



FLYING FOR BUSINESS



Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:

1FKN-21L2-8BD



1

Warm up

In pairs, discuss the following questions.

1. Which countries have you flown to?
2. What do you like about flying?
3. What do you dislike about flying?

2

Skimming for details

Quickly read through the article on page two and complete the table with the basic information about the flights discussed.

	Flew from	Destination	Length of flight	Day of flight
Hans				
Sheila				



Best and worst

Your business travel experiences

A. Hans, 34

I generally enjoy travelling for business, but it's not always fun. Once I had to take a trip to Hong Kong from London. My flight was in the evening on a Friday and I'd spent the day in meetings. So I was already tired when I arrived at Heathrow. By the time I entered the cabin, it was about 9 pm and I was exhausted. On shorter trips, I usually got to fly business class, but as this was already an expensive flight, I had to fly economy. Now, I'm quite tall, around 6 foot 3. As I was walking down the aisle looking for my seat number with my boarding card in my hand, there was a moment when I thought I had a seat at the front of a section which would mean plenty of legroom. But no, I was actually in a seat behind that row. I sat down and for a long time, no one came and sat in front of me and I hoped that I could maybe move. Then, some of the last passengers to board were two Australian guys who were huge! Probably several inches taller than me. They talked about how happy they were to have all that space for their legs. They sat down and immediately put their seats all the way back. I could smell their hair. I sat there in that tiny space for twelve hours to Hong Kong and barely slept. I thought the flight would never end.

B. Sheila, 38

I'd always wanted to see New York City and I got the opportunity to go over on business. I was so excited. I flew from Amsterdam on a Sunday afternoon and it was quite a long flight of around eight hours. The flight was OK, although there was a bit of turbulence which was a bit scary at one point. Even the cabin crew looked nervous. When we arrived at JFK airport, we all walked into immigration and it was a huge area. There must have been about 500 people waiting and there were three people checking passports and visas. It took forever and people around me were getting more and more angry. When I got to the desk, they were so rude too. I understand that it's not fun looking at passports for hours, but they talked to me like I was a criminal. Then my suitcase took ages to arrive at the baggage reclaim. It was almost four hours between getting off the plane and leaving the airport which was ridiculous. I wasn't very excited about being in New York by the time I got into the city, I just wanted to go to bed.





3

Finding vocabulary

Find vocabulary in the article on page two which means the same as the following definitions.

1. _____ the area where the passengers sit on a plane (n, Hans)
2. _____ the space between seats on a plane where you can walk (n, Hans)
3. _____ the information you are given before you get on a plane with your seat number on which shows that you have checked in (n, Hans)
4. _____ the space in front of a seat on transport (n, Hans)
5. _____ a sudden change in the direction the air is moving which can make a plane shake or move (n, Sheila)
6. _____ the people who work on a plane to look after the passengers (n, Sheila)
7. _____ the area in an airport where you have to go through when you enter a foreign country (n, Sheila)
8. _____ paperwork that shows you have official permission to enter a country (n, Sheila)

4

Reading comprehension

Read the following statements and decide if they are True (T), False (F), or Not Given (NG).

1. Hans went straight to the airport from work. _____
2. Hans had to fly in an economy seat. _____
3. Hans had lots of space for his legs on the flight. _____
4. Hans spoke to the people sitting in front of him on the plane. _____
5. Sheila had travelled to her destination before. _____
6. There were no problems on Sheila's flight. _____
7. There were 500 people on Sheila's flight. _____
8. Sheila thought the process of arriving at her destination took longer than it needed to. _____



5

Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Match the vocabulary to the definitions.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. domestic (adj.) | a. an item you can use in an emergency if you're unwell |
| 2. carry-on (n) | b. a feeling of being unwell caused by flying |
| 3. landing card (n) | c. a place where you wait before you get on a plane |
| 4. airsickness (n) | d. travelling within one country |
| 5. lounge (n) | e. a bag you can take with you on to a flight |
| 6. sick bag (n) | f. the situation of being at an airport before you have finished your whole journey |
| 7. connection (n) | g. the final announcement that a plane is ready to leave |
| 8. transit (n) | h. a plane you get part way through your journey to take you to the next destination |
| 9. last call (n) | i. a document which you write details about yourself on to give to customs officials when you arrive in a foreign country |

Part B: Now write the words from Part A into the correct gaps in the following sentences.

