

Educator Information and Directions

This PDF provides the materials that accompany the lesson “*Flight of Mystery*.” This PDF contains activities for students to complete before, during, and after they read the play. Highlighted words within the play indicate vocabulary words that will be referred to in assessment questions.

Student Reading Guide

Before Reading

- Read some information about today’s play.
- Start thinking about the topics in the play by answering the questions.

During Reading

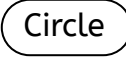
- Read the **Purpose for Reading**.
- Read the play.
- Take notes and annotate what you are reading.

After Reading

- Reflect on what you have read by answering the questions.
- Complete the **Online Assessment** questions.

Taking Notes and Annotating

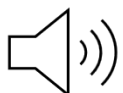
Here are some strategies for annotating and taking notes **in the text itself**:

- **Highlight** or underline important words or words you don’t know.
-  key concepts and ideas.
- Use abbreviations or symbols. For example:

?	To show confusion or questions
M	To show the mood
★	To show important details
❤	To show the main character’s feelings

Here are some strategies for annotating and taking notes **in the notes section** under the text:

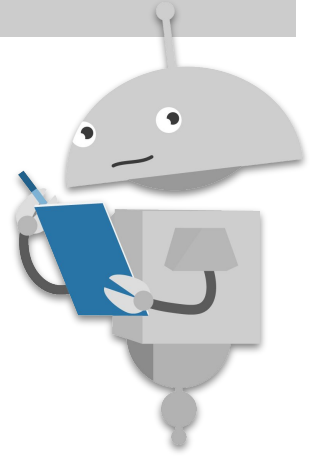
- Summarize key points in your own words.
- Write brief comments and questions.



If you would prefer to listen to the play, click the link to access an audio recording: [Link to Audio Recording of Play](#)

Before Reading

Today's passage is a short play, titled *Flight of Mystery*, that reimagines the real-life story of the famous pilot Amelia Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, who set out on a journey to fly around the world in 1937. The outcome of this flight remains a mystery to this day.



Before you read today's play, think about what you may already know about Amelia Earhart or the history of aviation.



Think about the people who did things first. Somebody was the first to fly an airplane, sail a ship, or even eat a coconut. For everything that can be done, there was somebody who did it first. What do you think it feels like to be the first person to ever do something? Write or draw as you reflect below.



If you were going to travel around the world today, what real or imaginary form of transportation would you take? Why? Write or draw to respond below.

During Reading



Purpose for Reading: The following play reimagines the famous flight of Amelia Earhart and her navigator as they attempted to fly around the world. As you read, think about how the stage directions and dialogue help to develop the setting, plot, and characters.

While you read, remember to annotate and take notes! You can review strategies for annotation on page 1 of this PDF.

Flight of Mystery

Characters:

Narrator

Amelia Earhart - Aviation pioneer and pilot

Fred Noonan - Navigator

Reporter - Radio news reporter

Crowd - Spectators at an airfield

Host - Airshow host

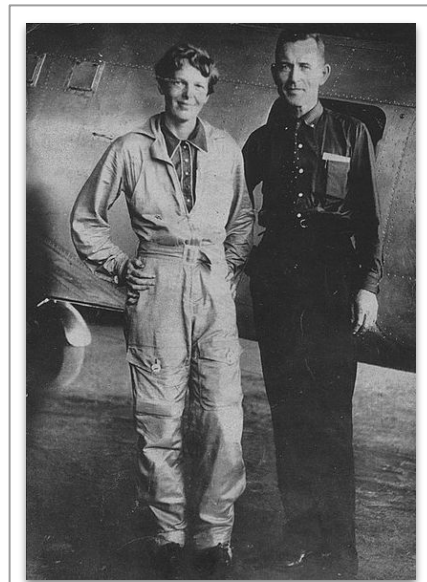


Photo of Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan

Photo of Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan. By Scott Branson. https://www.flickr.com/photos/kslismomwies/4726353331/. No restrictions. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Amelia_Earhart_and_Fred_Noonan.jpg

Scene 1: Anticipation

(Scene opens with Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan standing near a small plane. A reporter and a crowd of spectators gather around.)

Reporter: (Excitedly) Ladies and gentlemen, we are here today to witness the historic flight of Amelia Earhart, the fearless aviator who's attempting to **circumnavigate** the globe!

Crowd: (Applause and cheers)

(continued)

During Reading (continued)



Flight of Mystery (continued)

Amelia: (Confidently) Thank you all for being here. Fred and I are ready for this incredible journey around the world.

Fred: (Nervous but determined) We've planned every detail. We'll make history with this flight.

(They board the plane as the crowd watches.)

Host: (Over a loudspeaker) And they're off!
Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan are taking flight on their daring mission!



Photo of Amelia Earhart inside the cockpit prior to her last takeoff

(The plane takes off, and the crowd watches in awe.)

Scene 2: Navigation

(Scene transitions to a few weeks later, with Amelia and Fred in the cockpit.)

Amelia: (Looking at a map) Fred, we've come a long way, but there's still a lot ahead of us.

Fred: (Checking navigation instruments) We're doing great, Amelia. This journey has been incredible so far, and we're making history every day.

Amelia: (Smiling) You know, Fred, it's not just about the destination. It's about the journey itself and the people who share it with us.

(continued)

During Reading (continued)



Flight of Mystery (continued)

Fred: (Reflecting) You're right, Amelia. It's been an honor to be your friend and navigator on this adventure.

(They continue their flight)

Scene 3: Celebration

(Scene shifts to a radio newsroom with the Reporter.)

Reporter: (Excitedly) Breaking news! Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan have faced incredible challenges but continue to press on in their journey around the world!



Photo from Amelia Earhart's pilot license

Scene 4: Malfunction

(Scene transitions back to the cockpit.)

Amelia: (Determined) We can't give up now, Fred. We're so close to completing this journey.

(As they continue their flight, they suddenly encounter a mysterious problem with their radio equipment.)

Amelia: (Frustrated) Fred, the radio's malfunctioning! We can't contact anyone.

(continued)

During Reading (continued)



Flight of Mystery (continued)

Fred: (Concerned) Stay calm, Amelia. We'll figure this out.

(The scene ends abruptly and mysteriously as they attempt to resolve the radio issue.)

Scene 5: Inhalation

(Scene shifts to a radio newsroom with the Reporter.)

Reporter: (With concern) Ladies and gentlemen, we've lost contact with Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan. We don't know what's happened. This mission has taken an unexpected turn, leaving us with uncertainty and unanswered questions.

(Narrator speaks as the lights dim.)

Narrator: As the world holds its breath, our stage goes dark, just like the fate of Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan, lost to the mysteries of the open skies. They set out to make history, and while the truth of their story remains veiled in uncertainty, they made history, indeed.

Notes

