

Airplane History: The Pioneers, Breakthroughs, and Moments That Changed Flight

1. How can one define a plane?

A plane is a machine that can fly through the air with the help of one or more engines and also has fixed wings.

2. Who is credited with the concept of modern airplanes?

An English engineer, [Sir George Cayley](#), is credited with the concept of the [airplane](#), as he first conceptualized the modern airplane's configuration and components.

3. Who is known as the pioneer of flight?

[Orville and Wilbur Wright](#) are recognized as pioneers of flight who successfully conducted the powered airplane flight on December 17, 1903, near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

4. Who is credited with the development of steam-powered aircraft?

[Samuel Langley](#) is credited with the development of steam-powered aircraft.

5. What is the difference between the terms “aircraft” and “airplane”?

“Aircraft” is a term commonly used for drones, helicopters, balloons, and planes. In contrast, the term “airplane” is utilized only for aircraft that have fixed wings and one or more engines.

6. Who is the father of Indian civil aviation?

[J.R.D. Tata](#) is well-known as the father of Indian civil aviation and was also the first licensed pilot in India.

7. Who is the first licensed woman pilot in India to fly an aircraft?

Sarla Thakral is known as the first Indian woman to obtain her pilot's license and fly an aircraft in 1936 at the age of 21.

References

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airplane>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Cayley

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wright_brothers

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel_Langley

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JRD_Tata

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sarla_Thukral