**Text 1:  *(Reading Assignment HAVO)***

**Leonardo Da Vinci**

Many people believe that Leonardo Da Vinci, an Italian artist and inventor who lived from 1452 to 1519, was the most brilliant person ever born. He was certainly a man ahead of his time! Records show that Da Vinci loved earth and was curious about everything on it.

To learn about the human body he dissected corpses to find out what was inside. In the 15th and 16th centuries dissecting bodies was against the laws of the Catholic Church; Da Vinci was a brave man!

He was also an inventor; Da Vinci invented a parachute and designed a type of helicopter five centuries before airplanes were invented. Another of Da Vinci’s major talents was painting. You have probably seen a print, or copy, of one of his most famous paintings. It is called *the Last Supper* and it shows Jesus eating his final meal with his disciples. It took Da Vinci three years to paint *the Last Supper* which made the man who had hired Da Vinci to do the painting very upset. He went to Da Vinci to ask why it was taking so long. The problem, said Da Vinci, was that in the painting, Jesus has just told his disciples that one of them was going to betray him. He wanted to get each of their expressions exactly right as they all cried out: “Lord, am I the one?”

Another famous painting by Da Vinci is called *the Mona Lisa.* Have you seen a print of this painting? Or have you been lucky enough to have seen the original? It hangs in a Paris art museum called the Louvre. If so, you know that *Mona Lisa* has a pensive expression on her face. The painting is based on a real woman, the wife of an Italian merchant. Art historians believe she looks pensive because one of her children had recently died.

****

***Mona Lisa by Leonardo Da Vinci*1. Answer the following questions about Leonardo Da Vinci. (HAVO)**

1. How old was Da Vinci when he died?
2. Name 2 of Da Vinci’s inventions.
3. Where can you find the Mona Lisa nowadays?
4. Why did Da Vinci dissect corpses?
5. Why did it take so long for Da Vinci to paint *The Last Supper*?
6. Da Vinci was ahead of his time. Can you give an example from the text that proves this?

**2. Link the words from the text to their translations. (HAVO)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Curious 2. Centuries 3. Upset 4. Based on 5. Famous 6. Probably 7. Corpses | 1. Waarschijnlijk 2. Boos 3. Nieuwsgierig 4. Lichamen 5. Gebaseerd op 6. Eeuwen 7. Beroemd |

**Text 2:  *(Reading Assignment HAVO)***

**Amelia Earhart**

Amelia Earhart was an adventurer and a pioneer in the field of flying. She did things no other woman had ever done before. During World War I, Earhart worked as a nurse. She cared for pilots who had been hurt in the war. Earhart listened to what they said about flying. She watched planes take off and land. She knew that she, too, must fly.

In 1928, Earhart was the first woman to cross the Atlantic in a plane. But someone else flew the plane. Earhart wanted to be more than just a passenger. She wanted to fly a plane across the ocean herself. For four years, Earhart trained to be a pilot. Then, in 1932, she flew alone across the Atlantic to Ireland. The trip took over fourteen hours.

Flying may seem easy today. However, Earhart faced many dangers. Airplanes had just been invented. They were much smaller than our planes today. Mechanical problems happened quite often. There were also no computers to help her. Flying across the ocean was as frightening as sailing across it had been years before. Earhart knew the dangers she faced. However, she said, "I want to do it because I want to do it. Women must try to do things as men have tried. When they fail, their failure must be a challenge to others."

Earhart planned to fly around the world. She flew more than twenty thousand miles. Then, her plane disappeared somewhere over the huge Pacific Ocean. People searched for a long time. Finally they gave up. Earhart and her plane were never found.

1. **Answer the following questions about Amelia Earhart. (HAVO)**
2. What was Amelia Earhart's main goal?
3. What was Amelia Earhart doing in a plane when she first crossed the Atlantic?
4. How long did it take Amelia Earhart when she flew alone across the Atlantic?
5. Why would flying alone across the Atlantic be an especially dangerous thing to do?
6. What was one of the dangers of flying in those early days?
7. How do we know Amelia Earhart believed in equal rights for women?
8. What was Amelia Earhart trying to do when her plane disappeared?
9. Why do you think her plane was never found?