait until her plane was repaired to try again. On June 1, 1937, Amelia Earhart and copilot Fred Noonan again set off to fly around the world. They first flew to San Juan, Puerto Rico, and then eastward toward Africa. Amelia and Fred flew to the Red Sea; to Karachi, Pakistan; and to Calcutta, India. They continued to Rangoon, Bangkok, and Singapore. At Port Darwin, Australia, Amelia and Fred were able to make crucial repairs to their airplane. Amelia reached Lae, New Guinea, on June 29. They had flown 22,000 miles and had 7,000 left to go. Amelia had become an international hero, and the world was captivated by her determination. However, trouble lurked for Amelia and Fred. Shortly after she left New Guinea on July 2, she sent several distress calls. Amelia and Fred were off course and lost over the vast Pacific Ocean. They did not have enough gas to reach their target—The Howland Islands. Amelia and Fred would never be seen or heard from again. President Roosevelt sent 9 naval ships and 66 aircraft to search the area. On July 18, the search was called off.

To this day, there are many theories concerning the disappearance of Amelia Earhart. Some say her plane crashed in the ocean and she drowned. Others say her plane crashed but she was taken prisoner by the Japanese, who occupied many of the Pacific Islands. Still others believe Amelia made an anonymous return to the States and lived as a housewife in New Jersey.

The world will probably never know what happened to Amelia Earhart. Nevertheless, she remains a hero and inspiration to millions across the world today.

1.) When was Amelia Earhart born?

- a.) before 1800
- b.) before 1900
- c.) after 1900
- d.) when her sister was two

2.) Which of the following places did Amelia Earhart NOT live?

- a.) Kansas
- b.) Illinois
- c.) California
- d.) North Carolina

3.) When was Amelia's love for aviation born?

- a.) Before she left Columbia University
- b.) Before her parents reunited in California
- c.) When she lived in Illinois with her grandparents
- d.) After she left Columbia University

4.) Amelia named her first airplane The _____.

5.) Which of the following did Amelia Earhart NOT do?

- a.) Break an altitude record
- b.) Fly around the world
- c.) Fly across the Atlantic Ocean
- d.) Break the distance record for female pilots

6.) Which of the following people did Amelia Earhart NOT fly with?

- a.) President Roosevelt
- b.) Eleanor Roosevelt
- c.) Fred Noonan
- d.) Anita Snook

7.) What happened second?

- a.) Amelia took flying lessons with Anita Snook.
- b.) Amelia became the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean.
- c.) Charles Lindbergh flew across the Atlantic Ocean.
- d.) Amelia Earhart became a social worker in Boston.

8.) Where were Amelia and Fred Noonan able to make crucial repairs to their airplane during their historic attempt to fly around the world?

- a.) New Guinea
- b.) Singapore
- c.) Australia
- d.) Howland Islands

9.) What happened to Amelia Earhart?

- a.) She was taken prisoner by the Japanese.
- b.) Her plane crashed into the ocean.
- c.) She secretly moved to New Jersey.
- d.) No one knows.

10.) What word best describes Amelia Earhart?

- a.) disappointment
- b.) delicate
- c.) inspirational
- d.) insignificant

Fact or Fiction?

Name: _____

Below is a biography on Amelia Earhart. On the following page is a chart with ten statements. Indicate whether each statement is fact or fiction.

Early Life

Amelia Earhart was born on July 24, 1897, in Atchison, Kansas, at her grandparents' house. Soon after her birth, Amelia's parents separated. Nevertheless, Amelia's sister, Muriel, was born two years later. Amelia's early years were spent with her wealthy grandparents. The two girls lived with their grandparents until Amelia was ten.

Edwin Earhart's Troubles

Amelia's father, Edwin, eventually took an executive job with Rock Island Railroad in Des Moines, Iowa, and reunited with Amelia's mother, Amy. The Earhart family quickly climbed the social ladder, but it was short-lived. Edwin began to drink heavily. In 1914, his drinking drove Amy to take the two girls to live with friends in Chicago, Illinois.

Amelia Learns the Horrors of War

In 1917, Amelia entered a nursing school and witnessed the horrors of war. She served as a Voluntary Aid Detachment nurse at a military hospital during World War I until the Armistice in November 1918. She would later say,

“There for the first time I realized what the World War meant. Instead of new uniforms and brass bands, I saw only the result of four years' desperate struggle; men without arms and legs, men who were paralyzed and men who were blind.”

Amelia in the Sky

In the fall of 1919, Amelia enrolled as a pre-med student at Columbia University. In 1920, her parents had reunited in California. Amelia decided to leave Columbia and join them. Amelia's love for aviation was born when her father took her to an aerial show where she got to ride in an open-cockpit flight over Los Angeles.

