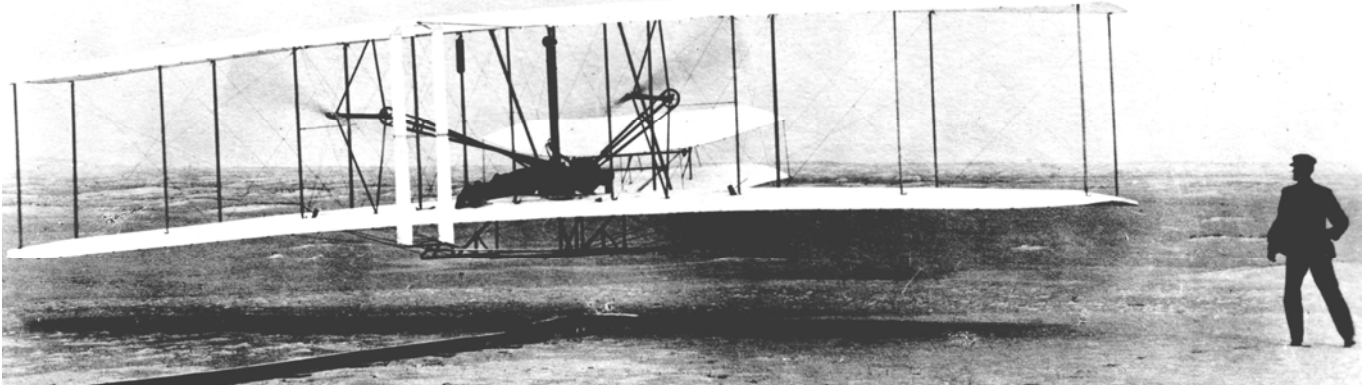


Wilbur and Orville Wright were American flying pioneers who built and flew the first aeroplane in 1903.

Orville Wright was a champion cyclist. He and his brother Wilbur set up a shop where they made and sold bicycles. They didn't have a proper education, but they had great mechanical skills (habiletés). They both enjoyed the new sport of gliding (vol à voile). They decided to build a bicycle with wings (ailes) and a petrol engine to drive (entraîner) a propeller round.



By 1903 the Wright brothers had built *The Flyer*. It was a biplane (with two sets of wings) and the pilot lay flat (couché) across the lower (inférieure) wing. A series of bicycle chains and gears (harnais) connected the engine to two propellers which rotated at about 450 times a minute. On 17 December 1903, at Kitty Hawk in North Carolina, Orville Wright made a 12-second flight over a distance of 35 m. This was the first aeroplane flight in history.

Later that morning Wilbur flew for nearly a minute. They carried on (continuer) building better aeroplanes. In 1905 Wilbur flew 38 km in a half-hour flight.

Write YES or NO:

A bicycle has two wheels. **YES**

Wilbur and Orville were brothers.

The first aeroplane flight was in France.

A cyclist rides a bicycle.

Orville was a professor at Dayton University.

A pioneer is someone who does something for the first time.

A bird has two wings.

Wilbur flew a jet plane.



Translate:

Ils vendaient des bicyclettes.

Ils construisirent de meilleurs avions.

Le pilote était étendu sur l'aile.

Er flog fast eine Minute lang.

Il vola presque une minute.