

Composite materials

Task 1. Work in pairs and discuss the following questions.

1. How would you define the term 'composite material'?
2. What do you know about the history of composites in aviation?
3. What do you think is the greatest advantage of composite materials?
4. Do composite materials have any disadvantages? What might they be?
5. What is matrix and what is its main function in a composite?
6. What is the most common type of matrix used in aviation today and why?
7. What are the most common types of reinforcing fibers used in aircraft construction nowadays and why?
8. Do these reinforcing fibers have any disadvantages? If so, what are they?