

Name _____

Word Count: 155

The First Airplane

For centuries, people have dreamed of flight. As early as 10
 1485, the great inventor and artist Leonardo da Vinci drew 20
 plans for a flying machine. But until Orville and Wilbur 30
 Wright came along, nobody was able to build an airplane. 40

Orville and Wilbur Wright were brothers, inventors, and 48
 expert mechanics. They worked on their airplane design 56
 for years, using gliders to practice their piloting skills. 65
 They built a wind tunnel to test different wing shapes for 76
 their flying machine. They figured out how much power 85
 the airplane’s engine would need. They built their airplane 94
 themselves, testing ideas as they went. 100

The Wright brothers chose Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, to 109
 test their airplane design. Kitty Hawk had steady winds and 119
 sand dunes to help them take off and land. 128

On December 17, 1903, the Wright brothers flew for the 138
 first time. The first flight lasted only twelve seconds, but it 149
 changed the way we travel forever. 155

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	Read 1	Read 2	Read 3	Read 4	Read 5	Read 6
Goal Rate						
WPM						
Errors						
WCPM						
Accuracy / Reading Rate %						

Words Per Minute (WPM); WPM – Errors = Words Correct Per Minute (WCPM); (WCPM ÷ WPM) x 100 = Accuracy/Reading Rate %