**TWO STORIES ABOUT FLYING –**

**HIS FIRST FLIGHT**

1. **Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow:**

The young seagull was alone on his ledge. His two brothers and his sister had already flown away the day before. He had been afraid to fly with them. Somehow when he had taken a little run forward to the brink of the ledge and attempted to flap his wings, he became afraid. The great expanse of sea stretched down beneath, and it was such a long way down - miles down. He felt certain that his wings would never support him; so, he bent his head and ran away back to the little hole under the ledge where he slept at night. Even when each of his brothers and his little sister, whose wings were far shorter than his own, ran to the brink, flapped their wings, and flew away, he failed to muster up courage to take that plunge which appeared to him so desperate. His father and mother had come around to calling him shrilly, upbraiding him, threatening to let him starve on his ledge unless he flew away. But for the life of him he could not move.

(a) Where had his brothers and sister gone?

(b) Why was the young seagull afraid?

(c) What did he do?

(d) What did his parents threaten to do?

(e) Give the meaning of the word 'upbraiding'?

Answers:

(a) His brothers and sister had already flown away the day before.

(b) The young seagull was afraid because he felt certain his wings would never support him and he would fall in the great expanse of the sea beneath.

(c) He bent his head and ran away back to the little hole under the ledge where he slept at night.

(d) His parents threatened to starve him on his ledge unless he flew away.

(e) The word 'upbraiding' means 'scolding’.

Q.2*. That was twenty-four hours ago. Since then nobody had come near him. The day before, all day long, he had watched his parents flying about with his brothers and sisters, perfecting them in the art of flight, teaching them how to skim the waves and how to dive for fish. He had, in fact, seen his older brother catch his first herring and devour it, standing on a rock, while his parents circled around raising a proud cackle. And all the morning the whole family had walked about on the big plateau midway down the opposite cliff taunting him with his cowardice. The sun was now ascending the sky, blazing on his ledge that faced the south. He felt the heat because he had not eaten since the previous nightfall.*

(a) Who is 'he' in the passage?

(b) Why was his whole family taunting him?

(c) Why was he getting restless?

(d) Why was he unable to reach his parents?

(e) Give the meaning of the word 'gnawed'.

Answers:

(a) 'He' in the passage refers to the young seagull.

(b) His whole family was taunting him for his cowardice at his inability to fly like the rest of them.

(c) He was getting restless because he had not eaten since the previous night and he could not see a single scrap of food.

(d) Between him and his parents lay the deep wide sea and since he was unable to fly, he could not reach them.

(e) The word 'gnawed' means 'bite continuously.

Q.3. *That was twenty-four hours ago. Since then nobody had come near him. The day before, all day long, he had watched his parents flying about with his brothers and sister, perfecting them in the art of flight, teaching them how to skim the waves and how to dive for fish. He had, in fact, seen his older brother catch his first herring and devour it, standing on a rock, while his parents circled around raising a proud cackle. And all the morning the whole family had walked about on the big plateau midway down the opposite cliff taunting him with his cowardice.*

(a) What did the young seagull see his parents doing the day before? Mention any two acts.

(b) For how long had the seagull been alone?

(c) Why had the whole family been taunting the young seagull?

(d) Which word from the passage means the same as 'to move lightly just above a surface'?

Answers:

(a) The day before the young seagull had watched his parents fly about with his brothers and sister. teaching them how to skim the waves and how to dive for fish.

(b) The seagull had been alone for twenty-four hours.

(c) The whole family had been taunting 'the young seagull for his cowardice'.

(d) The word 'skim' means the same as 'to move lightly just above a surface.

