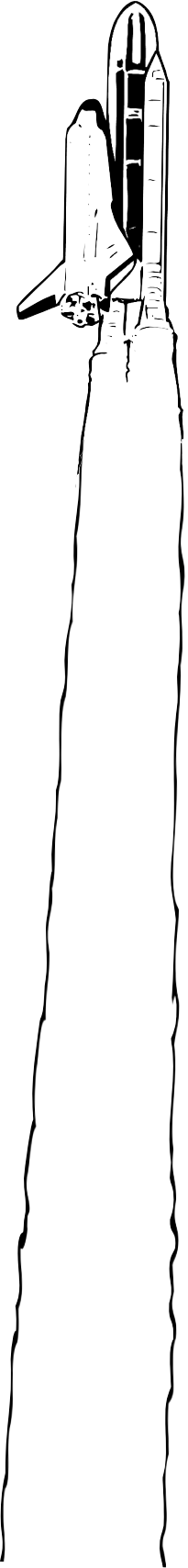


## ***"Through" Activities***



- **Vocabulary List**

A list of vocabulary important to the story is included along with definitions.

- **Vocabulary Crossword Puzzles**

A set of 3 crossword puzzles using 11 of the vocabulary words each is included.

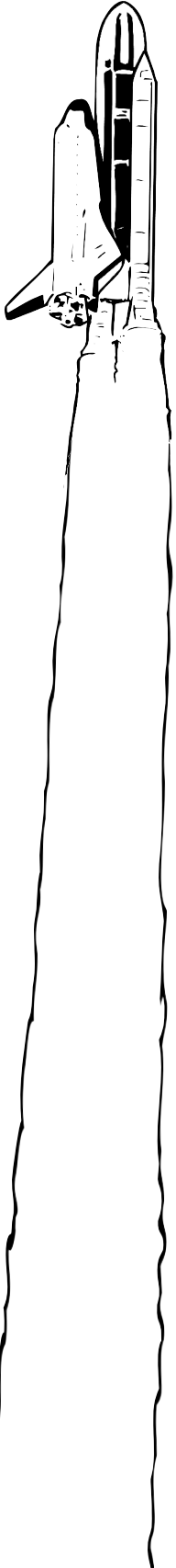
- **Comprehension Questions**

A series of 31 comprehension questions (and their answers) about the story is included.

- **Plotline**

Have the students cut the story descriptors into strips and then affix them in sequential order on the plotline.

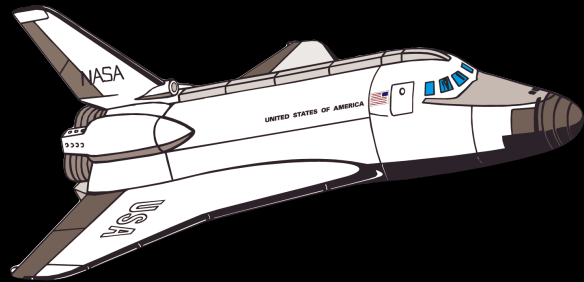
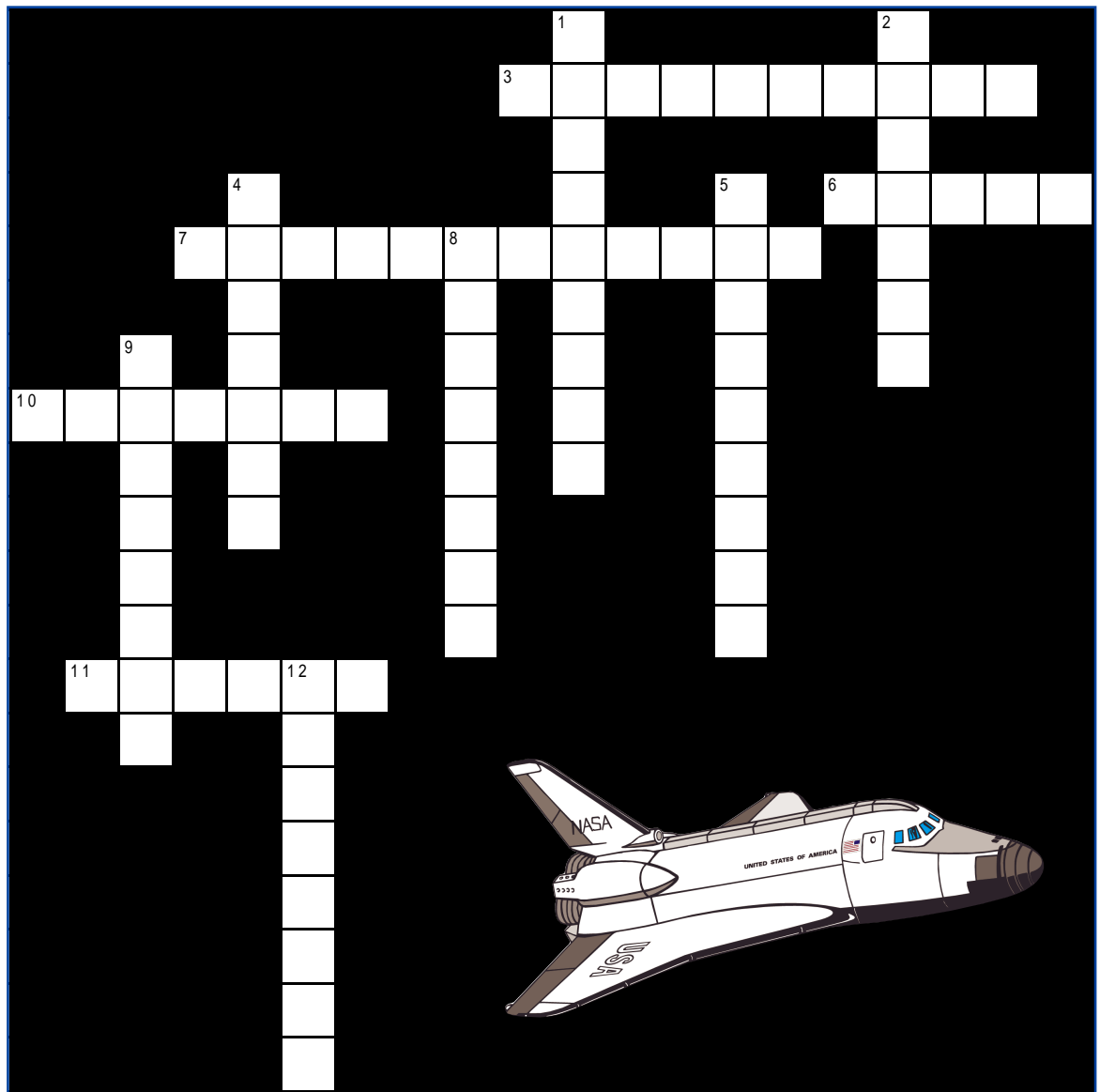
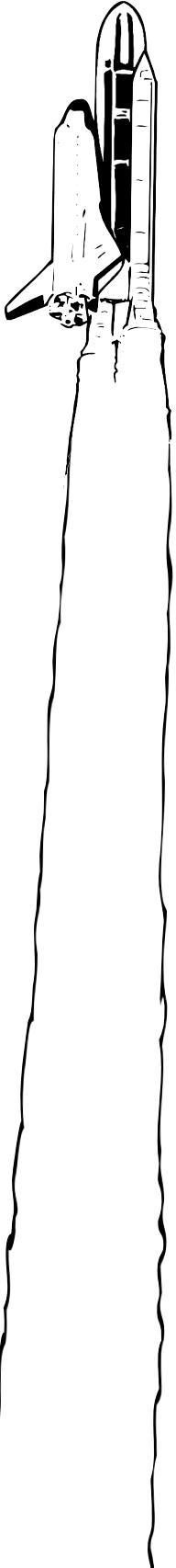
## *Ruth Law's Vocabulary Words*



