

SENSATIONAL SCIENTISTS – THE WRIGHT BROTHERS ANSWERS

Q1. In what period of history were the Wright brothers born? (Not the date!)

A1. The Industrial Revolution.

Q2. How old were they when they became interested in 'flight'?

A2. 12 and 7.

Q3. What does the word 'scraps' mean?

A3. They used to fight or argue about things.

Q4. Complete the grid below using information from the whole text. Write either a question or an answer depending on which section is missing. The first one has been done for you.

A4.

Question	Answer
How old were the Wright brothers when they owned a bicycle shop?	In their 20s.
What tragedy happened in 1912?	Wilbur died suddenly from typhoid.
What was taken to the Moon in 1969?	A piece of wood and fabric from the Wright Flyer.
Their patent was finally granted in which year?	1906
How many different wing shapes did they test before they were happy?	Up to 200.
Where was the Wright Flyer tested?	At Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, USA.

Q5. What do you think the word 'championing' means in the final paragraph?

A5. Promoting, developing, talking about flight and flying, trying to ensure that people continued to work on and think about flight.

Q6. Why were the Wright brothers classed as celebrities? Give your answer using evidence from the text.

A6. They had 'finally unlocked the secret of mechanical flight'. They had done something no-one else had done. 'Interest in powered flight exploded' means that people thought it was an amazing discovery, they were very excited by it. Everyone wanted to know the brothers and were interested in their work and their discoveries.

Q7. Which phrase in the text means experimenting and trying things out for themselves? Look in the section about when they were in their 20s.

A7. 'Hands-on tinkering'.