*Q4. He stepped slowly out to the brink on the ledge, and standing on one leg with the other leg hidden under his wing, he closed one eye, then the other and pretended to be falling asleep. Still, they took no notice of him. He saw his two brothers and his sister lying on the plateau dozing with their heads sunk into their necks. His father was preening the feathers on his white back. Only his mother was looking at him. She was standing on a little high hump on the plateau, her white breast thrust forward. Now and again, she tore at a piece of fish that lay at her feet and then scrapped each side of her beak on the rock. The sight of the food maddened him. How he loved to tear food that way scrapping his beak now and again to what it "Ga, gu, gu," he cried begging her to bring him some food. "Gaw col ah," she screamed back derisively. But he kept calling plaintively, and after a minute or so he uttered a joyful scream. His mother had picked up a piece of the fish and was flying him with it.*

(a) Why did he pretend to be falling asleep?

(b) What were his brothers and sisters doing?

(c) What was his mother doing?

(d) Why did he utter a joyful scream?

(e) Give the meaning of the word 'derisively'?

Answers:

(a) By pretending that he was sleeping he thought his family would take notice of him.

(b) His brothers and sisters were lying on the plateau, dozing with their heads sunk into their necks.

(c) His mother was tearing a piece of fish that was lying at her feet.

(d) He uttered a joyful scream because his mother had picked up a piece of the fish and was flying across to him with it.

(e) The word 'derisively' means 'mockingly'.

Q.5. He waited a moment in surprise, wondering why she did not come nearer, and then, maddened by hunger, he dived at the fish. With a loud scream he fell outwards and downwards into space.

(a) Who is 'He'?

(b) Whom was he waiting for?

(c) Why did he dive at the fish?

(d) What happened afterwards?

Answers:

(a) 'He' is the young seagull.

(b) He was waiting for his mother to give him food.

(c) He was maddened by hunger, so he dove at the fish.

(d) With a loud scream he fell outwards and downwards into space.

Q.6. His parents and his brothers and sister had landed on this green flooring ahead of him. They were beckoning to him, calling shrilly. He dropped his legs to stand on the green sea. His legs sank into it. He screamed with fright and attempted to rise again flapping his wings. But he was tired and weak with hunger and he could not rise, exhausted by the strange exercise. His feet sank into the green sea, and then his belly touched it and he sank no farther. He was floating on it, and around him his family was screaming, praising him and their beaks were offering him scraps of dog-fish.

(a) Where did the young seagull land?

(b) Why did he scream?

(c) What made him tired?

(d) How did his parents, brothers and sister encourage him?

(e) Which word in the passage means the same as 'attracting by a silent signal'?

Answers:

(a) The young seagull landed on the green sea.

(b) He felt his legs sinking into the sea and screamed with fright.

(c) His first flight, a strange exercise, made him tired.

(d) His parents, brothers and sister encouraged him by screaming, praising him and offering him scraps of dog-fish.

(e) The word 'beckoning' means the same as 'attracting by a silent signal'.

Q.7. His parents and his brothers and sister had landed on this green flooring ahead of him. They were beckoning to him, calling shrilly. He dropped his legs to stand on the green sea. His legs sank into it. He screamed with fright and attempted to rise again flapping his wings. But he was tired and weak with hunger and he could not rise, exhausted by the strange exercise. His feet sank into the green sea, and then his belly touched it and he sank no farther. He was floating on it, and around him his family was screaming, praising him and their beaks were offering him scraps of dog-fish.

(a) What does the phrase, 'this green flooring' refer to?

(b) The seagull thought that the sea was like land. Pick out the phrase that suggests this.

(c) When did the seagull get over his fear of water?

(d) How did the whole family praise and reward the success of the seagull's flight?

(e) Find out a word from the passage which means the same as 'pieces'.

Answers:

(a) 'This green flooring refers to the green sea.

(b) The phrase that suggests this is 'He dropped his legs to stand on the green sea'.

(c) The seagull got over his fear of water only when his belly touched it and he sank no farther and was floating on it.

(d) His whole family was around him screaming, praising him and their beaks were offering him scraps of dog-fish.

(e) The word 'scraps' means the same as 'pieces'.