1. frosty chilly or briskly cold
2. blustery stormy wind gusts
3. bulky having great weight or volume so that it bulges
4. manufacturer a person or company that makes a product
5. refused to turn down a request, to not allow
6. mechanics people who repair or fix machines
7. attached to fasten
8. windshield a screen placed in front of occupants in a vehicle
9. gallons a unit of liquid measure
10. nightfall dusk, the end of daylight
11. throttle a lever that controls the thrust of the engine
12. hollows a small valley or depression in the land
13. awkwardly moving clumsily
14. onlookers spectator
15. narrowly barely missing an object
16. frigid extremely cold
17. consulting to refer to or make use of
18. crude something put together in a simple fashion
19. scroll paper that is rolled
20. compass an instrument that gives cardinal directions
21. speedometer an instrument that measures speed
22. propelled to move forward
23. approximately not exact
24. supporters people who give help
25. pitched to move the nose of an airplane up
26. slightly a little bit
27. steering gear an instrument that controls the direction of a vehicle
28. record an unsurpassed statistic
29. striking something that is noticed because of its unusual quality
30. cameo a brief appearance
31. slanted to slope
32. hospitality a pleasant or friendly welcome
33. banquet a meal held in recognition of a special event
34. heroine female hero
35. honor a public showing of respect
36. heralded to proclaim with enthusiasm in public
37. feat an act of great skill, endurance or ingenuity

# Crossword Puzzle #1

Directions: Use the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.



