

Getting airborne

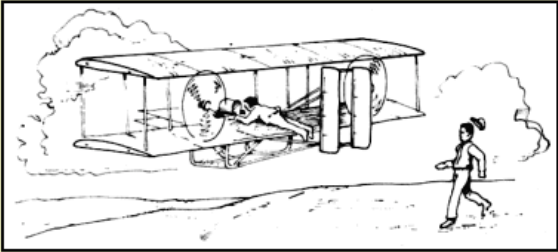
This task is about locating information in an article.

Different parts of the article on 'Getting Airborne' have been numbered. The questions are about **the parts** of the passage, not about the passage itself. You do **not** need to read the whole passage to be able to answer the questions.

1 →

GETTING AIRBORNE

2 →



3 →

Orville Wright pilots the Wright biplane in the first sustained and powered flight at Kitty Hawk, December 17, 1903.

4 →

WHY CAN'T WE FLY?

5 →

As boys Wilbur and Orville Wright were interested in making things: things that flew, like kites, or went fast like wagons (trolleys) and sledges. Early on they had learned that the best way to go about it was to draw a plan first, and this they always did.

It was while flying their kites that they wondered what it was that enabled the kite to fly. They worked out that it was the air rushing against the kite's surface that held it up. When they were sledging, they found that they went faster if they lay down on the sledge, rather than sit. They reasoned that this was because the air pressing on the body, held them back.

They were curious about the air, the wind, and flying. They observed birds in flight and pondered on how the bird could soar and turn and fly in a straight line. "Why can't we use wings?"

6 →

THE GLIDER EXPERIMENTS

7 →

From kites the boys turned to building gliders. These were crude at first, but the Wright brothers were clever and persistent. They drew their plans, tried out the models, and built bigger and better gliders as time went by. They found that by launching a glider from a hilltop they could make it sail through the air for some distance. Soon the time came when one of the brothers could lie on the glider and could actually fly it for a short time. But the glider never went very far; it had no power to keep going.

8 ←

POWERED FLIGHT

9 →

If a glider could carry a person, perhaps it could carry an engine too? The brothers set to work again. They built a bigger glider and into it they put an engine which they built themselves. Now they needed a place to try it out. They decided on Kitty Hawk, a stretch of sandy ground with no houses or trees in North Carolina. On the morning of December 17, 1903, Orville made the first trial run. The machine rose into the air to a height of about ten feet and travelled a distance of 100 feet. Flying time was 12 seconds! Next Wilbur tried. He managed to get the machine to fly 200 feet. On the third trial he travelled 800 feet in just under a minute.

10 ←

THE FIRST AEROPLANE

11 →

Now they knew they had done it. They knew that they, and others could build bigger and better aeroplanes and that we could, at last, be like a bird and fly anywhere. But it was the Wright Brothers, through their brilliance, sheer hard work, and determination to give the world a new way to travel, who had made the first successful flying machine – the aeroplane.

a) What part of the page should you look at first to get a very general idea of what this page is likely to be about?

<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2
<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
<input type="radio"/> 5	

b) What part of the page should you read to get an explanation of what is included in the illustration?

<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2
<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
<input type="radio"/> 5	

c) What part of the page should you read to find out how the author has summarised his story?

<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 5
<input type="radio"/> 7	<input type="radio"/> 9
<input type="radio"/> 11	

d) Which parts of the page should you look at to get a quick idea of the **main** parts of the passage?

<input type="radio"/> 1 only
<input type="radio"/> 1 and 5
<input type="radio"/> 5 and 11
<input type="radio"/> 1, 2, and 3
<input type="radio"/> 4, 6, 8, and 10

e) Which part of the page 'sets the scene', or introduces the passage?

<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 5
<input type="radio"/> 7	<input type="radio"/> 9
<input type="radio"/> 11	