**II. Answer the following questions briefly**:

1. Why did the seagull not go with the rest of his family?

Ans. The seagull did not go with his family because he had been afraid to fly. He had attempted to flap his wings but he felt certain his wings would not support him above the vast sea. So he stayed on the ledge alone.

1. Describe the seagull's first flight.

Ans. The seagull remained alone and hungry for twenty-four hours. His mother decided to motivate him by showing a piece of fish but did not feed him. Maddened by hunger, he tried to snatch it by diving. As the seagull fell into space, a terror seized him. The next moment he felt his wings spread outwards as the wind gushed against his breast feathers. He then realized he was gradually soaring. In this way he made his first flight.

1. Describe the methods used by the seagull family to help the young seagull to overcome his fear and fly.

Ans. The young seagull was unable to muster up courage to fly. His father and mother had come around to calling him shrilly, upbraiding him and threatening to leave him to starve on his ledge unless he flew away but he did not move. His whole family had even walked about on the big plateau midway down the opposite cliff all morning taunting him for his cowardice to motivate him to fly. His mother was also tempting him by tearing a piece of fish lying at her feet so that the sight of food, which was maddening him, may make him overcome his fear and fly. He was still unable to do so and kept crying and begging her to bring him some food.

1. How did the mother make the young seagull come out of his fear and teach him the art of flying?

Ans. The young seagull had not eaten since the previous nightfall. His mother was looking at him and knew he was very hungry. Purposely she began to tear at a piece of fish that lay at her feet and then scrapped each side of her beak on the rock. She understood that the sight of food was maddening the young seagull. The young seagull cried begging her to bring him some food but she refused by screaming back mockingly. He kept calling out plaintively. She came nearer to him with the piece of fish in her beak almost within reach of his beak. He could wait no longer and dived at the fish. His mother swooped upwards and he felt his wings spread outwards as he fell downwards into space. out

1. Why did the young seagull not go with the rest of his family? Why was he afraid to fly?

Ans. The young seagull did not go with the rest of his family, though his brothers and sister had already flown away the day before, as he felt afraid to fly with them. Standing alone on his ledge, he had taken a little run forward to its brink and attempted to flap his wings but he had been scared. The great expanse of the sea stretched below seemed as if it was miles down and he felt certain that his wings would never support him, so he bent his head and ran away to the little hole under the ledge where he used to sleep at night. Though he was desperate to join his family, he failed to muster up enough courage and take a plunge. His family's constant encouragement and threatening words could not make him move.

1. How can you tell that the young Seagull was desperately hungry?

Ans. The young seagull was watching his mother as she tore at a piece of fish that lay at her feet. The sight of the food was maddening him and making him almost crazy. He loved to tear food that way and then scrap his beak again to whet it. He uttered a cackling sound as if begging his mother to bring him some food. Earlier, he had searched every inch of the place where he had sat and had even gnawed at the dried pieces of spotted eggshells from which he and his brothers and sisters had been hatched. Now he was getting absolutely desperate because he had not eaten since the previous night. Maddened by this hunger, he dived at the fish that his mother baited at him, and flew outward and downward into space.

1. Why was the young seagull afraid of flying? What compelled the seagull to finally fly? OR

"The sight of the food maddened him". What does this suggest? What compelled the young seagull to finally fly?

Ans. The young seagull was afraid of flying because he felt certain that his wings would not support him above the vast sea. The young seagull had not eaten anything since the previous night and the sight of his mother tearing at a piece of fish that lay at her feet was maddening him, making him almost crazy. He loved to tear food that way and uttered a cackling sound as if begging his mother to bring him some food but she was ignoring him. Maddened by hunger, he dived at the fish his mother baited at him and flew outward and downward into space. Finally, his feet sank into the green sea and as his belly touched it, he sank no further. He was floating on it and around him his family was praising him.