## ACROSS

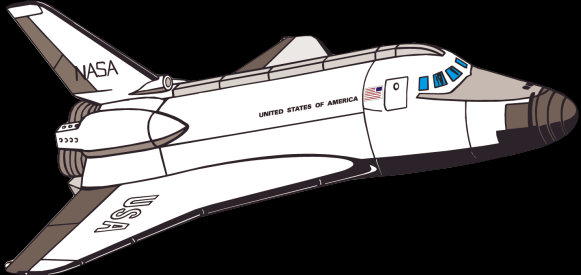
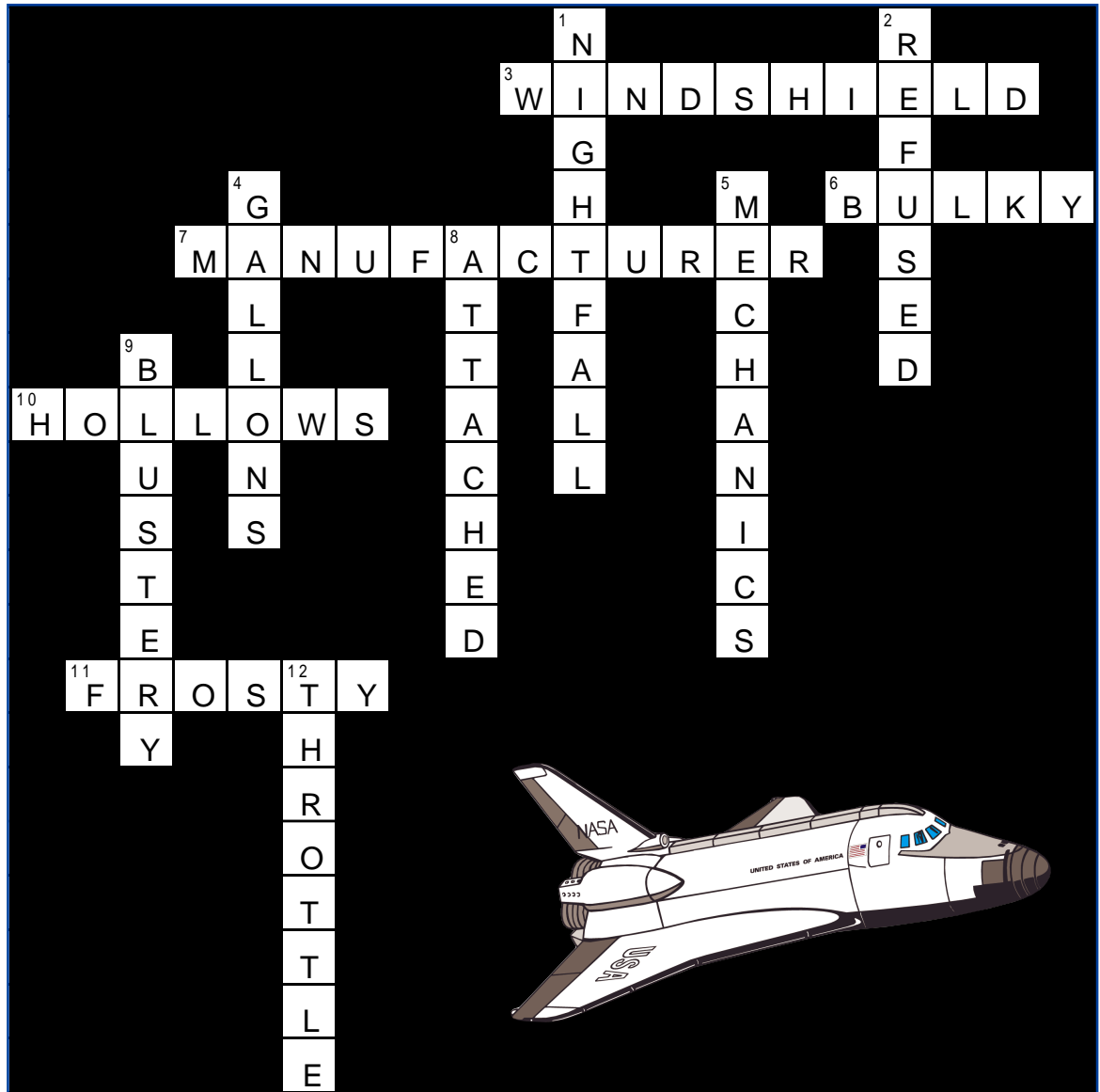
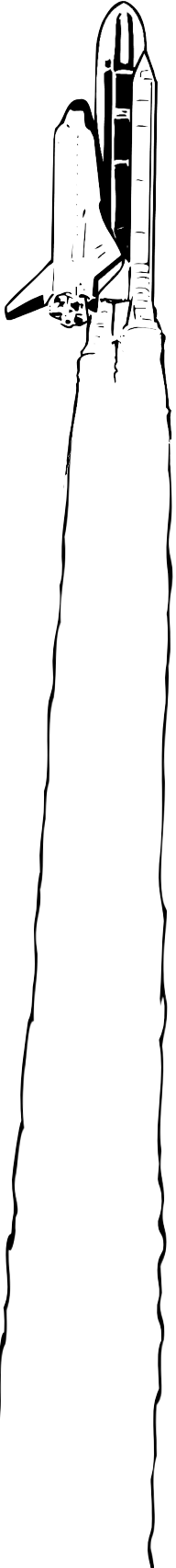
- 3 a screen on a vehicle that protects the occupants
- 6 having great weight or volume
- 7 a person or company that makes a product
- 10 a small valley
- 11 chilly or briskly cold

## DOWN

- 1 the end of daylight
- 2 to not allow
- 4 a liquid measurement
- 5 people who fix or repair machines
- 8 to connect or fasten
- 9 stormy wind gusts
- 12 used to control the engine's thrust

# Crossword Puzzle #1 - Key

Directions: Use the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.



## ACROSS

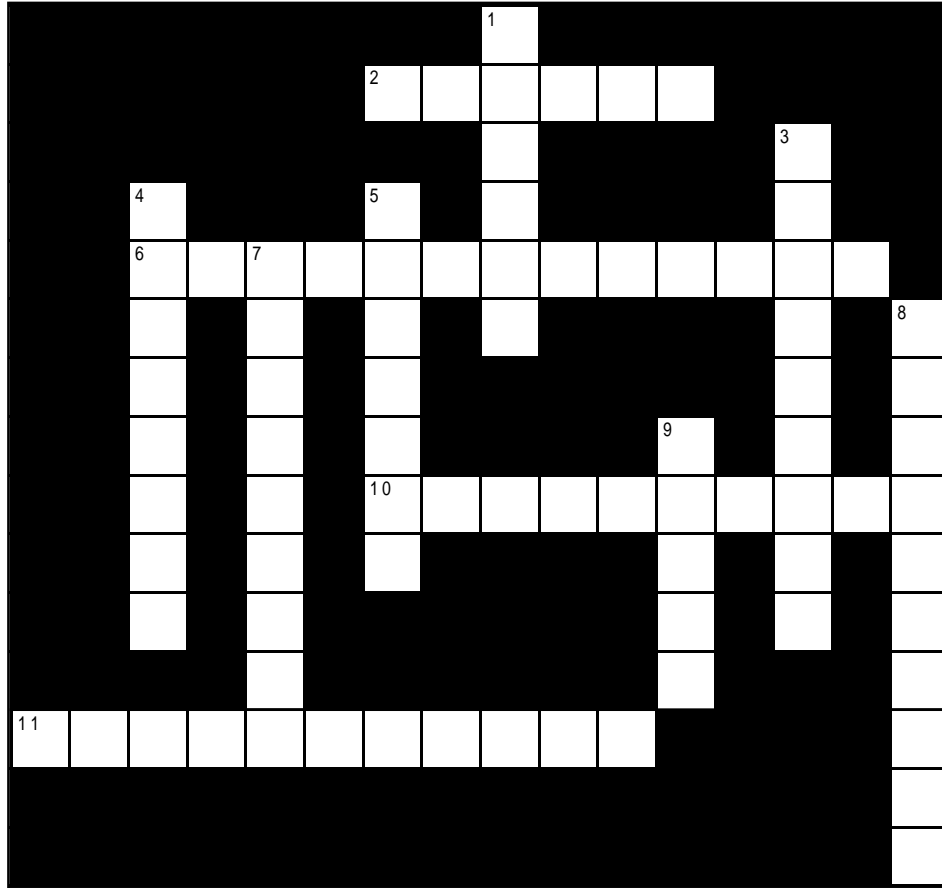
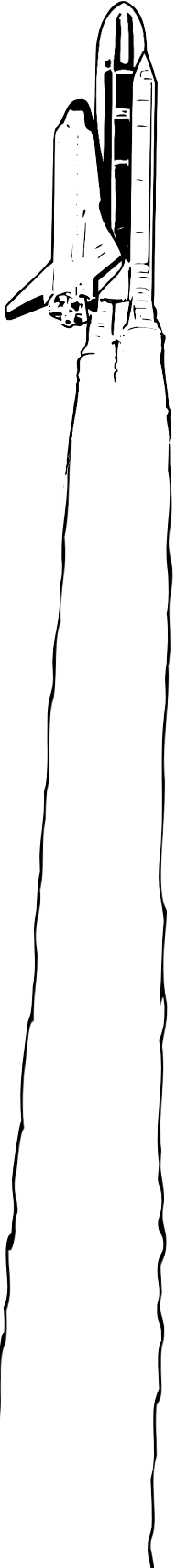
- 3 a screen on a vehicle that protects the occupants
- 6 having great weight or volume
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- 10 a small valley
- 11 chilly or briskly cold

