Air Race part 1



The Daily Mail Newspaper offers a £10,000 prize to the first person to fly an aeroplane between London and Manchester.



1906

Challenge 1

Use an online 'inflation calculator' to find out how much the prize is worth today.



No more than two landings are allowed during the flight and the pilot must finish their journey within five miles of the newspaper's headquarters in Manchester.

The first attempt is made by Claude Grahame-White.



Claude Grahame-White



Claude takes off at 5.19am from Park Royal, London. To help him navigate the journey, he follows the route of the railway line. He flies 75 miles and makes his first scheduled stop near Rugby, at 7.20am.

At 8.15am he sets off for his next stop at Crewe but engine problems force him to land at Hademore, near Lichfield at 9.20am.

The engine is fixed but bad weather delays his take off. The wind is so strong that his aircraft is damaged and Claude abandons his attempt.

Challenge 2

Look online to help you find Lichfield on this map.





Challenge 3

How long has it taken Claude to get to Lichfield?

How long was he in the air?



Challenge 4

Use an online journey planner to find out how long this journey would take by car today.

Which is quickest, Claude's aircraft or a modern car?

The race for £10,000 continues on 27 April...