1. My first flight was late arriving, so I missed my _____ and had to stay in a hotel overnight.
2. Somehow, between getting off the plane and arriving at immigration, I lost my _____ so had to fill out another one.
3. I forgot what the time was and was in the middle of trying some clothes on when I heard the _____.
4. I had four hours to spend while I was in _____, so I went for a massage which really made me feel better.
5. The first time I went to the United States, I was happy when I arrived in Washington DC, but then the _____ flight to San Francisco was another five hours. I didn't realise how big the place was.
6. When I fly, I take these special pills to help stop _____. They work really well.
7. I can't believe I fell asleep in the _____ and missed my flight! It was so stupid.
8. I got all the way to the plane and realised I'd left my _____ in one of the shops!



Part C: Now in pairs, discuss the following questions.

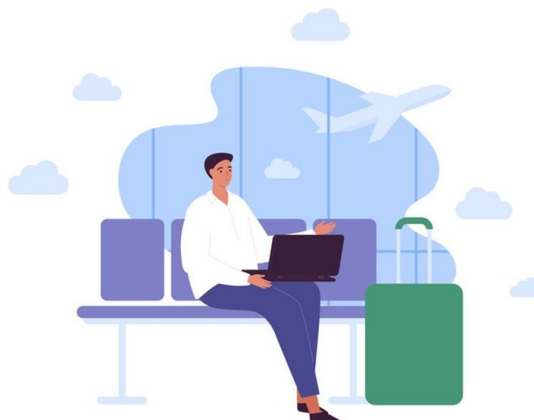
1. When you fly, what items do you put in your **carry-on**?
2. Do people often take **domestic** flights in your country? Is the service good?
3. Have you, or anyone you know, ever had a problem with **airsickness**? What can you do about it?
4. When you fly, do you like to get to the **lounge** early, or do you leave it to the last minute? Why?
5. Have you ever had to get a **connection** when you were going somewhere? What was the experience like?
6. What do you do if you have a lot of time to spend when you're in **transit**?

6**Listening for gist**

Listen to three people talking about flying. Complete the task below.

Which of the following questions are they answering?

- a. What tips do you have for flying?
- b. What problems have you had when you've travelled by plane?
- c. What is the first thing you do when you arrive somewhere by plane?





7

Listening comprehension

Complete the table by ticking the correct box to answer the questions.

Who...	Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3
a. takes something so they can have a certain drink when they fly?			
b. carries important documents in a special place?			
c. tries to take as few things as possible with them when travelling?			
d. likes to wash themselves between flights when they are travelling?			
e. is careful about what they eat before a flight?			
f. waits as long as possible before boarding the plane?			
g. doesn't like waiting for bags on arrival?			
h. tries to sleep during the flight?			



8

Talking point

In pairs, discuss the following questions.

1. Do you have to fly on business? How do you organise the flights?
2. What advice would you give to someone flying for business for the first time?
3. Do you think flying in business class is worth the cost? Why / why not?
4. Do you think travelling for business is exciting? Why / why not?

9

Extended activity/Homework

Imagine a colleague has emailed you about a flight that you have taken in the past because they are going to the same place soon. Write back to them and tell them about a flight you have taken (business or personal).

Consider the following questions:

- Where were you going?
- Why were you going there?
- What happened on the flight that was interesting?
- What advice would you give to your colleague?

You should:

- Write at least 150 words
- Check your grammar, spelling, and punctuation.



Transcripts

6. Listening for gist

Speaker 1: If I'm taking a short trip, especially if it's just a domestic flight, I have a very small suitcase that I can take with me as a carry-on. I pack as lightly as possible and put everything in that. It saves me so much time and it makes the whole process of flying much easier. I don't need to queue up and check my bags in when I arrive at the airport, and I don't need to wait for them to be delivered when I get to the other end. I also carry a special bag that is like a large belt where I keep all the important documents like my passport, boarding card and landing card. I can hide it under my shirt so I know it's safe.

