

We are in to the last week of school before the tests. How are you doing? Are you buckling down<sup>1</sup> and burning the candle at both ends<sup>2</sup>? I hope so, but remember that it's important to have breaks as well. I used to sleep with my textbook under my pillow before a test. I hoped that the information would come through the pillow and into my brain while I was asleep. It never worked. Haha. What kind of studying tactics<sup>3</sup> do you use? My memory wasn't that good when I was a student. I was good at essay writing tests, but not tests where you had to remember information. And now my memory is much worse than it used to be. Haha. I didn't think that was possible but my memory gets worse day by day.



8 differences!

Last week's answer



### Something you didn't know about private jets

1. Private jets are very expensive, but they give wealthy people<sup>4</sup> a lot more freedom because they can fly from wherever they want, whenever they want.
2. There are more than 22,000 private jets in the world and 60% are in the US.
3. The first private jet was made in 1955 and it could carry 3 passengers<sup>5</sup>.
4. Buying a private jet costs millions of dollars, but you can rent one for less than that. It will cost you about \$10,000 an hour.
5. Some celebrities own more than one private jet. Taylor Swift had two private planes, but she very recently sold one of them.
6. Air Force One is the world's biggest private jet.

### Airbnb Plane

This isn't really news. I just thought it was interesting. Do you know the company Airbnb? Have you ever stayed in one of their places? Bnb stands for<sup>6</sup> Bed and (n) Breakfast. It is a style of hotel where you get a room and breakfast, but no evening meal. They are usually very small and family owned. Airbnb is a company that lets you rent people's houses pretty much anywhere in the world. Some Airbnb places are big, some are small, some are great, and some are ... less great. Anyway, a person in the UK has turned a 1970s private jet into an Airbnb place. The owner's name is Ali and he bought the old plane in 2023. Unfortunately, the plane doesn't have wings anymore. Still, that didn't stop Ali and he spent 6 months and a lot of money converting<sup>7</sup> the old jet into an Airbnb accommodation<sup>8</sup>. He fitted furniture<sup>9</sup>, made a bedroom, bathroom, and small kitchen. And, most importantly, he left the cockpit<sup>10</sup>. Since he listed the plane on Airbnb, it has been booked out<sup>11</sup>. There are so many people that love planes and want to stay in it. In its heyday, the plane flew rich people all across the world, but now anybody can stay in it. You can get a good night's sleep and then sit at the controls while you drink your morning coffee. I think I would like to try it for a night. What about you?



- 1.buckle down 本腰を入れて取り組む 2.burn the candle at both ends 無理をして働く  
 3.tactic 戦術 4.wealthy people お金持ち 5.passenger 乗客 6.stand for を意味する  
 7.convert 変える 8.accomodation 宿泊施設 9.fit furniture 家具を取り付ける 10.cockpit 操縦室 11.booked out 予約でいっぱい





### World record

Ok. We're kind of talking about planes this week, so let's look at some airplane world records. This should be interesting and I expect that there are lot of them. The fastest plane in the world is called the NASA X-43A. It is a remote-controlled plane and it flew at Mach<sup>1</sup> 9.6, which is 11,265 km/h. That means it could fly from Sapporo to New York in about 55 minutes. The highest a plane has ever flown is 37,650 m. This was a MiG-25 in 1977. This is the record for the highest plane with a pilot in it that took off from the ground. Planes without pilots have flown much higher. 37,000 m. The longest commercial flight<sup>2</sup> you can take is from Singapore to New York. It is a 19-hour flight, which sounds like torture<sup>3</sup>. Unless, that is, you can fly business class. The shortest flight is from Westray to Papa Westray in Scotland. The flight takes one and a half minutes.



