

Topic 5: Glossary

aeronautic tools	tools are devices or processes used to do some kind of work. A calculator is a tool for doing mathematics accurately and quickly. Aeronautic tools are processes such as wind tunnel testing, flight simulation, and flight-testing. These processes use special devices to perform research.
data	data is information that is collected from an experiment. For example, an engineer in a wind tunnel may collect data about how much lift is created by a certain wing shape.
diagonal	a straight line joining two opposite corners; crossing a straight-sided figure, corner to corner
dihedral angle	The upward angle of the wings that is formed where the wings connect to the fuselage
glider	an aircraft that does not have an engine, but rides the wind currents for lift
horizontal	at right angles to the vertical; parallel to the plane of the horizon (the line at which the earth and sky appear to meet)
hypothesis	a prediction that needs to be tested to tell if it is correct. You might offer the hypothesis that by adding a paper clip to the nose of a model airplane will improve the model's distance. Your hypothesis must then be tested to determine if it is correct.
maneuver	also spelled <i>manoeuvre</i> ; planned or controlled movement of a vehicle or body of troops; agile, skilful movement
model	A simpler, smaller, or less expensive version of a final design
mountain fold	a fold whereby a peak is formed similar to a mountain, an upside-down letter V looks like a mountain fold
parallel	lines that are continuously side-by-side and equidistant; for example, in gymnastics – parallel bars; railway tracks and lines on a page may be considered parallel
phonetic alphabet	a special alphabet with designated words used to represent each alphabetical letter; for example, Romeo represents "R"; all transmissions over aircraft radio are required to use the phonetic alphabet for groups of letters and aircraft call signs
research	a carefully planned and performed investigation, searching for previously unknown facts
sample	a small representative part or quantity
sink fold	a double fold whereby a trough is formed similar to a ditch, the letter M looks like a mountain fold; it is sometimes referred to as an accordion fold when many are done in a row (like for a fan)

streamline	the design of an object that reduces drag
trial	preliminary operational test; a test
vertical	at right angles to a horizontal plane; in direction from top to bottom; if a pipe is standing straight up and down, it would be considered to be in a vertical position; if the pipe is laying down, it would be considered to be in a horizontal position
valley fold	a single paper fold creating a V shape (a single trough or ditch)