

*Aerospace: The Journey of Flight*  
**Sample Tests, Chapters 1 – 6 (Air Power)**  
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**Chapter 1**

1. Who is credited with inventing gunpowder?
  - a. Americans
  - b. Chinese
  - c. Japanese
  - d. Russians
  
2. Who was a great artist, architect, man of science and conducted the first scientific experiments in the field of aviation?
  - a. J.A.C. Charles
  - b. Francesco de Lana
  - c. Leonardo da Vinci
  - d. Joseph Montgolfier
  
3. The first use of balloons by the United States military occurred during
  - a. the Civil War.
  - b. the American Revolutionary War.
  - c. the War of 1812.
  - d. World War I.
  
4. Who built and flew the world's first successful rigid dirigible?
  - a. Jean Pierre Blanchard
  - b. Henry Cavendish
  - c. Alberto Santos-Dumont
  - d. Ferdinand von Zeppelin
  
5. Who has been called the "Father of Modern Aviation?"
  - a. Octave Chanute
  - b. Samuel Pierpont Langley
  - c. Otto Lilienthal
  - d. Wilbur Wright
  
6. Which one of the following statements about the Wright brothers is not true?
  - a. They wanted to first develop an aircraft that would fly and could be controlled in flight, and then add a power plant.
  - b. They felt they had to get into the air themselves to further test their wing-warping technique.
  - c. On their first attempt to fly, Wilbur was at the controls. The Flyer became airborne but stalled and fell back into the sand. It was slightly damaged.
  - d. On December 17, 1903, the Flyer flew for two minutes and 1200 feet.
  
7. T/F The first men to fly in a lighter-than-air craft rode a Montgolfier balloon into the air over Paris on November 21, 1783.

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8. T/F In 1903, the *Aerodrome*, built by Samuel Pierpont Langley, was launched by catapult from a barge in the Potomac River. It did not fly and fell into the river.
9. T/F The first balloon flight in the United States took place in 1793 with President George Washington and Benjamin Franklin on board. The balloon ride lasted over one hour, and both Washington and Franklin landed safely.
10. T/F A dirigible is defined as a heavier-than-air craft that cannot be steered.

### Chapter 2

1. In the early 1900s the Wright Brothers signed a contract with the US Army to build an airplane. While Orville was working in the contract, what was Wilbur doing?
  - a. Wilbur was working with him on the contract.
  - b. Wilbur was teaching President Roosevelt how to fly.
  - c. Wilbur was back home in Dayton, Ohio working on a more advanced airplane.
  - d. Wilbur was in France demonstrating the airplane for European governments.
2. The first powered dirigible in the United States used a \_\_\_\_\_ engine.
  - a. Bell
  - b. Curtiss
  - c. Lahm
  - d. Wright
3. Who won the 1908 Scientific American Trophy and the 1909 Gordon Bennett Trophy?
  - a. Glenn Curtiss
  - b. Calbraith Rodgers
  - c. Harriet Quimby
  - d. Wilbur Wright
4. In 1911, \_\_\_\_\_ became America's first licensed female pilot.
  - a. Bessie Coleman
  - b. Amelia Earhart
  - c. Phoebe Omlie
  - d. Harriet Quimby
5. Who built the first powered monoplane and also built 11 planes before getting one that could cross the English Channel?
  - a. Louis Bleriot
  - b. Alberto Santos-Dumont
  - c. Calbraith Rodgers
  - d. Glenn Curtiss
6. Who designed and flew the first 4-engine aircraft?
  - a. Glenn Curtiss
  - b. Paul Cornu

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- c. Alberto Santos-Dumont
  - d. Igor Sikorsky
7. When World War I ended, the speed of aircraft had increased to \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ mph, and could operate up to about \_\_\_\_\_ feet.
- a. 50, 60 and 10,000
  - b. 70, 80 and 10,000
  - c. 100, 120 and 20,000
  - d. 140, 150 and 24,000
8. Who were the Lafayette Escadrille group?
- a. They were a group of French men who flew in WWI.
  - b. They were a group of Americans who flew for France in WWI.
  - c. They were an elite group of the French Foreign Legion.
  - d. They were a group of French men and women who led the resistance movement in WWI.
9. T/F Orville Wright was the first man to lose his life in a powered airplane.
10. T/F President Theodore Roosevelt was the first US President to fly.