## DOWN

- 1 the end of daylight
- 2 to not allow
- 4 a liquid measurement
- 5 people who fix or repair machines
- 8 to connect or fasten
- 9 stormy wind gusts
- 12 used to control the engine's thrust

## Crossword Puzzle #2

Directions: Use the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.



### ACROSS

- 2 rolled up paper
- 6 not exact
- 10 people who give help or aid
- 11 a device that measures speed

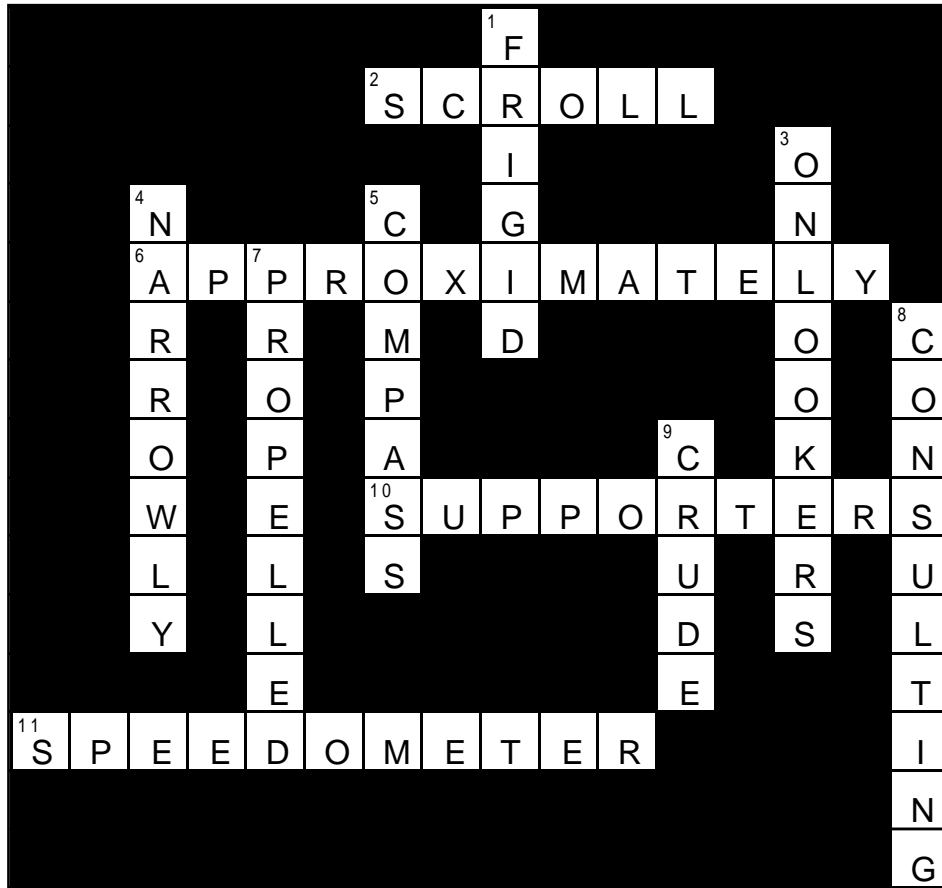
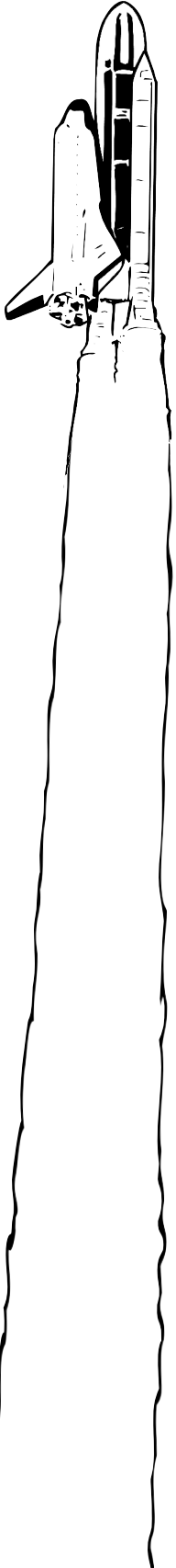
### DOWN

- 1 extremely cold
- 3 spectators

- 4 barely missing an object
- 5 a device that gives the cardinal directions
- 7 to put into motion
- 8 to make use of, to refer to
- 9 something put together simply

## Crossword Puzzle #2 - Key

Directions: Use the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.



