

Do You Know?
(text questions for "Follow Your Dreams")

Chapter One

- 1) What color are coffee berries when they are ripe?
- 2) What color are roasted coffee berries?
- 3) What were Alberto's 3 favorite pastimes as a child?
- 4) When Alberto read his father's books, he learned to fix complicated things like the farm machinery and the locomotive. What were his father's books about?
- 5) Why did the farm have a locomotive?
- 6) When he was a child, playing outside, what two things did Alberto watch that made him dream about flying?
- 7) Who were the first people to fly a balloon with passengers? What kind of balloon was it? Who were the three passengers? When and where did they fly? (p.9)
- 8) Alberto was 10 years old in 1883. When was he born? (p.9)
- 9) Alberto could fix his mother's sewing machine. Sewing machines played a big part in making all of Alberto's aircraft - his balloon, his airships, and even his planes. Can you guess why?
- 10) Alberto went to France when he was eighteen? What year was that?
- 11) The first time Alberto flies, the sky is filled with rainbows. Why? What are the colors of the rainbow in their proper order?
- 12) As they flight higher and higher, Alberto sees snowflakes and ice crystals forming before his eyes. Why?
- 13) When Alberto flies at night over Paris, why are there more "stars" under his feet than in the sky? Are the "stars" really under his feet?
- 14) Why does the night sky suddenly turn bright blue? (What is lightning?)

Chapter Two

"To fly when and where he wanted"

- 1) What was "Brazil?" How big was it? How much did it weigh? What was it made out of?
What color was it?
- 2) Look at the dots on p.24. Is the sky ever black? or red? or orange? Did you know they say the sky has a green tint before a very bad storm, like a tornado? When could the sky look brown? (think about the Sarah or the American Dust Bowl.)
- 3) Why did Alberto hang his dining room table and chairs from the ceiling? These were aerial dinner parties. Can you guess what aerial means?
- 4) Did Alberto believe people when they said he couldn't hang a motor from a balloon? Why were they afraid?

- 5) How did Alberto test his idea of hanging a motor from a balloon? Why didn't his motorbike shake? What are vibrations?
- 6) On what did Alberto base the design of his airship? What are two other names for an airship? Why did Alberto prefer the name "airship?"
- 7) What else were people afraid of with a gasoline motor besides the shaking? What was Alberto's airship filled with? Is hydrogen explosive? What does explosive mean?
- 8) Did his airship work? Why not? Who saved him? How? Can you guess why they helped break his fall? (counter lateral pull...what is lateral?)
- 9) Why wasn't Alberto worried about mistakes?
- 10) What does it mean when you say following a dream has its ups and downs?
- 11) When Alberto met Isabel, the Princess of Brazil, what did she give him? Who was the present from? What did she say? Alberto is a hero for whom?
- 12) Why did Alberto design as small airship? Where did he fly it? What did the Parisians think about it? Where did he park it?
- 13) Who was the first female aeronaut? What is an aeronaut? Did most men back in 1900 think it was a good idea to teach a woman to fly? Did Alberto agree?
- 14) Was flying an airship easier than driving a car? What did Alberto hope everybody would have one day?
- 15) What did the Parisians do whenever Alberto came into Maxim's? Why?

Part 3

"The First Captain of the Skies"

- 1) Why did Alberto decide to build a very big airship? How much was the prize worth? What did he have to build before he could build the airship? The doors were the largest yet built but were so well made that even who could slide them open and shut?
- 2) To win the Deutsch Prize, Alberto had to fly from where to where, in what period of time? What was he flying? How was this airship described? (p.69)
- 3) What was Alberto's scariest accident? How did they save him?
- 4) What is the name of the most famous cathedral in Paris? Can you guess what Notre Dame means?
- 5) Who was Quasimodo? Why did Alberto think about him? Can you guess what famous French novel Quasimodo appears? (Walt Disney made a movie of it for children.) Do you know the name of its famous French author?
- 6) The Arc of Triumph is another famous landmark in Paris. Who built it? Who was Napoleon? What did he conquer? What did Alberto want to conquer?
- 7) Where is the Eiffel Tower? Why does it look so fragile?
- 8) Why did Alberto fly as close to the tower as possible?
- 9) How did he tell time? Why was this unusual at that time? What happened after Alberto ordered a wrist watch from Cartier? Can you still buy a Santos-Dumont wristwatch?

- 10) What 2 bad things happened as Alberto flew close to the tower? What did he hear?
- 11) What did he have to do to fix the motor? Did he have a seat belt or a parachute?
- 12) When he finished the turn around the Eiffel Tower, what did he hear?
- 13) What did Alberto do with the 100,000 francs he won with the Deutsch Prize?
- 14) What did the Parisians call Alberto?
- 15) How did the Parisians honor him? Who was Icarus? What does Icarus symbolize? What is a symbol?
- 16) When did Alberto win the Deutsch prize? How old was he?

Part 4
“The Endless Dream”

- 1) Why did Alberto receive the Archdeacon Prize?
- 2) What was unusual about the 14 bis?
- 3) When did he win the Archdeacon Prize? How old was he?
- 4) What was “The Dragonfly?” When did Alberto fly it? How old was he?
- 5) What did Alberto believe about dreams?

Part 5
“Timeline”

- 1) Alberto was unique among the early aviators because he mastered what two types of flying machines? What is a lighter than air flying machine? What is a heavier than air flying machine?
- 2) Compared to the Wrights’ plane what was unusual about “The Dragonfly?”
- 3) Why wouldn’t Alberto take out patents on his many inventions?
- 4) Why was “The Dragonfly” the first plane built by Americans all over the U.S.?
- 5) What did pilots all over the world do when Alberto died?
- 6) What do you like best about Alberto’s story?