***Long Answer Questions***

1. ***A young seagull is too afraid to fly. His father and mother threaten him and cajole him to fly. Don’t you think that such type of strategy is followed by almost all parents to make their children learn? Substantiate answers with example***

The young seagull is scared to fly. He is afraid of vast exposure of the sea beneath him. His parents cajole him to fly but he is too scared to fly. At the same time, he is desperate with hunger. He expects his parents to feed him. But he is left alone without food. They threaten him that he'll die of hunger if he doesn’t fly. Then the mother persuades him with a fish within his reach, but not closer to him. He ultimately falls to temptation and dives into the sea and finally succeeds. All parents should follow such type of strategy to make their children learn. They should not pamper their children by spoon feeding. They should make them independent. Parental strictness in making a child learn a skill shouldn’t be taken as a threat. It is in favour of child as without threat, the seagull won’t have learnt to fly; he would be starved to death.

***2. What role was played by the family of the seagull to train him in the art of flying?***

To train the young seagull in the art of flying, the entire family helped out. His sisters and brothers encouraged him to muster up courage and try to fly. The parents called out in a shrill voice, along with cajoling and scolding him in turn. Then they threatened to let him starve. When all this proved unsuccessful, his mother tempted him by flying close to his ledge with a piece of fish in her mouth. Maddened by hunger, he dived forward to get that piece and fell into space. To save himself, he spread his wings and found that he was able to fly. Thus, the entire family helped him in making him to learn the art of flying. His parents and his brothers and sister had landed on the green surface of water ahead of him. They were calling him to do the same thing. They were flying around him. They were roaming and diving. When he was tried and weak with hunger, he could not rise. Then his family came around him crying and praising him. They offered him scraps of dog-fish because he had made his first flight successfully.

***3. Imagine you are the seagull's mother. You wanted him to fly and your plan worked. Write page in your diary to describe how he ventured into his flight.***

Monday: 20thJune 2020

10:30 p.m.

Dear Diary

Today I am feeling very happy. Finally, all my children are able to fly. Coaxing the youngest one was indeed a real ordeal. He just refused to get off the ledge. We tried every method but failed. After nearly 24 hours, I could see that he was feeling really hungry. So I decided to play a trick on him. I took a piece of fish in my mouth and flew close to the ledge. Maddened by hunger, he stepped forward to get the fish, lost his balance and fell outwards. Instinctively, he spread his wings and found that he could fly.

Even my husband and other children supported him. When he was near the sea, while flying straight over it, all of us landed on the green surface of water ahead of him. We all started calling him to do the same thing. He dropped his leg to stand on the green sea. But his leg sank into it. He cried with fear. He tried to rise again flapping his wings. But he was tried and weak with hunger. He could not rise. We all started crying and praising him. At last, we offered him scraps of dog-fish. He had at last made his first flight successful with great effort. It was the proud moment of my life. Now I am relaxed.

Good night Diary.

***4. Do you think hunger was a good motivation for the young seagull in his first flight?***

Even though his parents motivated him to fly, he denied. They warned him that if he did not fly, he would die of hunger. But he could not move. But whatever parents do, it is for the betterment of their child’s future. So they took a harsh step of starving him for more than 24 hours, which was a good time to teach him lesson to fly, and hunt food for himself. It was a wonderful lesson which parents can teach their children to make their future bright.

Yes, in this case, hunger was a great motivation for the young seagull. He was cowardly and full of fear. All the efforts of his parents had failed to coax him into flight. For 24 hours, no one went near him and he was almost faint with hunger. Finally, the mother flew near him with a scrap of food in her beak. Unable to resist, he plunged into the air to catch it and fell out. To save himself, he opened his wings, wind rushed to them and he found that he could fly. Then he completely forgot that he had not always been able to fly. Around him was his family, offering him scraps of dog-fish. Hence, hunger proved to be a good motivation for the young seagull.

