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*Minnesota Comprehensive
Assessments- Series II*

**Reading Grade 4.1
Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction**

Item Sampler and Answer Book

For 2006 & 2007

Reading Test
General Directions to the Student

- Read the passage. Then read questions about what you have read. Mark your answers to the questions in your answer book.
 - As you read the passage, you may take notes and highlight in your test book.
 - This test has two kinds of questions, multiple-choice and open-ended.
1. Answer each multiple-choice question by filling in the circle in your answer book that matches the answer you think is best. The circle must be filled in completely for your answer to be scored. The sample question below shows how to do this.

Sample Question:

In the article, the word recycling means

- A. sharing.
- B. throwing.
- C. reusing.
- D. keeping.

Sample Answer:



Answer “C” is correct because “reusing” means the same thing as “recycling”. Therefore, you completely fill the circle “C”.

2. Answer each open-ended question by writing your answer in the space provided in your answer book. Be sure to write your answers clearly.

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction

Have you ever taken an airplane flight or watched an airplane fly above you? Who first flew these planes? Read the article about two airplane pioneers and then answer questions 1-21. Some questions may ask you about certain paragraphs. The numbers are found on the left side of the paragraphs.

Aviation Pioneers

- 1 Crossing an ocean by airplane is common today. But not long ago, this kind of travel was just a dream. With their pioneering flights, aviators like Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart helped make it a reality.
- 2 Charles Lindbergh was the first person to fly across the Atlantic Ocean alone without making a stop. Amelia Earhart was the first woman to make this solo nonstop flight.
- 3 Charles Lindbergh was born in 1902. He grew up on a farm near Little Falls, Minnesota. He was a very bright child.
- 4 At the age of 18 years, he entered college to become an engineer. But he thought flying was more interesting than going to college. After two years, he left school to become a barnstormer, a pilot who performed daring stunts at fairs.
- 5 Charles' goal was to make the first solo nonstop flight across the Atlantic. He made this flight in *The Spirit of Saint Louis*, in 1927. Another pilot had crossed the Atlantic before him. But Charles was the first person to make it alone nonstop.
- 6 Lindbergh's feat gained him instant fame. The press named him "Lucky Lindy" and the "Lone Eagle" for flying all the way across the Atlantic Ocean alone. All around the world people thought he was the greatest aviator.
- 7 Throughout his life, Lindbergh continued to study aviation and invent. He died at the age of 72.

Go on to the next page. 

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction

- 8 His boyhood home in Little Falls is now a state park. You can still see his family home. You can also step inside a full-scale model of the cockpit of his famous airplane. Visitors to the park imagine what it was like flying across the Atlantic in *The Spirit of Saint Louis!*
- 9 Amelia was born in Kansas in 1897. In those days, airplanes were not common. She was 11 years old before she saw an airplane. She did not take her first flight until 1920, more than ten years later.
- 10 She was so thrilled by her first airplane ride that she immediately began to take flying lessons. She wrote, "As soon as I left the ground, I knew I had to fly."
- 11 After less than one year of lessons, Amelia borrowed money from her mother to buy her first airplane. She got her flying license in 1921. By 1922, she was setting flying records. In 1923, she got her world pilot's license. She was only the 16th woman to do so.
- 12 After flying across the Atlantic in 1928 as a passenger, her next goal was to fly across the ocean alone. In 1932, she became the first woman to do so. She became even more famous. She was the queen of the air! Still, she wanted to fly farther.
- 13 She decided that her next trip would be to fly around the world. In 1937, she began this flight. She lost control of the plane on takeoff. The plane had to be repaired.
- 14 She began her flight around the world again. During the first part of the flight, she became tired and ill. After taking time to rest, she left for a tiny island in the middle of the ocean. From that point on, she was never heard from again.
- 15 The navy searched for two weeks. She was never found. Her airplane was never found either. No one knows for certain what happened. She probably just got lost and ran out of fuel.
- 16 She was only 39 years old when she disappeared.

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction

17 Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh met their goal of flying alone across the Atlantic Ocean. Because of pioneers like Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh, anyone can fly across oceans to almost anywhere in the world.

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction

1. In paragraph 2, the word solo means

- A. fast
- B. low
- C. alone
- D. together

2. Which word best describes the meaning of fame in paragraph 6?

- A. travel
- B. experience
- C. wealth
- popularity

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction

3. Which paragraph best summarizes this article?

- A.** Amelia Earhart became famous when she became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. After flying across the Atlantic, she hoped to fly around the world. But she disappeared while she was attempting to reach her goal.
- B.** Charles Lindbergh was the first to fly solo non-stop across the Atlantic Ocean. He became very famous for this flight. He continued to study aviation and invent throughout his life. His boyhood home is now a park.
- C.** Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh became the first to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Lindbergh crossed the Atlantic Ocean in the Spirit of Saint Louis in 1927 and Earhart made her flight five years later. They became very famous for these flights that helped make worldwide travel possible.
- D.** Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh flew across the Atlantic Ocean. Amelia disappeared while trying to fly around the world. The navy searched for her for two weeks but never found her. She probably got lost and ran out of fuel.

4. Which sentences best paraphrase paragraphs 12-15?

- A.** Amelia Earhart became very famous by meeting her goal of flying solo across the Atlantic Ocean. But she wanted to fly farther so she tried to fly around the world. She disappeared on her flight.
- B.** After she flew across the Atlantic Ocean, Amelia Earhart became a queen. She took a trip around the world, but she disappeared on an island.
- C.** Amelia Earhart is very famous for flying across the Atlantic Ocean and for her trip around the world. She went to live on an island and was never heard from again.
- D.** Amelia Earhart became famous for her solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean. After that flight she decided to take a trip around the world but she couldn't take the trip because she lost control of her airplane.