### ACROSS

- 2 rolled up paper
- 6 not exact
- 10 people who give help or aid
- 11 a device that measures speed

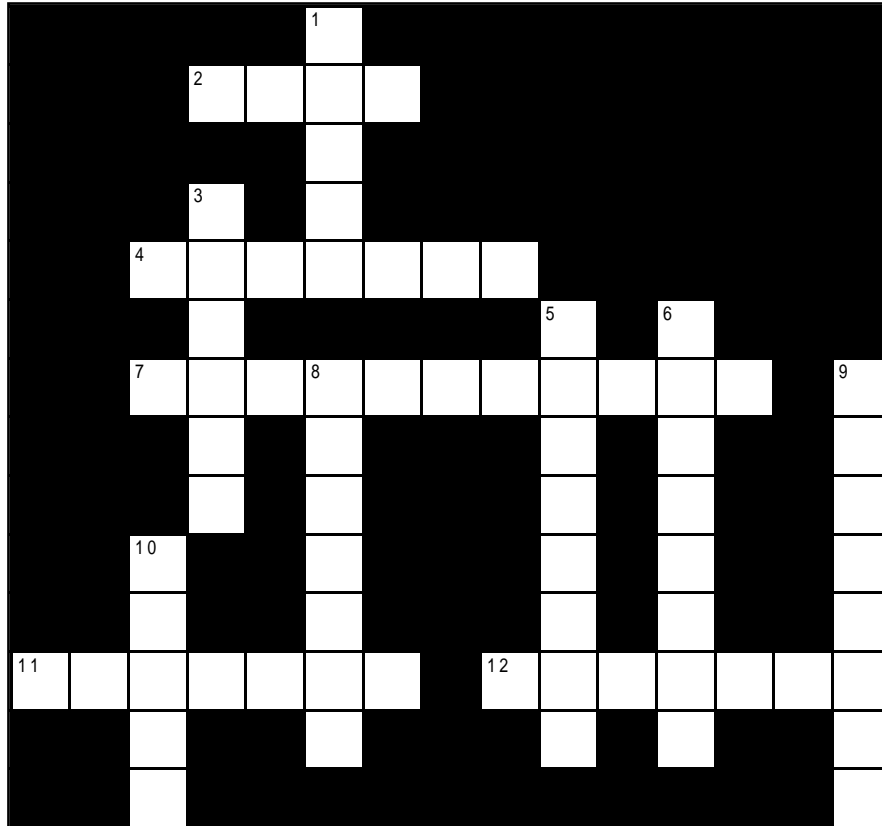
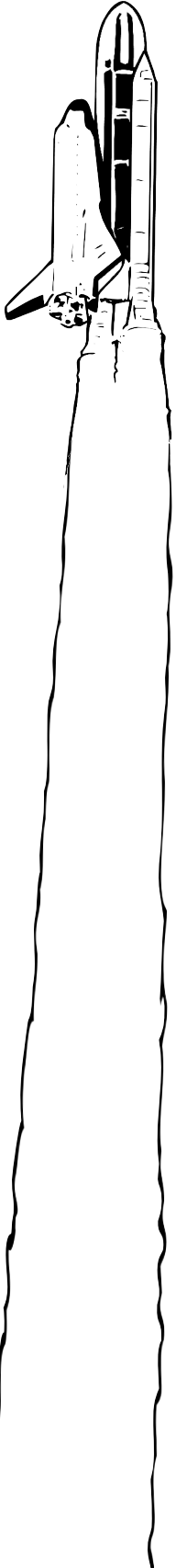
### DOWN

- 1 extremely cold
- 3 spectators

- 4 barely missing an object
- 5 a device that gives the cardinal directions
- 7 to put into motion
- 8 to make use of, to refer to
- 9 something put together simply

## Crossword Puzzle #3

Directions: Use the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.



### ACROSS

- 2 an act of great skill or endurance
- 4 female hero
- 7 a friendly welcome
- 11 a meal held in recognition of a special event
- 12 to slope

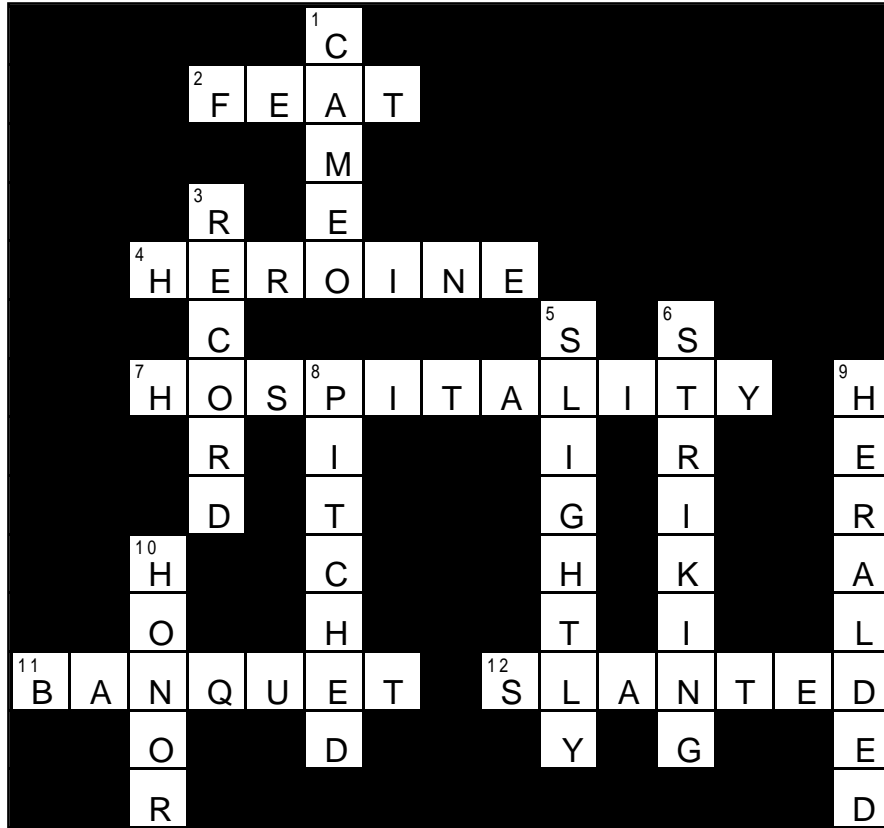
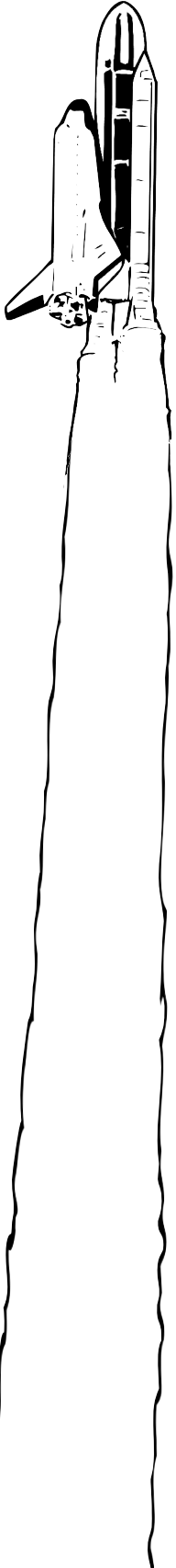
### DOWN

