

## UNIT 31 READING COMPREHENSION

### “The Story of Charles ‘Lindy’ Lindbergh”

Charles A. Lindbergh was born on February 4, 1902 in Detroit, Michigan. Little did his parents know that he would someday become a world-famous aviator! Charles went to school in Wisconsin, but he was not a very good student. After he was finished with school, he moved to Nebraska to learn more about aviation! In 1923, Charles’ father helped him buy a small plane called a “Jenny.” This plane is in a museum today! Then in 1925, Charles enlisted in the Army as a pilot. This was a great service to the country. Charles learned more about aviation by flying the air mail route from St. Louis to Chicago in all kinds of weather! Then, Charles had a thought—he would compete for an aviation prize of \$25,000. This prize was for the first pilot who could fly from New York to Paris. Everyone told Charles that he could not do it, but he did not listen. After 33 hours of flying, Charles landed his plane “The Spirit of St. Louis” in Paris! He won the aviation prize! All of a sudden, Charles was a famous pilot. People started to call him “Lindy.” After that, “Lindy” decided to take a tour of 48 states in his plane. Soon there was a large increase in applications for pilot licenses—everyone wanted to be like “Lindy”! Throughout the course of his life, “Lindy” and his wife, Anne, flew all over the world together. But “Lindy” was remembered for his first heroic flight—what an adventure! “Lindy” did the unthinkable. Every time we fly in a plane, we remember his brave journey.

Directions:

Read story carefully, and answer the following questions.

1. Where was Charles Lindbergh born? Detroit/Wisconsin (Detroit)
2. What is another word for “pilot”? Aviator/Famous (Aviator)
3. What was the type of small plane that Charles’ father helped him buy? A “Jenny”/A “Katie” (A “Jenny”)
4. Where did Charles have to fly to win the aviation prize? New York to Paris/Boston to London (New York to Paris)
5. Why do you think Charles wanted to compete for the aviation prize? (To prove everyone wrong/to do something exciting/to become a better pilot/etc.)
6. What was the name of Charles’ most famous plane? “The Spirit of St. Louis”/”The Hope of Nebraska” (“The Spirit of St. Louis”)
7. Applications for pilot licenses [increased/decreased] after Charles’ legendary flight. (increased)
8. TRUE OR FALSE: Charles was afraid after his famous flight, and stopped flying planes.  
(FALSE)
9. FILL IN THE BLANK: What did Charles do after he won the aviation prize?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(He flew to all 48 states/He flew around the world with his wife, Anne)
10. FILL IN THE BLANK: We remember Charles as a \_\_\_\_\_ pilot.  
(Possible answers: brave/adventurous/famous/etc.)