Amelia started taking flight lessons with Anita Snook at Kinner Field near Long Beach, California. Amelia caught on quickly and soon became an excellent pilot. In July of 1920, she purchased her first plane. It was a bright yellow Kinner airplane. She named it “The Canary.” In October of 1922, just a few years after taking up flying, Amelia began attempting to break records. She first broke

the altitude record of 14,000 feet. As aviation became more and more popular, records were constantly broken as pilots pushed the limits of aviation.

Amelia Makes History (for the first time)

In 1925, Amelia took a position at Denison House in Boston as a social worker. While there, Amelia got a call that would change her life forever. On April 27, 1926, Captain Hilton Railey called Amelia to take part in a flight across the Atlantic Ocean. She would only be a passenger. Wilmer Stultz and Louis Gordon flew the plane, but Amelia became the first woman to make the trip across the Atlantic. Amelia did not think she deserved the attention she received but was more determined than ever to make the trip herself. While in London and back in the United States, Amelia toured the country, giving lectures and speeches.

Breaking Flight Records

On May 20, 1932, five years after Charles Lindbergh flew across the Atlantic, Amelia began her journey to cross the Atlantic Ocean. Despite eventually veering off course, she broke several records on the historic flight. Not only did she become the first woman to fly the Atlantic solo and the only person to do it twice, she also broke the record for the longest flight by a woman and broke the record for crossing the Atlantic Ocean in the shortest time. During this time, Amelia had made many important friends. She had agreed to marry millionaire publisher George Putnam and had even taken First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt on a flight.

The Ultimate (but last) Flight

In 1935, Amelia started planning for an around-the-world flight. On her first attempt she crashed during takeoff. Amelia would have to wait until her plane was repaired to try again. On June 1, 1937, Amelia Earhart and copilot Fred Noonan again set off to fly around the world. They first flew to San Juan, Puerto Rico, and then eastward toward Africa. Amelia and Fred flew to the Red Sea, to Karachi, Pakistan, and to Calcutta, India. Amelia and Fred continued to Rangoon, Bangkok, and Singapore. At Port Darwin, Australia, Amelia and Fred were able to make crucial repairs to their airplane. Amelia reached Lae, New Guinea, on June 29. They had flown 22,000 miles and had 7,000 left to go. Amelia had become an international hero, and the world was captivated by her determination. At this point, however, Amelia was said to be exhausted and may have alluded to the possibility that her copilot, Fred Noonan, was drinking. However, trouble lurked for Amelia and Fred. Shortly after Amelia left New Guinea on July 2, she sent several distress calls. While her distress calls were received, Amelia could not hear the return messages because she could not find the correct frequency on her radio. Amelia and Fred were off course and lost over the vast Pacific Ocean. They did not have enough gas to reach their target—Howland Island. Amelia and Fred would never be seen or heard from again. President Roosevelt sent nine naval ships and 66 aircraft to search the area. On July 18, the search was called off.

What Happened to Amelia?

To this day there are many theories concerning the disappearance of Amelia Earhart. Some say her plane crashed in the ocean and she drowned. Others say her plane crashed but she was taken prisoner by the Japanese, who occupied many of the Pacific Islands. Still others believe Amelia made an anonymous return to the States and lived as a housewife in New Jersey.

The world will probably never know what happened to Amelia Earhart. Nevertheless, she remains a hero and inspiration to millions across the world today.

	FACT	FICTION
Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly around the world		
Amelia Earhart served as a nurse in World War I		
The mystery of what happened to Amelia Earhart was recently solved		
Amelia Earhart would become the first woman to make the trip across the Atlantic Ocean		
Amelia Earhart had taken First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt on flights		
On her final flight, Amelia made it 22,000 miles and only had 7,000 miles to go		
Amelia Earhart attempted to fly around the world in 1935		
Amelia and her co-pilot were trying to reach tiny Howland Island on their final flight		
Amelia Earhart's mother had a drinking problem.		
Amelia Earhart was never married		
Amelia named her first airplane - the Canary		

Answers:

	FACT	FICTION
Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly around the world		X
Amelia Earhart served as a nurse in World War I	X	
The mystery of what happened to Amelia Earhart was recently solved		X
Amelia Earhart would become the first woman to make the trip across the Atlantic Ocean	X	
Amelia Earhart had taken First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt on flights	X	
On her final flight, Amelia made it 22,000 miles and only had 7,000 miles to go	X	
Amelia Earhart attempted to fly around the world in 1935		X
Amelia and her co-pilot were trying to reach tiny Howland Island on their final flight	X	
Amelia Earhart's mother had a drinking problem.		X
Amelia Earhart was never married		X
Amelia named her first airplane - the Canary	X	

Nikumaroro – Amelia Earhart’s Grave?