- 1 a brief appearance
- 3 an unsurpassed statistic

- 5 a little bit
- 6 something that is noticed because of its unusual
- 8 to move the nose of an airplane up
- 9 to say in public with great enthusiasm
- 10 a public showing of great respect

# Crossword Puzzle #3 - Key

Directions: Use the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.



## ACROSS

- 2 an act of great skill or endurance
- 4 female hero
- 7 a friendly welcome
- 11 a meal held in recognition of a special event
- 12 to slope

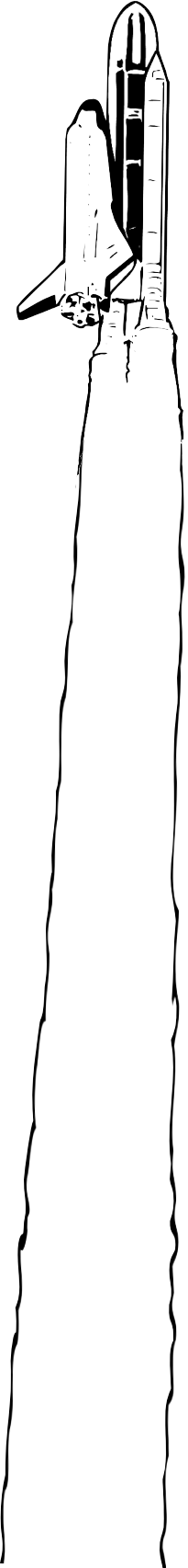
## DOWN

- 1 a brief appearance
- 3 an unsurpassed statistic

- 5 a little bit
- 6 something that is noticed because of its unusual
- 8 to move the nose of an airplane up
- 9 to say in public with great enthusiasm
- 10 a public showing of great respect



## Comprehension Questions



1. What was Ruth Law going to try to accomplish on November 19, 1916?

*Fly from Chicago, Illinois to New York City, New York, in one day.*

2. Why did Ruth Law sleep in a tent on the roof of a Chicago hotel?

*She needed to get used to the cold because on her flight she would be exposed to very cold air (cooler autumnal weather and cold air from a higher altitude). The airplane she would fly had an open cockpit.*

3. Describe how Ruth dressed for warmth.

*2 woolen long johns, 2 leather suits, a skirt over her pants*

4. Why do you think Ruth Law wore a skirt?

*In 1916 proper ladies had to wear dresses or skirts. They were really “looked down upon” for wearing pants.*

5. From where exactly did Ruth Law take off?

*Grant Park on the shore of Lake Michigan.*

6. What did Ruth Law call her airplane? Explain why.

*“Baby Machine” because it was an older and smaller airplane that was good for flying stunts in an air show, but not very good for long distance flights.*

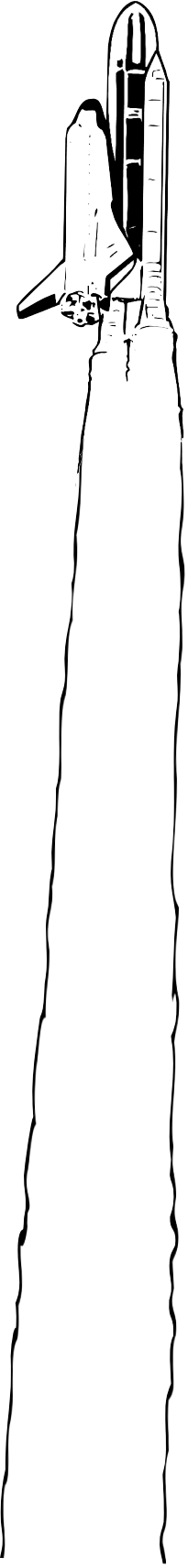
7. Why didn't Ruth Law get a bigger, newer and better airplane?

*Ruth Law tried, but a leading airplane manufacturer of the time would not sell her an airplane.*

8. Why did Mr. Curtiss refuse to sell Ruth Law a larger airplane?

*Mr. Curtiss believed that a woman could not pilot a large airplane. He also thought that flying was dangerous, perhaps too dangerous for women.*

## Comprehension Questions (continued)



9. What changes did Ruth Law have made to her little airplane to make it fly better for the trip?

*She had the mechanics attach a windshield to protect the pilot from the constant rush of cold air. The mechanics also added another fuel tank so she wouldn't have to stop and refuel more than one time.*

10. How much fuel did both fuel tanks hold?

*53 gallons*

11. What did adding another fuel tank to the airplane do to the airplane itself?

*It made the airplane heavier.*

12. How would this affect the airplane's ability to fly?

*If you increase the weight of the airplane then it might make the plane too heavy for the engines to move fast enough across the runway to gain lift. A heavier airplane would then need a greater wingspan (or aspect ratio) and more engine power.*

13. How did the mechanics solve the heavier weight problem?

*They took the lights off the airplane to make the airplane lighter.*

14. Without lights on the airplane, did this change Ruth Law's flight plans?

*Without lights, she would not be able to navigate very well after sunset. She would have to get to New York City before it got dark.*

