



## COOL TECH

### Flying Cars and Other Transportation Tech

You might not think about it, but how people and things get from one place to another has changed greatly over the years. And, more innovation is on the way. How will you get where you need to go in the future? And who will be driving—or flying? Find out in *Flying Cars and Other Transportation Tech*!

#### What did you learn?

#### QUESTIONS

1. The Autoplane was invented by ...
  - a. Elon Musk
  - b. Glenn Curtiss
  - c. Nikola Tesla
  - d. David Hall
2. A lidar is ...
  - a. A sensing method in which pulses of laser light are used to measure distances and create three-dimensional pictures of an environment
  - b. The body of an airplane, helicopter, or glider to which the wings, tail, and other parts are fastened
  - c. A bomb that is handmade or otherwise put together by an amateur
  - d. A government grant which gives a person or company sole rights to make, use, or sell a new invention for a certain number of years
3. The plane used to break the sound barrier was the ...
  - a. Lockheed Martin X-plane
  - b. Bell X-1
  - c. Aerion AS2
  - d. Concorde supersonic plane
4. The Hiller Flying Platform was developed during the ...
  - a. 1960's
  - b. 1940's
  - c. 1950's
  - d. 1970's
5. What does DARPA stand for?
6. What year did the last Concorde fly?

#### TRUE OR FALSE?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| _____ 1. DARPA worked to make vehicles autonomous for soldiers.                                     | _____ 4. Some of the first automobiles were powered with batteries.   |
| _____ 2. Chuck Yeager was unimpressed when he broke the sound barrier because it was so uneventful. | _____ 5. Engine failure caused the Concorde crash in 2000.  |
| _____ 3. Launched in 2012, the Tacocopter still operates today in San Francisco.                    | _____ 6. Though the Soviet Tupolev Tu-144 actually beat the Concorde to supersonic flight, it was loud, dangerous, and inefficient. |



## ANSWERS

- 1. b. Glenn Curtiss.** According to the section "Flying Cars" on page 10, we know that "American inventor Glenn Curtiss, the first person to receive a U.S. pilot's license, created a flying car called the Autoplane." So, the correct answer is B.
- 2. a. A sensing method in which pulses of laser light are used to measure distances and create three-dimensional pictures of an environment.** According to the section "Glossary" on page 46, we know that "lidar is a sensing method in which pulses of laser light are used to measure distances and create three-dimensional pictures of an environment." So, the correct answer is A.
- 3. b. Bell X-1.** According to the section "Supersonic Passenger Planes" on page 37, we know that "on October 14 of that year, U.S. test pilot Chuck Yeager broke through the barrier while piloting the specially designed Bell X-1 rocket plane." So, the correct answer is B.
- 4. c. 1950's.** According to the section "Jetpacks" on page 33, we know that "The Hiller Flying Platform was developed in the 1950's." So, the correct answer is C.
5. According to page 20, DARPA stands for Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.
6. According to page 39, both British Airways and Air France ended their Concorde flights in 2003.

## TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. True.** According to the section "Self-Driving Cars" on page 20, we know that "The Defense Advanced Research projects Agency (DARPA), a United States government organization that works to create and use new technology, wanted to make U.S. military vehicles autonomous." So, the correct answer is True.
- 2. True.** According to the section "Supersonic Passenger Planes" on page 37, we know that "Yeager reported no ill effects to himself or the aircraft—in fact he expressed disappointment at how uneventful the crossing was!" So, the correct answer is True.
- 3. False.** According to the section "Drones" on page 27, we know that "In 2012, a website was launched promising drone-delivered tacos in the San Francisco area. But after attracting media attention, it was revealed to be a hoax." So, the correct answer is False.
- 4. True.** According to the section "Self-Driving Cars" on page 17, we know that "Some of the first automobiles were powered with batteries." So, the correct answer is True.
- 5. False.** According to the section "Supersonic Passenger Planes" on page 39, we know that "Investigators later found that debris on the runway caused the crash." So, the correct answer is False.
- 6. True.** According to the section "Supersonic Passenger Planes" on page 39, we know that "The Soviet Tupolev Tu-144 actually beat Concorde to supersonic flight by a matter of months. But the plane was inefficient, noisy, and dangerous." So, the correct answer is True.