

## Like the Birds

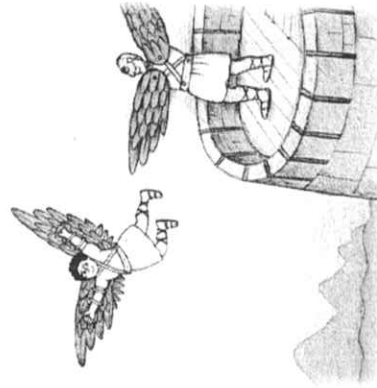
Before there were cars and trains, people had to walk everywhere. They would watch the birds and dream of flying. Sometimes they would tell a story about flying.

The Greeks of long ago told such a story. A man and his son were locked in a tower on an island. Each day the man would watch the birds. When feathers fell from the birds, the man would save them. In time, he had saved hundreds of feathers.

The man added hot wax to the feathers. He made two sets of wings. He put one set of wings on himself and he put the other set on his son. Then the two went to the top of the tower and looked down at the sea.

The father said, "Each night I have dreamed about flying away. Now that it is time, I fear we might drown."

The boy smiled. "Do not be frightened, Father." Then he jumped from the tower.



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## Too Close to the Sun

The boy shouted, "Father, watch me fly like a bird."

His father yelled, "Do not fly too high! Do not get too close to the sun!" But the boy did not listen.

Soon the man could hear his son laughing. The boy called out, "Come, Father! Come fly like a bird." So the father began to fly too.

The boy had fun flying. He went higher and higher. The father called out again. "Do not fly too high! Do not get too close to the sun." Still the boy didn't listen.

The boy looked down. His father seemed to be getting smaller and smaller. Suddenly, the boy felt hot wax dripping from his wings. The sun was melting the wax. The boy started to fall.

The man could not help his son. He watched as the boy fell into the sea. Sadly, the man said, "If only my son had listened. I was foolish to want to fly. Now I have lost my son."



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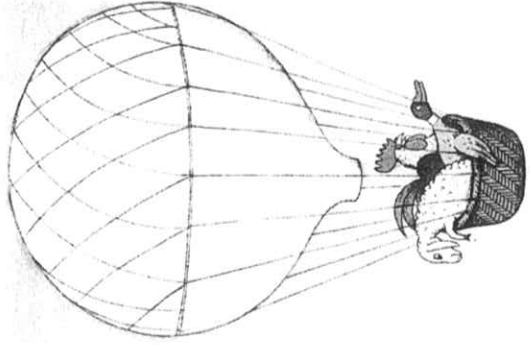
## UNIT 38 HOMEWORK 3

### Hot Air Balloons

For thousands of years, people dreamed of traveling in the air like birds, but people had no way to fly. Then about two hundred years ago, two French brothers made a big balloon. They lit a small fire under the balloon and watched as the balloon rose in the air. Soon, their balloon was flying!

Would you like to understand how the hot air balloon could fly? Hot air is lighter than cold air. When the brothers lit the fire, the air inside the balloon got hotter. As the air got hotter, it got lighter, and the balloon began to fly. What do you think happened when the air in the balloon got cold?

The brothers put a rooster, a sheep, and a duck on the first flight of their balloon. Before long, many people rode in hot air balloons.



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Reprint of Story 3

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## UNIT 38 HOMEWORK 4

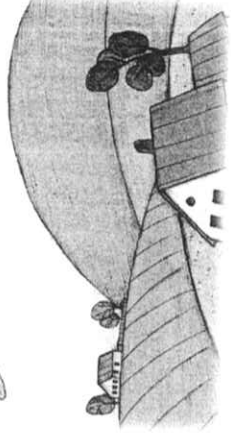
### Gliders

In time, people found that hot air balloons were not a good way to travel. The balloons could only go where the wind took them. So, people started looking for other ways to fly.

Have you ever seen a flying squirrel? A flying squirrel does not fly like a bird. It leaps from a tree into the air and stretches out its arms and legs. The squirrel does not flap its arms and legs. It just drifts softly to the ground. The flying squirrel glides.

About one hundred fifty years ago, people began to fly in gliders. Gliders are planes with wings and no motors. They drift softly in the air—just like a flying squirrel.

Gliders have to take off from high ground, such as the tops of hills. The first person who made a glider was an old man from England. The first person who rode in the Englishman's glider was a ten-year-old boy!



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