English is fun!

Unit 4: The history of the aeroplane

Name:

Date:

Class:

A. Comprehension questions:

Here is the story of the Wright Brothers. Read the sentences on the right and put them in the right place in the text:

a. They made kites.
b. It was a toy helicopter.
c. They opened a bicycle shop.

The Wright Brothers

Wilbur and Orville Wright invented the first aeroplane in the United States of America in 1903. The Wright brothers thought of the flight when one day their father returned from a trip and surprised the boys with a small toy. ....b......... (1) The boys admired the toy very much and they said that they wanted to fly. While the boys were growing up, they were always repairing and fixing things. ....a...... (2) and sold them to classmates. Later, ...c........ (3) and repaired bicycles. They used the money from the bicycle shop for their first flight experiments. The historic flight lasted for just 12 seconds and covered about 120 feet. This changed the world forever.

a) Who invented the aeroplane?_____

b) They invented the aeroplane in…   i.1903   ii.1909   iii.1093

c) What did their father give to them as a present?_____

d) What did they make and sell as boys?_____

e) They sold kites to their …_____.

f) Where did they find the money for the experiments?_____

_____

g) What kind of shop did they open?_____

h) How long did the first flight last?_____

i) What distance did the flight cover?_____

j) This _____ the world for ever.

B. Vocabulary
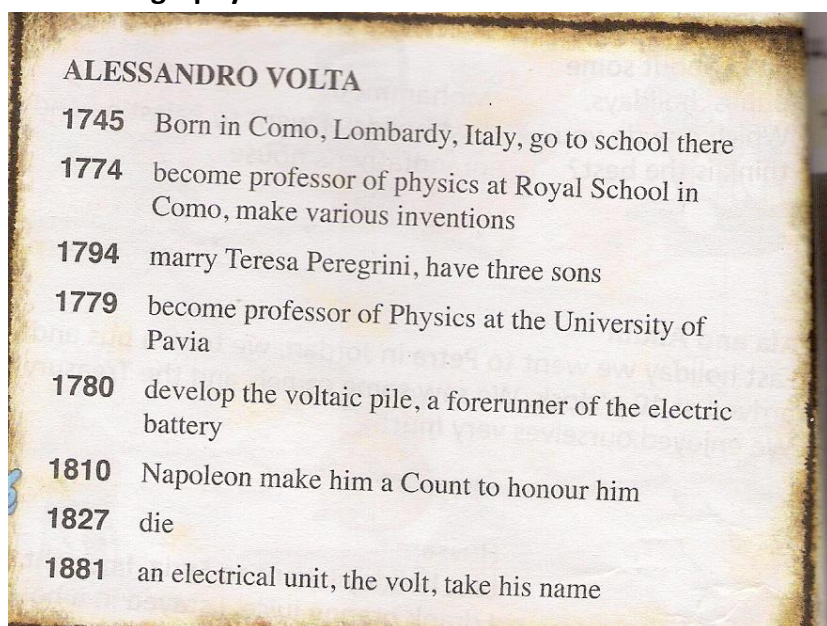
The aeroplane _____ from the airport. It was a nice aeroplane, with a big _____. It wasn't a Concord with a big _____ or a _____. It was a Being 747 which travels with great _____. I could see its _____ from my seat next to the window. I couldn't see the _____ at the back of the aeropane, but I could hear the strong _____. The pilot invited the children to see the _____ before we _____.

   (land, took ff, cockpit, fuselage, engine, nose, rocket, tail, speed, wings)

C. Simple Past

1. Mary _____ her leg in the school yard yesterday. (break)
2. They _____ many souvenirs on their trip last year. (buy)
3. He _____ me a free game ticket last week. (give)
4. You _____ to the supermarket yesterday. (go)
5. He _____ his homework last night. (do)
6. I _____ very tired after lunch yesterday. (feel)
7. She _____ all the milk last night. (drink)
8. They _____ kites and sold them. (make)
9. He _____ of that all day yesterday. (think)
10. You _____ late last night. (come)

D. The biography of Alessandro Volta.

ALESSANDRO VOLTA

1745	Born in Como, Lombardy, Italy, go to school there
1774	become professor of physics at Royal School in Como, make various inventions
1794	marry Teresa Peregrini, have three sons
1779	become professor of Physics at the University of Pavia
1780	develop the voltaic pile, a forerunner of the electric battery
1810	Napoleon make him a Count to honour him
1827	die
1881	an electrical unit, the volt, take his name

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Good luck!