

Madeleine Merrill

Mr. Durell

Social Studies B

16 February 2018

How the Airplane Changed the World

There have been many inventions that have changed the world, but one of the most important was the airplane. Airplanes have positively impacted many lives whether it was through mail service or transportation to your favorite vacation spot. The first operational airplane took off on its first flight in 1903. Since then, the airplane has developed from many failed attempts to get off the ground into one of the most popular methods of travel through thousands of airlines worldwide. This invention has created an efficient and easy way to travel thousands of miles faster than any other way of transportation. Not only that but the airplane has changed the world through its huge amount of jobs that it has created world wide. Another positive affect from this invention is a worldwide connection between countries. Without planes, it would take a lot longer for someone to cross an ocean. The reason that this invention should be in the virtual museum is because of its huge impact on the traveling world. Airplanes help transport supplies and passengers quicker than anything else. The airplane has also lead to the creation of other inventions like the jet engine and the propeller engine. The airplane has changed the world for the better and transportation would be a lot different without it.

The airplane has a long history of different models and versions that date back as far as 1903. 1903 is when Orville Wright performed the first successful flight by airplane. The flight was performed over four different tests but only one was successful. The successful trial was the

last one out of the four and that flight covered 852 feet and it lasted only 59 seconds. That plane was what led to different models of planes that you see today. Orville Wright wrote in his diary about how after they had finished the trials they left the plane outside and it was badly damaged after being tipped over by the wind (“The Wright Story”).

One of the many and important ways that it has left a mark on our world is that “Airplanes provide the world’s fastest practical means of transporting passengers and freight” (Wolters) and have shrunk the globe to bring all countries within easy reach. Large planes that are used for passengers and cargo can reach speeds of 500 to 600 miles per hour making it the quickest way to travel in the world (Wolters). Thousands of huge companies use airplanes for more than just passengers but for cargo, and by doing so those companies can save thousands of dollars on transportation fees and the cargo is delivered in a much faster time. Air travel has even out done ships and boats when it comes to crossing an ocean (“Business Aircraft Uses”).

Another one of the huge impacts that the airplane has left on our world is the millions and millions of jobs that it has provided. Aviation supports 62.6 million jobs world wide. One example of a job that aviation provides is the engineers and designers who make the planes (Bilstein). These positions provide approximately 1,101,00 jobs around the world. A second example of jobs that are provided by the invention of the airplane is jobs that are in the industry itself like pilots and flight attendants. These positions provide approximately 9.9 million jobs world wide (“Employment”).

The invention of the airplane has also influenced our world through one of the most popular uses, and that is business aviation. Business aviation is used through thousands of companies worldwide and has many uses depending on the business. One of these uses includes

Business trips. Taking business trips on a plane allows many advantages like allowing the employee to make many stops in long distances from each other and still return to their departing destination in one day. Business aviation also provides quick transportation to a businesses headquarters or manufacturing facilities that may be across seas. A couple of examples that Business aviation is used for is Transportation of employees, transportation of cargo and mail, medical and emergency transport, security and law enforcement, aerial photography, weather monitoring, game tracking and control, and news gathering (“Business Aircraft Uses”).

In conclusion the invention of the airplane has positively changed the world in many ways like through business aviation, job support, and by providing a very efficient way to travel. Airplanes have come a very long way, they started as wooden gliders and have turned into engine powered machines capable of flying hundreds of passengers over long distances. Think about how different the world would be today if the airplane had never been invented.

Works Cited

"Aviation." Britannica School, Encyclopædia Britannica, 1 Nov. 2017.

[school.eb.com/levels/middle/article/aviation/273034](https://www.britannica.com/levels/middle/article/aviation/273034). Accessed 31 Jan. 2018.

Bilstein, Roger E. "Aviation." World Book Student, World Book, 2018,

www.worldbookonline.com/student/article?id=ar039580. Accessed 31 Jan. 2018.

"Business Aircraft Uses." Business Aircraft Uses | NBAA - National Business Aviation

Association, www.nbaa.org/business-aviation/uses/.

"Employment." Employment : Aviation: Benefits Beyond Borders,

aviationbenefits.org/economic-growth/employment/.

"The Wright Story/Inventing the Airplane/Orville Wright's Diary and His Story of the First

Flight." Orville Wright's Diary: December 17, 1903,

www.wright-brothers.org/History_Wing/Wright_Story/Inventing_the_Airplane/December_17_1903/Orville_Wrights_Diary.htm#top.

Wolters, Timothy S. "Airplane." World Book Student, World Book, 2018,

www.worldbookonline.com/student/article?id=ar009700. Accessed 31 Jan. 2018.