

# Man Flies like a Bird

## 1. Read the story

Look at the pictures on these pages.  
What is the story about? Now read it.



ENGLAND AND FRANCE <sup>1</sup>Would you like to fly through the air like a **bird**, with your very **own** wings? <sup>2</sup>In 2003, Felix Baumgartner did! The Austrian man put on a suit with wings and **jumped** out of a plane over England. <sup>3</sup>His wings **caught** the **wind**, and he flew **above** the English Channel at 220 kilometers an hour. He got to France in **just** 14 minutes. <sup>4</sup>Then he opened his parachute\* and went down near the French town of Calais.

<sup>5</sup>Felix, 34, is the first **person** to fly across the Channel without an **engine**. Felix loves to fly. "It's just you, the sky, and your wings," he says. <sup>6</sup>An Austrian **business** will soon sell the suit with wings, called a Skyray, so maybe this will be a **popular sport** some day!

\*parachute: a thing like a big umbrella that you use when you jump out of a plane

## NEW WORDS

**bird** *n*  
**own** *adj*

**jump** *v*  
**catch** *v*

**wind** *n*  
**above** *prep*

**just** *adv*  
**person** *n*

**engine** *n*  
**business** *n*

**popular** *adj*  
**sport** *n*

>> See Glossary on page 91. >>

## 2. Rate the story

How much did you like it? Mark an **X**.

Not at All

A Lot

1

2

3

4

5

### 3. Check your comprehension

Put the sentences in the correct order. Number them 1–6.

- \_\_\_ When he was above France, he opened his parachute.
- \_\_\_ Felix Baumgartner got into a plane with a Skyray suit on.
- \_\_\_ He flew like a bird over the English Channel.
- \_\_\_ Somewhere over England, he jumped out.
- \_\_\_ He went down near Calais, France.
- \_\_\_ The wings on his suit caught the wind.

### 4. Check your vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the New Words.

- Felix was the first pe\_\_\_\_\_ to fly across the English Channel without an en\_\_\_\_\_.
- He j\_\_\_\_\_ed out of a plane and flew with his very o\_\_\_\_\_ wings.
- Felix loves to catch the w\_\_\_\_\_ and fly. "It's j\_\_\_\_\_ you, the sky, and your wings," he says.
- An Austrian bus\_\_\_\_\_ will soon sell the Skyray.

### 5. Listen to the story track 16

Now listen to the story two or three times. Look at the pictures below as you listen.



### 6. Retell the story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Retell the story using the New Words.

## 7. Answer the questions

### About the story...

- How did Felix fly across the English Channel?
- How long did it take? How fast did Felix fly?
- How and where did he land?
- What else do you know about Felix?

### About you...

- What questions would you like to ask Felix?
- Would you like to fly like a bird with a Skyray suit on? Why or why not?
- Would you like to jump out of a plane with a parachute?
- What dangerous or popular sports would you like to do?

## 8. Learn word partnerships

Study the partnerships below. Complete the sentences so they are true for you.

SPORT		
a popular	sport	<b>Maybe this will soon be a popular sport!</b>
a fun		<i>Baseball is a fun sport.</i>
a boring		<i>Golf is a boring sport, I think.</i>
an exciting		<i>I like basketball because it is an exciting sport.</i>
an easy		<i>Skiing is an easy sport.</i>

- \_\_\_\_\_ is a popular sport in my country.
- Soccer is \_\_\_\_\_ sport, I think.
- I like \_\_\_\_\_ because it is \_\_\_\_\_.

## 9. Learn word groups

Complete the sentences so they are true for you. Use words from the pictures.

### BIRDS



an owl



a duck



a crow



a pigeon



an eagle



a crane

- I often see \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is more beautiful than \_\_\_\_\_.
- My favorite bird is \_\_\_\_\_.

## 10. Take a dictation track 17

Use your own paper to write the dictation. Check your answers on page 86.

## 11. Complete the story

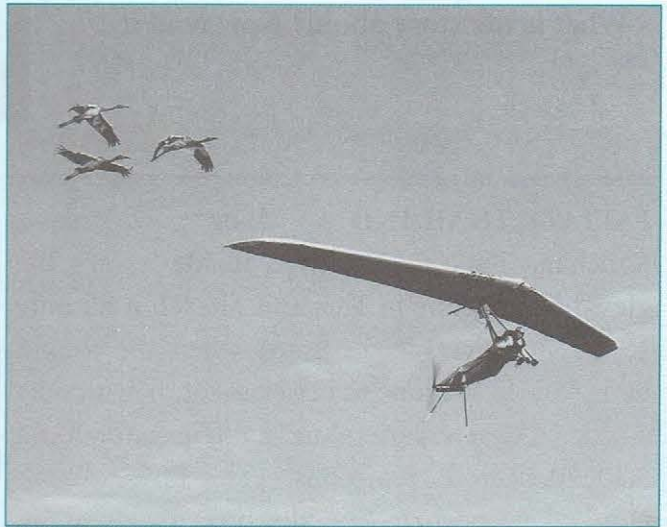
Use the words from the box to complete the story.

catch   engine   above   bird   wind   sport   cranes

# Man Wants to Be a Bird

**RUSSIA AND NEPAL** Angelo d'Arrigo is learning to think and fly like a (1) \_\_\_\_\_. "He wants to *be* a bird," some people say.

The Italian man often flies with birds in his hang glider\*. In 2002, he flew over Siberia with six young (2) \_\_\_\_\_. The beautiful birds are endangered\*\*, and they were learning to fly to a new winter home. Like a father, d'Arrigo flew under the cranes. They followed (3) \_\_\_\_\_ his wings.



At night, d'Arrigo and the birds ate and slept together. In the morning, d'Arrigo used the small (4) \_\_\_\_\_ on his hang glider to get back into the sky. He stopped it when the glider began to (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the (6) \_\_\_\_\_. Together, the seven "birds" traveled 1,500 kilometers.

In 2004, d'Arrigo flew over Mount Everest with an eagle. The man loves his (7) \_\_\_\_\_ but more importantly, his birds.

\*hang glider: something like a kite that someone can hang from

\*\*endangered: when an animal is endangered, there are not many alive



## Talk about the stories

Imagine that you and a partner are Felix Baumgartner and Angelo d'Arrigo. You are meeting for the first time. Tell each other about your adventures.