**Black Aeroplane**

**I. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:**

1. The moon was coming up in the east, behind me, and stars were shining in the clear sky above me. There wasn't a cloud in the sky. I was happy to be alone high up above the sleeping countryside. I was flying my old Dakota aeroplane over France back to England. I was dreaming of my holiday and looking forward to being with my family. I looked at my watch: one thirty in the morning. 'I should call Paris control soon, I thought. As I looked down past the nose of my aeroplane, I saw the lights of a big 2004 city in front of me.

(a) Which aeroplane was the pilot flying?

(b) What does the writer mean by the 'sleeping countryside'?

(c) The pilot was happy for two reasons. Mention both.

(d) Which phrase in the passage means 'hoping with pleasure"?

Ans: (a) The pilot was flying his old Dakota aeroplane.

(b) By 'sleeping countryside' the writer means that the people in the countryside above which he was flying were sleeping.

(c) The pilot was happy because he was dreaming of his holiday and looking forward to being with his family.

(d) The phrase 'looking forward to' means 'hoping with pleasure.

Q.2. *The moon was coming up in the east, behind me, and stars were shining in the clear sky above me. There wasn't a cloud in the sky. I was happy to be alone high up above the sleeping countryside. I was flying my old Dakota aeroplane over France back to England. I was dreaming of my holiday and looking forward to being with my family. I looked at my watch: one thirty in the morning. 2009*

(a) Who is 'I'?

(b) What does 'the sleeping countryside' mean?

(c) What was he doing?

(d) What did he think of?

(e) Which phrase in the passage means the same as 'expecting/ anticipating'?

Ans. (a) 'I' refers to the plane's pilot.

(b) The 'sleeping countryside' refers to all the people who lay asleep at night in the countryside.

(c) He was flying his old Dakota aeroplane over France on his way back to England.

(d) He thought of his holiday and looked forward to being with his family.

(e) The phrase 'looking forward to' means the same as 'expecting/anticipating'.

Q.3. *'I should call Paris Control soon, I thought. As I looked down past the nose of the aeroplane, I saw the lights of a big city in front of me. I switched on the radio and said: 'Paris Control, Dakota DS 088 here. Can you hear me? I'm on my way to England. Over.'. The voice from the radio answered me immediately: 'DS 088. I can hear you. You ought to turn twelve degrees west now, DS 088. Over.' I checked the map and the compass, switched over to my second and last fuel tank, and turned the Dakota twelve degrees west towards England. I'll be in time for breakfast, I thought. A good big English breakfast! Everything was going well - it was an easy flight. Paris was about 150 kilometres behind me when I saw the clouds. Storm clouds. They were huge. They looked like black mountains standing in front of me across the sky. I knew I could not fly up and over them, and I did not have enough fuel to fly around them to the north or south. 'I ought to go back to Paris,' I thought, but I wanted to get home. I wanted that breakfast. I'll take the risk,' I thought, and flew that old Dakota straight into the storm.*

(a) Who is 'I' in the above passage?

(b) Where was he going?

(c) What does he encounter 150 kilometers away from Paris?

(d) Why did the pilot not go back?

(e) Which word in the passage means 'instantly'?

Ans. (a) 'I' in the above passage is the narrator, Frederick Forsyth.

(b) He was going to London.

(c) He encountered huge, stormy clouds which seemed like black mountains, 150 kilometres away from Paris.

(d) The pilot did not go back because he was eager to get home to be with his family. 'instantly'.

(e) The word 'immediately' means ‘instantly’.

*Q.4. 'Paris Control? Paris Control? Can you hear me?” There was no answer. The radio was dead too. I had no radio, no compass, and I could not see where I was. I was lost could see it flying next to me through the storm. I could see the pilot's face - turned towards me. I was very glad to see another person. He lifted one hand and waved. Follow me,' he was saying. 'Follow me.' 'He knows that I am lost,' I thought. 'He's trying to help me.' He turned his aeroplane slowly to the north, in front of my Dakota, so that it would be easier for me to follow him. I was very happy to go behind the strange aeroplane like an obedient child. After half an hour the strange black aeroplane was still there in front of me in the clouds. Now there was only enough fuel in the old Dakota's last tank to fly for five or ten minutes more. I was starting to feel frightened again. But then he started to go down and I followed through the storm. Suddenly I came out of the clouds and saw two long straight lines of lights in front of me. It was a runway! An airport! I was safe! I turned to look for my friend in the black aeroplane, but the sky was empty. There was nothing there. The black aeroplane was gone. I could not see it anywhere.*

(a) How do we know that the pilot was completely lost in the storm?

