

## ***Fun and interesting facts (About parachute)***

### ***1. Did you know the reason behind the invention of the parachute?***

When a person falls suddenly from a high altitude, such as from an airplane, they are at risk of serious injury or death. This happens because [gravity](#) causes a person's speed to become very high. To prevent harm or death, a device called a [parachute](#) was invented.

### ***2. Do you know from which language the 'parachute' word originated?***

The word '[parachute](#)' is a hybrid of two words: the prefix para- from Greek, meaning 'against' or 'counter,' and the French word chute, meaning 'a fall.' The word therefore means to protect against a fall.

### ***3. Did you know how parachutes work?***

Free-falling objects can reach a top speed, known as terminal velocity, of about 118 miles per hour due to gravitational force. No person or object can survive falling from a high altitude at such a speed. A parachute works by decreasing the speed of a falling object or person. Much like an umbrella, [A Parachute](#) has an open end that faces downward. As the parachute inflates and creates a large surface area, it produces air drag, or resistance, that counteracts the pull of gravity. This air resistance decreases the speed of the fall, allowing for a safe landing.

### ***4. Did you know the applications of a parachute?***

Parachutes were originally invented as a safety device to save the lives of people falling from high altitudes. During World War II, they were used for transporting [troops](#) onto the battlefield. Today, parachutes are also used to deliver food, medicine, and other needed supplies to areas affected by floods and earthquakes. The U.S. Forest Service has [trained forest service people](#) who use parachutes to combat fires. They can also be used to slow the descent of a space capsule during its reentry into Earth's atmosphere.

## ***References***

- [\*https://kids.britannica.com/students/article/parachute/276277\*](https://kids.britannica.com/students/article/parachute/276277)
- [\*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parachute\*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parachute)
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