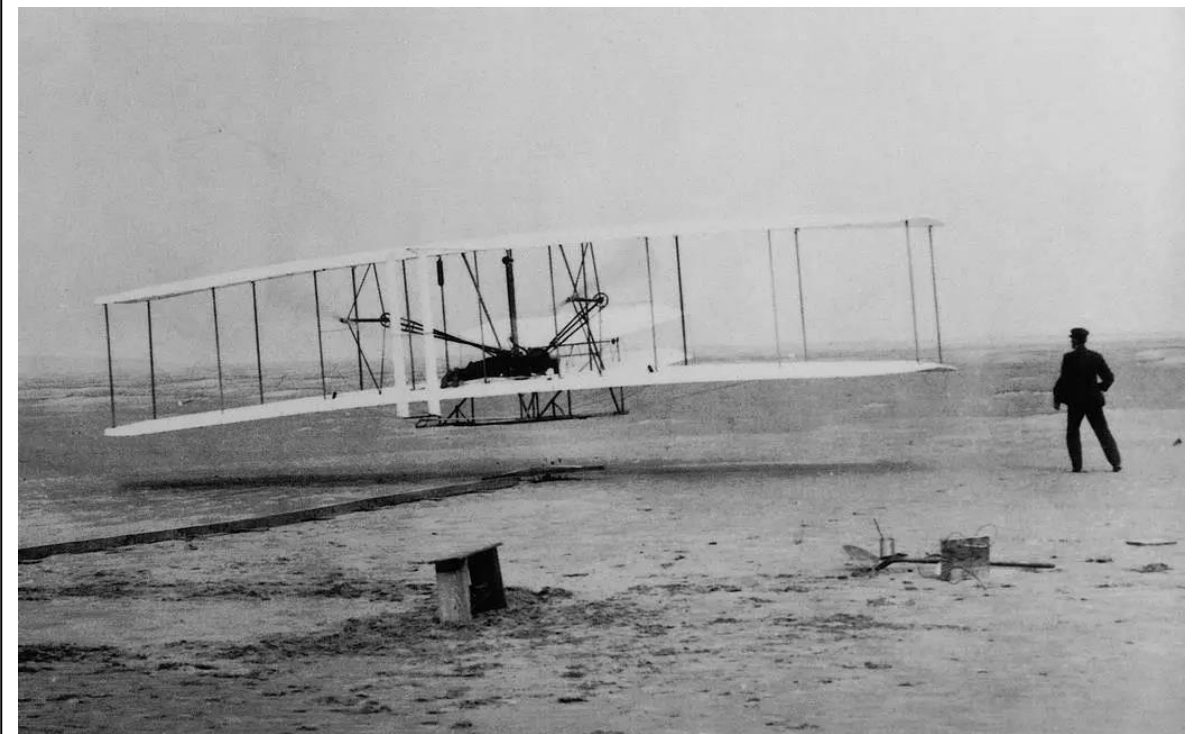
“Either you run<sup>4</sup> the day, or the day runs you.”

Jim Rohn

### An Interesting Fact

#### The Wright Brothers first flight was 12 seconds?

The longest flight you can take these days is 19 hours, but the very first powered flight<sup>5</sup> was only 12 seconds! Wilbur Wright and Orville Wright spent years trying to make a plane with an engine. People had flown on gliders<sup>6</sup> before, but nobody had flown on a plane with an engine. The Wright brothers owned a bicycle shop, and they did a lot of their building and testing there. By 1903, they had come up with a prototype<sup>7</sup>. On December 17, 1903, they took their prototype to a beach near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. Their first plane was called the Wright Flyer. You can actually see the Wright Flyer in the Smithsonian Institution! (One of my dreams is to go there.) The plane was made of light wood, fabric<sup>8</sup>, and a 12-horsepower<sup>9</sup> engine. It was windy in the morning and Wilbur Wright got on the plane. They pushed it down a wooden ramp and the plane flew using its motor! It flew for 36 meters, 12 seconds and landed! Every flight we take today is because of that 12 second flight!



- 1.Mach マッハ（音速の単位） 2.commercial flight 商業飛行 3.torture 拷問 4.run 運営する 5.powered flight 動力飛行 6.glider 滑空機 7.prototype 試作品 8.fabric 布 9.horsepower 馬力