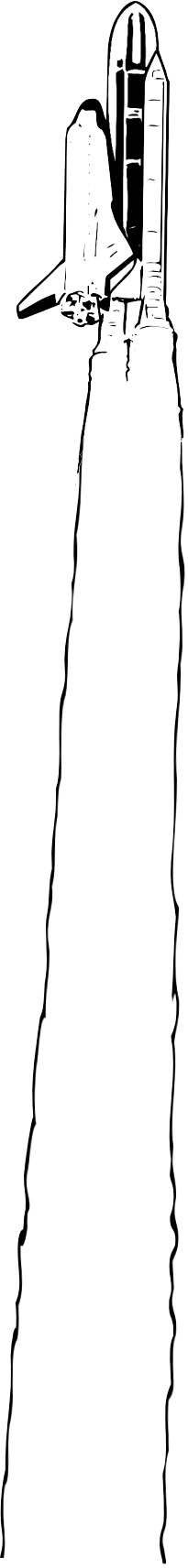
15. What gave her a late start on her flight?

*The freezing weather made it hard to get the engine started.*

16. Why do you think she took her skirt off?

*So it wouldn't get in the way, flap in the wind, or maybe get caught on something and cause her to injure herself.*

## Comprehension Questions (continued)



17. Why do you think the crowd watched with fear as her airplane took off?

*It was very windy and the airplane appeared to be hard to control during take off. They probably worried that she might lose control of the airplane.*

18. How fast and how high was Ruth Law flying her airplane?

*Ruth Law was flying 100 miles per hour, one mile above the earth.*

19. How did she stay on course?

*She used maps she taped to her leg, a compass, a clock and a speedometer to track her flight path.*

20. What two things did Ruth Law depend upon to help move her airplane along?

*She depended upon gasoline for engine fuel and the wind, but the wind was not as strong as she had hoped it would be.*

21. Where did Ruth Law have to land at 2:00 P.M. and why?

*She had to land in Hornell, New York, because her airplane was out of fuel.*

22. In those six hours of flight, how far had she flown non-stop?

*She had flown 590 miles non-stop. It was a new record.*

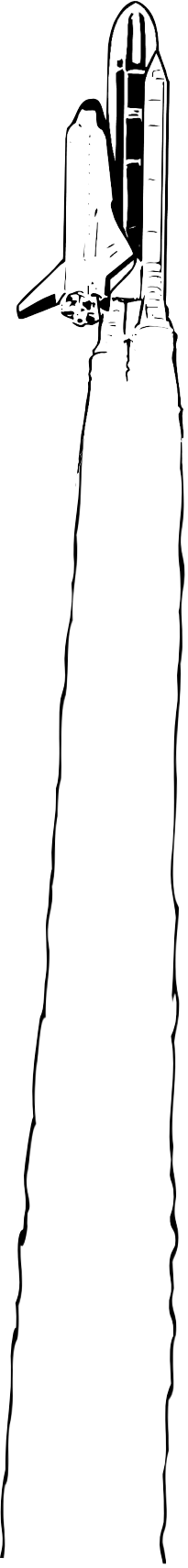
23. Did she quit after she landed short of New York City?

*No. She ate lunch, refueled the airplane and continued on to New York City.*

24. How did people know about her flight while it was happening that same day?

*The newspapers followed her flight and wrote about it. (Point out to students that some newspapers during those days published more than one, sometimes three, editions each day. The telegraph was also used to relay information.)*

## Comprehension Questions (continued)



25. What did the crowd of onlookers think when they saw Ruth Law's airplane head down towards the ground and disappear behind a grove of trees?

*The crowd thought that she had crashed perhaps because something was not working properly on her airplane.*

26. Ruth Law was only 2 hours away from New York City, why did she stop flying?

*She decided to land because it was getting dark and she would not be able to read her map or her instruments. It would have been too dangerous to fly in the dark.*

27. Did she fly all the way to New York City? What happened when she got there?

*Yes, she made it. An army general and a musical band greeted her. Newspapers said she was a heroine who had accomplished an incredible feat. The President of the United States, Woodrow Wilson, said she was great, and a special dinner was held to honor her and her accomplishment.*

28. Did Ruth Law accomplish her goal of flying from Chicago to New York City in one day?

*No, she did not because she had to stop in Hornell, two hours short of New York City.*

29. Do you consider her a failure because she did not accomplish that goal? Explain your answer.

*See if the idea can be imparted that even though she did not accomplish that specific goal, she did accomplish a goal of perhaps equal importance.*

30. Who broke Ruth Law's record a year later?

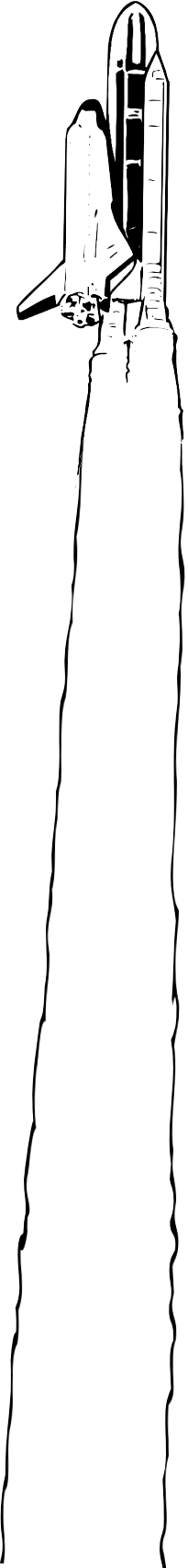
*Katherine Stinson in 1917.*

31. List some factors that if each were changed, the outcome might have been different. Give the different outcome also.

- *Bigger fuel tank: She would not have run out of fuel short of New York City.*
- *Not having engine trouble and leaving earlier: She would have had more daylight hours in which to fly.*
- *Fly during the spring or summer: More daylight hours in which to fly and warmer weather would have made the engine easier to start.*