### Chapter 3

1. Within a few months of the end of WWI, which one of the following did not happen?
- a. US government canceled \$100 million in airplane contracts.
  - b. Aircraft production dropped 85 % and 175,000 factory workers were laid off.
  - c. Military aviation was cut back by 95 %.
  - d. The “barnstormers” contributed to the decline in aviation after the war.
2. Which one of the following statements is not true about General Billy Mitchell?
- a. General Mitchell was a vocal advocate for a separate air service, but equal to the Army and Navy.
  - b. After WWI, General Mitchell believed that naval power would decide the winner of any future world wars.
  - c. General Mitchell believed that the airplane could be used to bomb military and industrial targets inside an enemy’s homeland.
  - d. General Mitchell believed that air power could fly over the battlefield, attack the enemy’s supplies, thus shorten the war and save lives.
3. In 1924, the US Army performed the first round-the-world flight using four aircraft. What were the names of the aircraft?
- a. Boston, Chicago Seattle and New Orleans
  - b. Arkansas, Ohio, Nevada and Utah
  - c. Dickey, Gehrig, Ruth and Wagner
  - d. Doolittle, Lindbergh, Mitchell and Rickenbacker

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4. In 1931, the Bendix Trophy Race was added to the National Air Races. Which of the following statements best describes the Bendix Trophy Race?
  - a. It was a transcontinental race flown from the west coast to Cleveland, Ohio.
  - b. It was a four-lap race around a 29-mile course.
  - c. It was an intercontinental race flown from Paris to New York City.
  - d. It was an international race flown from London to Paris.
5. The first air mail route in the United States was between
  - a. New York City and Chicago.
  - b. New York City and Washington DC.
  - c. Chicago and Cleveland.
  - d. Chicago and San Francisco.
6. Who was the first person to fly across the Atlantic Ocean solo?
  - a. Amelia Earhart
  - b. Bessie Coleman
  - c. Charles Lindbergh
  - d. Billy Mitchell
7. In 1915, President Woodrow Wilson formed an organization whose purpose was to supervise and direct the scientific study of the problems of flight, with a view of their practical solutions. What was the name of this organization?
  - a. National Aeronautical Association (NAA)
  - b. National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA)
  - c. National Civil Aeronautics Authority (NCAA)
  - d. Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA)
8. T/F Phoebe Fairgrave Omlie was the first licensed black female pilot.
9. T/F The Women's Air Derby led to the formation of an association of women fliers called the "Ninety-Nines".
10. T/F The Tuskegee Airmen were a group of African-American pilots who flew in WWII.

## Chapter 4

1. At the end of World War I, the Allied Nations (England, France and the United States) had the most powerful air forces in the world. What did each country do with these air forces after the war?
  - a. Each country retained approximately the same amount of planes.
  - b. Each country increased their air forces substantively.
  - c. Each country decreased their air forces and weakened them.
  - d. England and France cut back on theirs, but the US increased theirs dramatically.
2. Which of the following best describes Blitzkrieg?
  - a. It was the name the British gave for the German bombing of London.

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- b. It was the combined arms operations strategy that Germany used in WWII.
  - c. It was the lightning response Poland gave to the German invasion.
  - d. It was the US' strategy against Germany in WWII.
3. Which of the following statements is true concerning the Battle of Britain?
- a. The German Luftwaffe was designed to be a long-range bombing force.
  - b. The Luftwaffe's short- and medium-range aircraft could takeoff from France, fly to England, fight the British RAF and strike their targets without refueling.
  - c. During the Battle of Britain, the RAF's Bomber Command stood idly by waiting for a mission.
  - d. The RAF had the right aircraft for this battle, but the Luftwaffe did not.
4. By 1941, who was the only major power of WWII to use women pilots in combat?
- a. England
  - b. Germany
  - c. Russia
  - d. United States
5. What was the primary purpose for the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor?
- a. to cripple the American fleet at Pearl Harbor
  - b. to convince the Americans not to enter WWII
  - c. to control all of the islands in the Pacific Theater
  - d. to adhere to Hitler's request of Japan
6. Once the US entered WWII, all of the following were part of the overall allied strategy except which of these?
- a. The strategy switched from defense to offense.
  - b. The strategy called for the recapture of territory occupied by Germany.
  - c. The strategy was to force Germany and then Japan to unconditionally surrender.
  - d. The strategy switched from a European focus to a Pacific focus.
7. Which one of the following people did not believe in unescorted high altitude, daylight, precision bombing?
- a. Claire Chennault
  - b. Giulio Douhet
  - c. Billy Mitchell
  - d. Hugh Trenchard
8. What is significant about the Battles of the Coral Sea and Midway?
- a. The Japanese won both of these battles with superior air power.
  - b. Both battles were fought entirely by aircraft without the surface ships seeing each other.
  - c. Both battles were decided by the superior American submarine fleet.
  - d. The battleship regained its predominance as the primary US naval weapon.
9. In which battle did the Japanese lose over 100 of their best pilots and served as a key to defeating Japan?
- a. Battle of the Coral Sea