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction

5. What is the main point of this article?

- A.** By flying solo across the Atlantic Ocean, Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart helped make it possible for people to fly all over the world today.
- B.** Flying was very difficult and dangerous many years ago.
- C.** Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh enjoyed flying and met many of the goals that they set for flying during their life.
- D.** Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh became so famous that a park in Minnesota was dedicated to them.

6. Which detail from the story best supports the main idea?

- A.** Charles Lindbergh left school to become a barnstormer.
- B.** Charles Lindbergh was the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.
- C.** Amelia Earhart disappeared while trying to fly around the world.
- D.** Visitors to a park in Little Falls, Minnesota can step inside a model of *The Spirit of Saint Louis*.

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction

7. Why did Amelia Earhart decide to start taking flying lessons?

- A. She saw an airplane when she was 10 years old.
- B. She took a ride in an airplane.
- C. Her mother bought her an airplane.
- D. Charles Lindbergh told her to take lessons.

8. Which statement is true about Charles Lindbergh?

- A. Charles Lindbergh was the first person to fly across the Atlantic Ocean.
- B. Charles Lindbergh flew daring stunts over the Atlantic Ocean.
- C. Charles Lindbergh was the first person to fly an airplane.
- D. Charles Lindbergh was the first person to fly over the Atlantic Ocean alone without stopping.

9. *The Spirit of Saint Louis* is

- A. the name of a city
- B. the name of an airplane
- C. the name of a ride at an amusement park
- D. one of Charles Lindbergh's nicknames

10. Based on information in the article, the title Aviation Pioneers means

- A. people who were the first to make an important flight.
- B. people who were the first to travel across the United States.
- C. people who invented airplanes.
- D. people who performed daring airplane stunts.

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction

11. According to the article, what do Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart have in common?
- A. They were both barnstormers.
 - B. Both of them .
 - C. They both were born in Kansas.
 - D. Both of them studied engineering in college.
12. Based on information in the story, what would Amelia Earhart probably have done if she had not disappeared?
- A. Fly around the world
 - B. Quit flying because it is too dangerous
 - C. Take more flying lessons
 - D. Live on an island
13. What made Amelia Earhart most famous?
- A. Getting her world pilot's license in 1923 - only the 16th woman to do so.
 - B. Flying with others across the Atlantic Ocean in 1928.
 - C. Setting flying records in 1922.
 - D. Flying solo across the Atlantic Ocean in 1932.
14. Based on information in this article, what is the best word to describe both Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh?
- A. Old
 - B. Brave
 - C. Studious
 - D. Mysterious

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction

15. Which statement below contains an opinion?
- A. Lindbergh made this flight in *The Spirit of Saint Louis*, in 1927.
 - B. After flying as a passenger across the Atlantic in 1928, Amelia flew across the ocean alone.
 - C. Charles Lindbergh was the first to make a solo nonstop flight across the Atlantic.
 - D. Amelia Earhart probably got lost and ran out of fuel.
16. Which statement below is another opinion?
- A. Charles Lindbergh thought flying was more interesting than going to college.
 - B. There is a full-scale model of the cockpit of *The Spirit of Saint Louis* at a park in Minnesota.
 - C. The navy searched for two weeks but never found Amelia Earhart.
 - D. Charles Lindbergh made his flight in *The Spirit of Saint Louis*, in 1927.
17. What seems to be a reason that Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh became the first to fly across the Atlantic Ocean?
- A. They worked as barnstormers.
 - B. Their parents lent them money to buy an airplane.
 - C. Both of them went to college to study aviation.
 - D. They both set goals that they worked hard to achieve.
18. Why did the press name Charles Lindbergh, "The Lone Eagle"?
- A. Because he traveled with an eagle.
 - B. Because he traveled across the ocean by himself.
 - C. Because he was tall and shy.
 - D. Because his airplane, *The Spirit of Saint Louis*, looked like an eagle.

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction

19. Before Amelia Earhart made her solo flight across the Atlantic ocean, what did she do?

- A. She flew with Charles Lindbergh.
- B. She flew across the Atlantic Ocean as a passenger.
- C. She began a flight around the world.
- D. She got lost on one of her flights.

20. According to the article, what did Charles Lindbergh do before he was a barnstormer?

- A. He worked as an engineer.
- B. He made a solo nonstop flight across the Atlantic Ocean.
- C. He went to college.
- D. He met Amelia Earhart.

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction

Please write your response to question 21 on page 2 of your answer book.

21. Part A Describe two ways that Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh were alike.

Part B Describe two ways that Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh were different.

**Be sure to write your complete answer
in your answer book.**

Vocabulary and Comprehension- Nonfiction Answer Book

Name _____

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. (A) (B) (C) (D) | 5. (A) (B) (C) (D) | 9. (A) (B) (C) (D) |
| 2. (A) (B) (C) (D) | 6. (A) (B) (C) (D) | 10. (A) (B) (C) (D) |
| 3. (A) (B) (C) (D) | 7. (A) (B) (C) (D) | 11. (A) (B) (C) (D) |
| 4. (A) (B) (C) (D) | 8. (A) (B) (C) (D) | 12. (A) (B) (C) (D) |