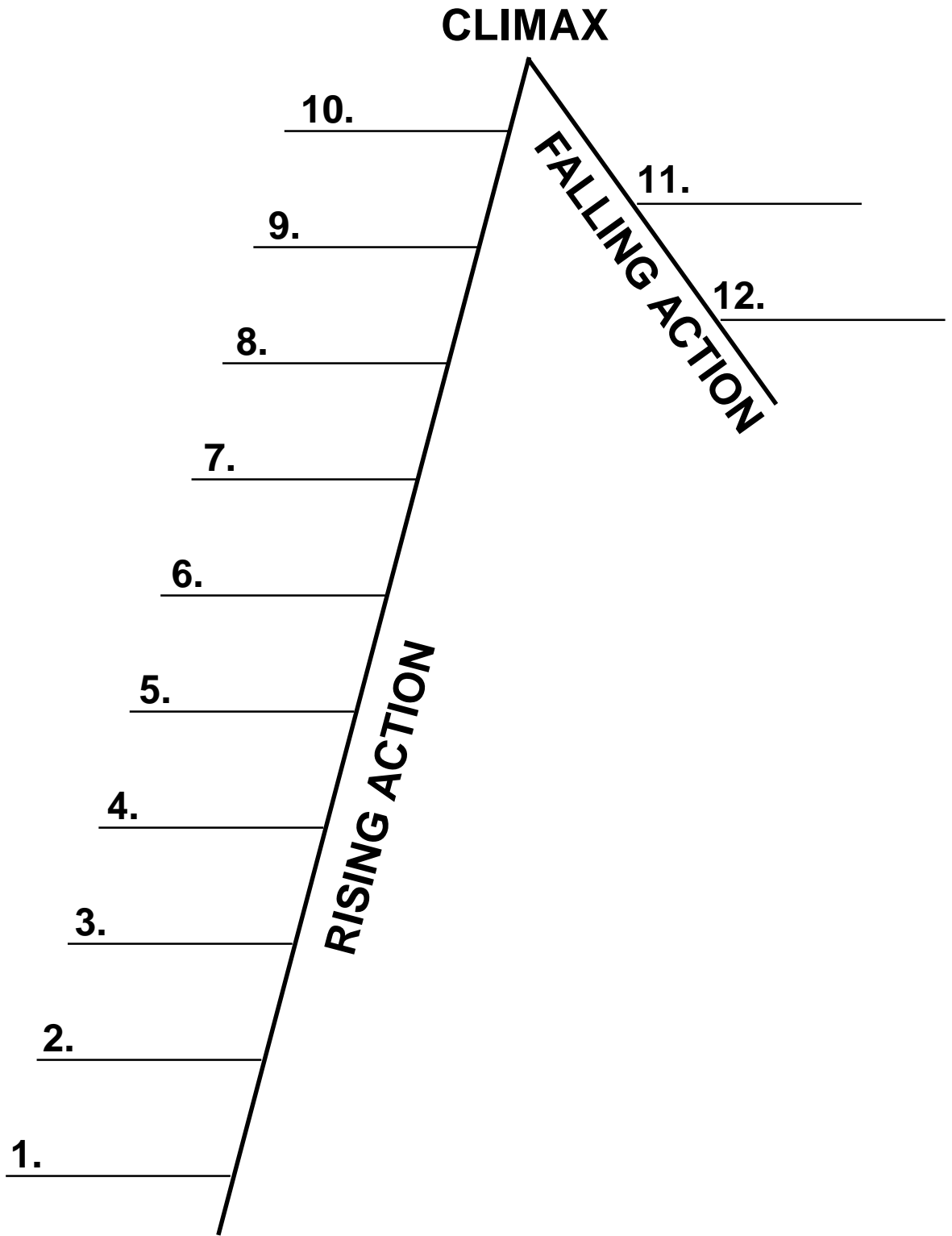
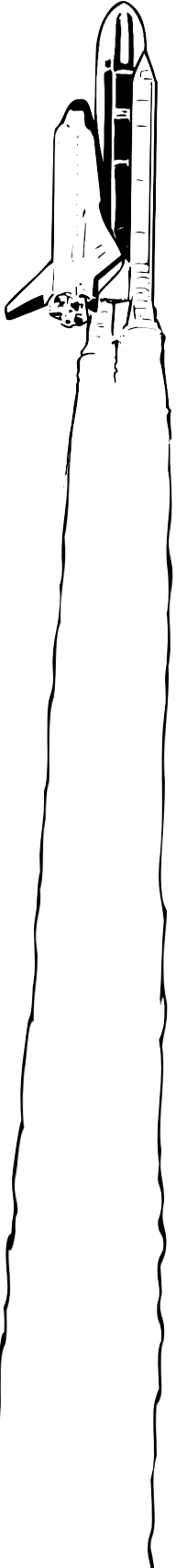
## ***Ruth Law's Plotline***

**Directions:** After reading the story Ruth Law Thrills a Nation, carefully read over each event from the story below. Cut out each event as a strip and place the events in their proper order of occurrence (according to the story). Tape or glue them to the plotline.



- A) Ruth Law leaves the next morning and makes it to New York City.
- B) Ruth eats lunch and refuels her airplane.
- C) She flies over a crowd of onlookers at Binghamton, New York.
- D) Very cold weather made it hard to get the airplane's engine to start.
- E) Ruth Law flies her "baby machine" one mile above the earth at 100 miles per hour.
- F) After landing in New York City, she is greeted as a heroine because she set a new flying record for the longest non-stop flight of 590 miles.
- G) Ruth flies for 6 hours and runs out of gas.
- H) Ruth Law awakens before dawn on the rooftop of a Chicago hotel.
- I) Ruth took off for New York City at 3:24 P.M. after flying nonstop for 590 miles.
- J) Ruth puts on 2 pairs of longjohns, 2 leather suits and 1 skirt.
- K) Ruth Law lands her airplane two hours away from New York City because it is getting dark.
- L) Ruth Law lands her airplane in Hornell, New York.

# Plotline



# Plotline - Key