(b) What was the pilot of the second plane signalling him to do?

(c) How did the second pilot help the lost pilot?

(d) What was "the two long straight lines of lights"?

(e) Give the meaning of the word 'compass'.

Ans. (a) The pilot had no radio, no compass and he could not see where he was. He was completely lost in the storm.

(b) The pilot of the second plane was signalling him to follow him (the second pilot).

(c) The second pilot made the first pilot follow him and guided him out of the storm.

(d) "The two long straight lines of lights" was the runway.

(e) The word 'compass’ means ‘an instrument with the help of which one can know directions’.

5. *Suddenly I came out of the clouds and saw two straight lines of lights in front of me. It was a runway! An airport! I was safe! I turned to look for my friend in the black aeroplane, but the sky was empty. There was nothing there. The black aeroplane was gone. I could not see it anywhere. I landed and was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota near the control tower. I went and asked a woman in the control centre where I was and who the other pilot was. I wanted to say "Thank You'*.

(a) How did the pilot know that he had landed at the airport?

(b) What makes you sure that there was no other aeroplane in the sky?

(c) Why did he enquire about the other pilot?

(d) Find out a word from the passage which means the same as 'a hard surface where aeroplanes can land or take off'?

Ans.(a) As the pilot came out of the clouds he saw two straight lines of lights in front of him. He realized it was a runway and that he had landed at the airport.

(b) The woman at the control tower confirmed that there was no other aeroplane in the sky.

(c) He wanted to thank the other pilot for his help so he enquired about him.

(d) The word 'runway' means the same as 'a hard surface where aeroplanes can land and take off'.

*Q.6. I landed and was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota near the control tower. I went and asked a woman in the control centre where I was and who then other pilot was. I wanted to say "Thank you'. She looked at me very strangely, and then laughed. "Another aeroplane? Up there in this storm? No other aeroplanes were flying tonight. Yours was the only one I could see on the radar." So who helped me to arrive there safely without a compass or a radio, and without any more fuel in my tanks? Who was the pilot on the strange black aeroplane, flying in the storm, without lights?*

(a) Who is 'I'?

(b) What did he ask the woman in the control centre?

(c) Why did he want to meet the pilot of the black aeroplane?

(d) Which word in the passage means the same as 'an instrument that shows directions'?

Ans: (a) 'I' is the narrator, Frederick Forsyth.

(b) He asked the woman in the control centre where he was and who the other pilot was.

(c) He wanted to meet the pilot of the black aeroplane to express his gratitude to him.

(d) The word 'compass' means the same as 'an instrument that shows directions'.

***Short Answer Questions***

***1. Describe the sky when*** *‘****Dakota’ took off from Paris?***

When ‘Dakota’ took off from Paris, the sky was quite clear. The moon was coming up in the east and the stars were shining. There were no clouds in the sky. The climatic condition was ideal.

***2. “I'll take the risk” What is the risk? Why does the pilot of the old Dakota take it?***

The risk was of flying the old Dakota aeroplane into the storm. The pilot took it as he wished to reach home as soon as possible and to be present at the breakfast table with his family in the morning.