Name _____

The mystery surrounding the fate of Amelia Earhart has endured for over eighty years. In her attempt to circumnavigate the Earth by air, Earhart disappeared on July 2, 1937, somewhere in the Pacific Ocean amidst the thousands of tiny islands known as Oceania. We know she was trying to find tiny Howland Island to refuel but may have been hundreds of miles off-course. Attempts at radio communication between the U.S. Coast Guard ship stationed at Howland Island and Earhart’s aircraft proved unsuccessful in what is thought to be the plane’s final hours. Many hypotheses have emerged over the years, including one that suggests Earhart and her co-pilot, Fred Noonan may have either landed or crash-landed on Nikumaroro, then called Gardner Island.

The Gardner Island Theory

According to the Gardner Island Theory, Amelia and Noonan would have flown south after failing to find Howland. The theory posits that before they ran out of gas, they would have flown over Gardner Island, one of a group of islands known as the Phoenix Islands, which are part of the Republic of Kiribati today. A week after Earhart’s disappearance, U.S. Navy planes searched the island. Although they found signs of recent habitation, they found no signs of Earhart or Noonan. In 1941, however British researchers on Gardner Island found a skeleton. They determined, however, that it belonged to a 5’5” male. Unfortunately, the bones have since been lost. In 1998, scientists analyzing the original measurement data from the 1941 skeleton, found that it more likely belonged to a tall, white female of European ancestry, raising the possibility that the lost skeleton could have been Earhart. In 2015, another study refuted the 1998 findings and concluded that the original analysis was more likely to be accurate. In 2018, however, an additional study conducted by forensic anthropologist Richard Jantz determined that Earhart’s bone measurements more closely matched those from the Gardner Island skeleton than 99% percent of people who would have lived during Earhart’s time. It’s important to note that these finding are based on estimations taken from photographs rather than from the actual bones.

TIGHAR

The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery (TIGHAR) has sent several expeditions to Nikumaroro in the last few decades. They hypothesized that Earhart and Noonan landed on a coral reef and died on the island. TIGHAR scientists and anthropologists have discovered numerous artifacts including tools, metal scraps and parts which may have been from an aircraft, and a curious fragment of Plexiglas that is said to be similar to the Plexiglas used in Earhart’s Electra aircraft. Despite the compelling findings, all evidence remains circumstantial and no “smoking gun” has been discovered.

- 1. Which of the following is a fact about the disappearance of Amelia Earhart?**
 - A. Her skeleton was found on Gardner Island
 - B. Her aircraft crash-landed on some island in the Pacific Ocean
 - C. The skeleton found on Gardner Island belonged to a tall woman
 - D. Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan were supposed to land on Howland Island

- 2. Which of the following best describes descriptions of the Gardner Island skeleton?**
 - A. It has been proven that it belonged to a man
 - B. It has been proven that it belonged to a woman
 - C. The gender of the Gardner Island skeleton remains uncertain
 - D. The measurements of the Gardener Island skeleton are based on the actual bones

- 3. Which of the following is a hypothesis?**
 - A. Fred Noonan served as Amelia Earhart's co-pilot
 - B. Fred Noonan and Amelia Earhart crash-landed on Gardner Island
 - C. Comprehensive investigations into the fate of Amelia Earhart have been largely unsuccessful
 - D. Scientists from TIGHAR have found compelling artifacts on Nikumaroro that warrant further study

- 4. Which two terms are used interchangeably?**
 - A. Fred Noonan and Amelia Earhart
 - B. Nikumaroro and Gardner Island
 - C. TIGHAR and Richard Jantz
 - D. Male and female

- 5. Why is it difficult to make determinations about the 1941 skeleton of Gardner Island?**
 - A. The skeleton is very old
 - B. The skeleton no longer exists
 - C. Scientists have failed to agree about its gender
 - D. It was impossible to tell how tall Amelia Earhart was

- 6. Which of the following best describes the role of anthropologists in the disappearance of Amelia Earhart?**
 - A. To help piece together American history
 - B. To help discover and find meaning in ancient fossils
 - C. To see if information can be learned from the discovery and study of artifacts
 - D. To learn more about Nikumaroro and its inhabitants

- 7. Which of the following would serve as a "smoking gun" in this case?**
 - A. A scrap of metal that matched common aircrafts in the 1930s
 - B. A glass bottle that was known to have been produced in America
 - C. Hair samples that were traced to the DNA of Fred Noonan
 - D. Samples of rusted engine parts that may have come from Earhart's plane or similar planes