

READING Activities



Amelia Earhart, a pioneering aviator



Amelia Earhart, born on July 24, 1897, in Atchison, Kansas, remains one of the most famous and influential figures in the history of aviation. Her groundbreaking achievements as an aviator, coupled with her fearless determination and pioneering spirit, made her a symbol of courage, independence, and empowerment for women around the world. Earhart's journey into the world of aviation began in the early 1920s when she first took an airplane ride at the age of 23. The flight sparked her fascination with flying, and she quickly became determined to pursue a career as a pilot.

In 1928, Earhart gained international fame when she became the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean as a passenger on a flight with pilot Wilmer Stultz. Although she was not the pilot, her role as a crew member on the transatlantic flight made headlines and earned her a place in history. She used her newfound fame to become an outspoken advocate for



women's rights and the advancement of women in fields traditionally dominated by men. Her determination to succeed as a pilot was driven by a deep desire to prove that women could accomplish the same feats as men in aviation and beyond.

Her most notable achievement came in 1932 when she became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. This daring journey was fraught with challenges, including difficult weather conditions and mechanical issues, but Earhart's skill and resilience saw her through. Upon landing, she became a national hero and received numerous accolades, including the prestigious Distinguished Flying Cross, which was awarded to her by the American Congress. Her solo flight across the Atlantic marked a significant milestone in the history of aviation, demonstrating not only her personal courage but also the growing role of women in aviation and other fields.

In 1935, Amelia set another remarkable record by becoming the first person, male or female, to fly solo from Hawaii to California, a journey that was both dangerous and historically significant. Over the following years, she continued to push the boundaries of aviation, setting more records and breaking barriers. However, it was her final flight in 1937 that would cement her legacy and forever shroud her life in mystery.

On June 1, 1937, Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, began an ambitious attempt to circumnavigate the globe. After successfully completing several points of the journey, the pair vanished over the Pacific Ocean on July 2, 1937, while attempting to fly from New Guinea to Howland Island. Despite extensive search efforts, no trace of the plane or its occupants was ever found, and the mystery surrounding her disappearance has captivated the public's imagination ever since. Theories about what happened during the flight abound, but Earhart's fate remains one of the great unsolved mysteries of the 20th century.



Amelia Earhart's legacy extends far beyond her aviation records and pioneering achievements. She was a trailblazer who demonstrated that women could excel in areas where they were once considered inferior. Her courage, resilience, and commitment to breaking barriers continue to inspire individuals around the world, especially women seeking to overcome societal constraints and pursue their passions. Earhart's name has become synonymous with adventure, exploration, and the spirit of discovery, leaving an indelible mark on history that endures to this day.

 After carefully reading the text, answer the questions below:

- 1 What was Amelia's first major achievement in aviation?
- 2 What did Amelia accomplish in 1932?
- 3 What happened during her final flight?
- 4 How did Amelia Earhart contribute to women's rights and empowerment?
- 5 What is her legacy?



 Match the words to the correct definition:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Pioneering | A. The ability to recover from difficulties or challenges. |
| 2. Circumnavigate | B. A person who leads the way or creates a new path for others to follow. |
| 3. Advocate | C. To travel around the entire world or a specific place, often by sea or air. |
| 4. Fate | D. To disappear or cease to be visible or present. |
| 5. Legacy | E. A significant achievement or success in life. |
| 6. Resilience | F. A lasting impact or influence that remains after someone's death. |
| 7. Determination | G. A strong will to achieve something, even in the face of obstacles. |
| 8. Accomplishment | H. A person who supports or defends a particular cause. |
| 9. Vanish | I. The predetermined course of events, especially the outcome of one's life. |
| 10. Trailblazer | J. Describing something that is new, innovative, and leading to future change. |



✈️ Now read an online article and answer the questions that follow:

<https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/news/amelia-earhart-castaway/>

1. What did Jantz and Glickman discover?
2. Which fact rules out the possibility of her plane crashing?
3. What happened to Earhart's navigator Frederick I. Noonan?

✈️ Watch a video about Amelia and her disappearance and then express your opinion with justification. What do you think happened to her?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HB7D9Zx9KE8>



Amelia Earhart-Teacher's C1-C2

TEXT

1 What was Amelia's first major achievement in aviation?

Amelia's first major achievement was flying across the Atlantic Ocean as a passenger in 1928.

2 What did Amelia accomplish in 1932?

In 1932, Amelia became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.

3 What happened during her final flight?

During her final flight in 1937, Amelia and Fred Noonan vanished over the Pacific Ocean, and their plane was never found.

4 How did Amelia Earhart contribute to women's rights and empowerment?

She advocated for women's rights and proved that women could excel in fields like aviation, traditionally dominated by men.

5 What is her legacy?

Amelia Earhart's legacy is that of a pioneering aviator and trailblazer for women's empowerment. Her courage, records, and disappearance continue to inspire people worldwide.

VOCABULARY

1. Pioneering – J: Describing something that is new, innovative, and leading to future change.
2. Circumnavigate – C: To travel around the entire world or a specific place, often by sea or air.
3. Advocate – H: A person who supports or defends a particular cause.
4. Fate – I: The predetermined course of events, especially the outcome of one's life.
5. Legacy – F: A lasting impact or influence that remains after someone's death.
6. Resilience – A: The ability to recover from difficulties or challenges.
7. Determination – G: A strong will to achieve something, even in the face of obstacles.
8. Accomplishment – E: A significant achievement or success in life.
9. Vanish – D: To disappear or cease to be visible or present.
10. Trailblazer – B: A person who leads the way or creates a new path for others to follow.

ONLINE ARTICLE

1 What did Jantz and Glickman discover?

The skeleton had forearms that were considerably large for a European woman. Analyzing a historical photo of Earhart where her bare arms are fully visible, they found Earhart's forearms were virtually identical to the castaway's.

2 Which fact rules out the possibility of her plane crashing?

In August, the TIGHAR team revealed Earhart made more than 100 radio transmissions calling for help between July 2 and July 6 of 1937, which rules out the possibility of her plane crashing. The airplane's radio would not have worked if the engine was not running.

3 What happened to Earhart's navigator Frederick I. Noonan?

No other human remains were found in the area – meaning Earhart's navigator Frederick I. Noonan would have died soon after the crash and been washed away by the ocean.





The online article can be found on the website of CBS news:

<https://www.cbsnews.com/>

The video comes from the Youtube channel of History channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@HISTORY>



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Major thanks to

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