

Select Readings, Second Edition
Elementary, Chapter 13 Test

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

An American Hero

On January 15, 2009, Flight 1549 left New York's LaGuardia Airport on a short flight to North Carolina. It was a cold, clear day, and the 150 passengers and five workers on the plane expected a normal flight.

However, about three minutes after the plane left the airport, a flock¹ of birds flew into the plane's engines². Passengers say they heard a loud noise and started smelling smoke. Everyone started to feel scared.

The engines lost all their power. It was an emergency. The pilot wasn't sure what to do. He knew he couldn't fly the plane back to the airport without power. He didn't want to crash the plane into people in New York City. He needed to make a decision fast.

The plane was now over the cold waters of the Hudson River. The pilot decided that landing in the river might be the only thing to do. It would be difficult and very dangerous. But Captain Chesley 'Sully' Sullenberger was a very good pilot. He thought he could land the plane safely in the water.

Captain Sullenberger told the passengers and flight attendants to prepare for an emergency landing in the water. He chose a place on the river near some boats. He thought that the boats could help save people from the cold water of the river after they landed.

At 3:31 p.m., Captain Sullenberger started the descent into the Hudson River. The plane hit the water seven minutes after it left LaGuardia Airport.

Fifteen people were hurt, and the plane was destroyed because of a small flock of birds. But thanks to Captain Sullenberger, the flight attendants, and rescue workers³ in boats, everyone got out of the plane. The water was very cold and some people went to the hospital, but no one died. Many people called Captain Sullenberger and his flight attendants 'real American heroes.'

1. Which of these happened FIRST?
 - A. Birds flew into the plane's engines.
 - B. Flight 1549 landed in the Hudson River.
 - C. The plane's engines lost their power.
 - D. Flight 1549 took off from LaGuardia Airport.

2. Which of these happened LAST?
 - A. Birds flew into the plane's engines.
 - B. Flight 1549 landed in the Hudson River.

¹ **flock** a group (of birds)

² **engines** motors

³ **rescue workers** people who help in an emergency

- C. The plane's engines lost their power.
D. Flight 1549 took off from LaGuardia Airport.
3. When the birds flew into the engine, they made a loud _____.
A. noise
B. noises
C. noisy
D. noisily
4. The pilot decided to make a(n) _____ landing in the river.
A. rescue
B. descent
C. safety
D. emergency
5. The pilot knew that landing the plane in the river would be _____.
A. danger
B. dangers
C. dangerous
D. endangered
6. The pilot hoped that the boats could help people after _____ the plane in the river.
A. land
B. lands
C. landed
D. landing
7. The passengers were able to _____ get out of the plane.
A. safe
B. safety
C. safely
D. safer
8. How long was the plane in the air before it landed?
A. 3 minutes
B. 5 minutes
C. 7 minutes
D. 15 minutes
9. All of the following helped get the passengers out of the plane EXCEPT _____.
A. doctors
B. the pilot
C. flight attendants
D. rescue workers
10. Why were Captain Sullenberger and his crew called 'heroes'?
A. Many people were hurt.
B. Many people went to the hospital.
C. The river was very cold.
D. None of the passengers died.