

II. THE BLACK AEROPLANE

Introduction to Author :

Fredrick Forsyth was born on 25 Aug 1938. He was an English author, novelist, and occasional political commentator. Before becoming a journalist he joined the RAF and was a jet fighter pilot.

Theme of the story :

'Black Aeroplane' is a story based on a surprising event that happened with the narrator. The story vividly depicts the mystery and suspense. It describes quite a unique but mysterious experience during his flight from Paris to London. It seems incredible to the scientific world but we can't deny the possibility of such mysterious happenings.

THINKING ABOUT TEXT :

1 "I'll take the risk" What is the risk? Why does the narrator take it?

A) A huge storm was brewing up and author was keen to reach his home to spend his holiday with his family. So, he decided to fly through the storm as he didn't want to miss the chance to meet his family at breakfast. Thus he took the risk even when the visibility was almost zero in storm.

2 Describe the narrator's experience as he flew the aeroplane into the storm.

A) As the pilot (author) entered the storm, his plane started jumping and twisting. He could not see anything outside the plane as it was when

he looked at compass and other instruments they had stopped to function due to storm. It was terrible and fearsome experience for him. The fuel tank was almost empty within the life span of 10 min. It was a surprise for the narrator as the biplane was having no light. He focused him without any choice and landed safely on runway.

3. Why does the narrator say "I landed and was not sorry to walk away from old dakota?"

A) He was delighted to land safely out of dark stormy clouds therefore, he was not sorry to walk away from his plane. He was thankful for

guide, his mentor who saved him. He was so happy for the London and often it that he didn't think the guide pilot.

ii) What made the woman in the control centre look at narrator strangely?

ii) The woman in the control centre looked at the narrator strangely because the narrator asked him about black aeroplanes and she saw no one except the narrator's in the sky during the storm even the radar showed only the narrator's plane that night in the sky.

Q. Who do you think helped the narrator to reach safety?
Discuss this among yourselves and give reasons for your answer.

A) It is very difficult to say about the unknown pilot who helped the narrator but probably it was the narrator himself that helped him to overcome the fear in the storm as no other plane was seen in Dakota plane. In that ~~fearful~~ some situation, he might have been hallucinating. He himself was a good pilot and brave enough, who helped himself land safely.

THINKING ABOUT LANGUAGE :

1. Go and have a bath, your hands and face are absolutely black, dark.

2. The taxi-driver gave Rat an a black look as he crossed the road when traffic light was green angry
3. The bombardment of Hiroshima is one of the blackest crimes against humanity darkest crime against humanity
4. Very few people enjoy Harold Pinter's black comedy gloomy comedy
5. Sometimes shopkeepers store essentials goods to create false scarcity and then sell these in black sell goods at a higher price.
6. Villagers had beaten the criminal black and blue criminal badly beaten at the hands of the villagers

A

B

- (i) Fly a Flag - Display a flag on a long
- (ii) Fly into range - become suddenly
- (iii) Fly along - Move quickly / suddenly
- (iv) Fly high - Be successful
- (v) Fly the coop - Escape from a place