***3. What difficulties did the narrator face while flying in the storm?***

*The difficulties that the narrator faced were that all the instruments of his aeroplane stopped working. He could not see any thing as there were dark clouds all around. The radio became dead and the compass was turning round and round.*

***4. A pilot is lost in the storm clouds. Does he arrive safe? Who helped him?***

*Yes, the pilot arrives safe on the runway. He is helped by the another pilot of a mysterious plane. He vanishes soon after the narrator landed on the airport. The pilot of the other plane guided him to a safe landing.*

***5. What shocked the narrator after landing safely?***

The narrator was shocked to land safely after struggling against the black storm. Besides, he wanted to thank the other pilot who showed him the way, but he too nowhere to be seen. It was a sort of secret help, of which no one was aware.

1. **'Everything was going well-it was an easy flight.' Why was the pilot happy? Give two reasons why the pilot was happy?**

The pilot was flying his aeroplane in a clear sky where he could see the moon coming up in the east, behind him, and the stars were shining above him. He was happy to be alone high up above the sleeping countryside and was dreaming of his holiday and looking forward to being with his family. He thought that he would be home in time for breakfast and devour a good big English breakfast. Everything was going pretty well for him. He was getting fine signals from the Paris Control Room which was giving him the accurate direction on which he was to proceed. His compass and full tank were also up to the mark. So, all in all, it was an easy flight for him.

1. **Why did the woman in the control room look at the pilot of Dakota DS 088 strangely?**

Ans. The woman in the control room looked at the pilot of the Dakota strangely when he was talking about there being another aeroplane. She knew that there was no other aeroplane as she could see only one aeroplane on the radar.

***Long Answer Questions***

***1. From the beginning to the end of the lesson the black aeroplane is a mystery. How?***

The narrator started his journey with old Dakota – 088. At that time, the sky was clear. But suddenly, he found himself in the midst of black clouds. There was zero visibility, everything was black. He couldn’t find any way to escape. To his shock, the compass and the radio were dead. He was lost in the storm. All of a sudden, the narrator saw a black aeroplane and was helped by the other pilot. For half an hour he was flying behind that plane like an obedient child. There was only enough fuel in the tank to fly for five or ten minutes when suddenly he saw two rows of lights. It was a runway in front of him. He safely landed at the airport. He went to the control centre to ask who the other pilot was. To his horror, his was the only flight that could be seen on the radar. Who was the other pilot on the strange black aeroplane flying in the storm, without lights, remained a mystery till the end.

1. ***Describe the narrator's experience as he flew the aeroplane into the storm.***

The narrator was in a hurry to reach England although he had little fuel. He felt home sick and missed his home. So, he took the risk to fly in low fuel. Suddenly, he lost contact with Paris due to cloudy storm. Inside the clouds, everything was suddenly black. It was impossible for him to see anything outside the aeroplane. His plane jumped and twisted in the air. He looked at the compass and to his surprise; it was moving round and round. It was dead. All the other instruments were dead. He tried the radio but in vain. He was lost in the storm. Just then a black aeroplane appeared. He was helped by the mysterious pilot and was able to land safely. The other aeroplane had no lights on its wings, but the narrator could see it flying next to him. He could see other pilot’s face. He lifted one hand and waved at the narrator and asked him to follow him. Narrator’s fuel was getting over. But the other pilot guided him down and made his safe landing. After that, the pilot and the aeroplane both disappeared.

1. ***How did the author come out safely from the black clouds?***

The author took the risk of flying through the black clouds. He couldn’t see anything. The aeroplane jumped and twisted up every now and then. All his instruments had stopped working. The radio and compass were both dead. Suddenly, he saw another plane with no lights on its wings. The other pilot gestured him to follow his plane and turned his aeroplane slowly to the north in front of the author’s Dakota, so that it would be easier for him to follow. The author was glad to follow him like an obedient child. After half an hour, the strange black plane was still guiding the author in the clouds. Suddenly, he saw two long straight lines of lights in front of him. It was a runway. He was safe and landed safely out of the clouds. After landing, he went to the control room to find who the other pilot who saved him was. He wanted to thank the pilot but the pilot and his aeroplane both had disappeared. It was a mystery.