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- b. Battle of Iwo Jima
  - c. Battle of Midway
  - d. Battle of Tarawa
10. On August 6, 1945, what happened that devastated the Japanese and hastened the end of WWII?
- a. The Soviet Union declared war on Japan.
  - b. The US troops captured Iwo Jima and the Marianas Islands.
  - c. US aircraft bombed Tokyo with incendiary bombs.
  - d. A US B-29 dropped an atom bomb on Hiroshima.

### Chapter 5

1. Who were the two major powers in the Cold War?
  - a. The United States and England
  - b. The United States and The Soviet Union
  - c. The Soviet Union and China
  - d. The Soviet Union and Poland
2. In 1947, the United States Air Force came into being with the passage of the
  - a. National Aeronautical Act.
  - b. Army-Air Force Separation Act.
  - c. National Security Act.
  - d. National Space Act.
3. Who designed the world's first turbojet engine for use in an airplane?
  - a. Glenn Curtiss
  - b. Billy Mitchell
  - c. Carl Spaatz
  - d. Frank Whittle
4. After WWII, Germany was divided into East and West Germany. Who controlled East Germany?
  - a. England
  - b. France
  - c. United States
  - d. Soviet Union
5. What was the US' first priority in the Korean War?
  - a. bomb North Korea
  - b. stop the advance of the North Korean troops
  - c. send American troops to the 38th parallel
  - d. attack China and Russia for helping the North Koreans

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6. What was the world's first "pure" jet airliner?
  - a. DeHavilland *Comet 1*
  - b. Lockheed *Constellation*
  - c. Douglas *DC-4*
  - d. Vickers *Viscount*
7. Who was the first man to penetrate the sound barrier and fly faster than the speed of sound?
  - a. Scott Crossfield
  - b. Mel Apt
  - c. Kit Murray
  - d. Chuck Yeager
8. What was the only true strategic bombing campaign of the Vietnam War, which resulted in the North Vietnamese coming back to the negotiating table?
  - a. Rolling Thunder I
  - b. Rolling Thunder II
  - c. Linebacker I
  - d. Linebacker II
9. T/F By 1990, Iraq had the fourth largest army in the world.
10. T/F In 1991, when discussing the Desert Storm victory, President Bush said that the number one lesson from the Gulf was the value of air power.

### Chapter 6

1. The two X-series aircraft, which were flown during the 1950s and 1960s, were the
  - a. X-15 and XB-70.
  - b. X-10 and X-100
  - c. XB-1 and XF-5
  - d. X-52 and X-2
2. The X-29A was built to demonstrate the capabilities of
  - a. adaptive-wing aircraft.
  - b. forward-swept wing aircraft.
  - c. oblique-winged aircraft.
  - d. skewed-wing aircraft.
3. Which of the following is a stealth aircraft designed to be invisible to enemy radar?
  - a. B-1
  - b. B-2
  - c. B-52
  - d. X-15

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4. Which of the following is a high-altitude reconnaissance aircraft?
  - a A-10
  - b F-4
  - c SR-71
  - d XB-70
  
5. Which jet revolutionized the commercial aviation industry and went on to become the standard long-range jet of the 1960s?
  - a. Boeing 707
  - b. Boeing 727
  - c. Boeing 737
  - d. Boeing 747
  
6. The Bristol Aeroplane Company and Sud-Aviation together built what aircraft?
  - a. *Airbus*
  - b. *Caravelle*
  - c. *Concorde*
  - d. *U-2*
  
7. T/F The first twin-engine aircraft was the Beechcraft *Twin Bonanza*.
  
8. T/F From 1958 to 1982, general aviation in the US grew at a faster rate than military or commercial aviation.
  
9. T/F The F-117A is a stealth aircraft.
  
10. T/F Canards are vertical surfaces behind the main wings of an aircraft.