Speaker 2 : I suffer from airsickness, so I have to be careful whenever I travel. Before a flight, I try to eat something at home like a salad or something with rice so that I have something in my stomach. That way, I can avoid eating anything in the lounge while I'm waiting for my flight, even though it often looks really good. But eating a cheeseburger or pasta before I go on the plane would be a terrible idea for me. The other thing I do is take some bags of mint tea with me, because I find this really helps. I usually tell the cabin crew about my problem and they're always really kind and they usually give me an extra sick bag. If I can fall asleep on the plane, this helps and I haven't had a big problem for a few years now.

Speaker 3: I quite often do long flights and I've learned a few tricks over the years. When I'm booking my flights, I try to make sure I have several hours at the airport if I need to make a connection. It's very easy for a flight to be delayed by a couple of hours. If it's on time, I go and relax and read a book or have a coffee. I find that it's a lot less stressful. If I find myself in transit, I always go and find somewhere to take a shower. It makes you feel so much better and fresher for the next flight. The other thing I do is I always wait until the last call before I get on the plane. The less time I have to spend sitting in my seat, the better I feel.



Key

1. Warm up

5 mins.

This introduces the topic with questions aimed at getting students to talk about their personal experiences of flying. At this stage, it's fine to include flying for personal reasons, it doesn't have to be just business.

2. Skimming for details

5 mins.

You may want to set a time limit on this task to encourage students to skim for information rather than read in detail.

Answers to the table:

Hans → London; Hong Kong; 12 hours; Friday

Sheila → Amsterdam; New York City; 8 hours; Sunday

3. Finding vocabulary

5 mins.

This offers extra support and helps students to identify useful vocabulary on the topic.

- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------|
| 1. cabin | 2. aisle | 3. boarding card | 4. legroom |
| 5. turbulence | 6. cabin crew | 7. immigration | 8. visa |

4. Reading comprehension

10 mins.

Ask students to read in more detail and underline where they find the answers. If they are unable to do this, the answer will be Not Given.

1. Not Given. It says he had been working all day but doesn't mention if he went home first or not.
2. True. 'I usually got to fly business class, but as this was already an expensive flight, I had to fly economy.'
3. False. 'I thought I had a seat at the front of a section which would mean plenty of legroom. But no, I was actually in a seat behind that row.'
4. Not Given.
5. False. 'I'd always wanted to see New York City and I got the opportunity to go over on business.'
6. False. '...although there was a bit of turbulence which was a bit scary at one point.'
7. Not Given. It says there were 500 people at immigration, but they could have come from other flights.
8. True. 'It was almost four hours between getting off the plane and leaving the airport which was ridiculous.'

5. Focus on vocabulary

5 mins.



This focuses on key vocabulary from the listening exercise. Ensure students can correctly pronounce the key vocabulary. Ask them to complete the task unaided in the first instance, but allow them to use a reference later if needed.

1. → d. 2. → e. 3. → i. 4. → b. 5. → c. 6. → a. 7. → h. 8. → f. 9. → g.

Part B

10 mins.

This helps students use the vocabulary in context ahead of the listening. When they have finished, ask them to discuss the questions to practise using the key vocabulary.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. connection | 2. landing card | 3. last call | 4. transit |
| 5. domestic | 6. airsickness | 7. lounge | 8. carry-on |

Part C

Ask students to discuss the questions in pairs or small groups. Circulate and help as needed.

6. Listening for gist

5 mins.

This allows students to listen for the first time and get the gist of the audio ahead of the comprehension.

Which of the following questions are they answering? → a.

7. Listening comprehension

5 mins.

Ask students to complete the table after the first listening and then listen again to check their answers.

Answers to the table:

a → Speaker 2; b → Speaker 1; c → Speaker 1; d → Speaker 3; e → Speaker 2; f → Speaker 3; g → Speaker 1; h → Speaker 2

8. Talking point

10 mins.

Ask students to discuss the questions in pairs or small groups. Circulate and help as needed.

9. Extended activity/Homework

20 mins+.

Ask students to plan, write and edit their emails. Encourage them to be inventive with their ideas and point out that what they write doesn't have to be true. Encourage them to use vocabulary from the lesson.