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Level 5 – 4th March 2024

Airline starts to weigh luggage AND passengers

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240304-weighing-airline-passengers-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240304-weighing-airline-passengers-5.html>

Finland's airline Finnair has started weighing passengers on flights from its capital city. The weigh-ins are voluntary and are completely anonymous. The new initiative is to ensure safety standards on flights are stuck to. Airplanes should not exceed the prescribed maximum weight for safe take-offs and landings. This weight is made up of the aircraft, the fuel, checked baggage, cargo, onboard catering, water, and passengers. Airlines never know the exact weight of passengers and their carry-on baggage. They rely on estimates provided by aviation authorities.

Volunteer passengers are stepping on weighing scales at Helsinki Airport's departure gates. Finnair officials were concerned about a customer backlash because weight is a personal issue. However, in the first week, more than 1,000 passengers had agreed to be weighed. The company said: "We hope to have a good sample of volunteers...so that we can get the most accurate information possible for important balance calculations." An official said travellers could "rest assured" and have "peace of mind" that their weight would not be linked to their personal information.

Sources: <https://news.sky.com/story/finnair-airline-starts-weighing-passengers-with-luggage-to-ensure-a-safe-take-off-13066646>
<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2024/feb/07/finnair-to-ask-passengers-to-step-on-scales-with-luggage-before-departure>
<https://www.euronews.com/business/2024/02/08/excess-baggage-finnair-shares-gain-as-investors-weigh-new-passenger-policy>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240304-weighing-airline-passengers-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. completely | a. and landings |
| 2. safety | b. anonymous |
| 3. exceed the prescribed maximum | c. weight |
| 4. safe take-offs | d. authorities |
| 5. onboard | e. standards |
| 6. Airlines never know the exact | f. on estimates |
| 7. They rely | g. weight |
| 8. aviation | h. catering |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. stepping on weighing | a. of mind |
| 2. departure | b. scales |
| 3. a good sample | c. calculations |
| 4. get the most accurate information | d. personal information |
| 5. important balance | e. gates |
| 6. travellers could rest | f. of volunteers |
| 7. have peace | g. assured |
| 8. linked to their | h. possible |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240304-weighing-airline-passengers-5.html>

Finland's airline Finnair (1) _____ passengers on flights from (2) _____. The weigh-ins are voluntary and are completely anonymous. The new (3) _____ ensure safety standards on flights are stuck to. Airplanes should not exceed the prescribed maximum weight for safe (4) _____. This weight is made up of the aircraft, the fuel, checked baggage, cargo, onboard catering, water, and passengers. Airlines never know (5) _____ of passengers and their carry-on baggage. They rely on estimates provided (6) _____.

Volunteer passengers are (7) _____ scales at Helsinki Airport's departure gates. Finnair officials were concerned about (8) _____ because weight is a personal issue. However, in the first week, more than 1,000 passengers had (9) _____ weighed. The company said: "We hope to have a (10) _____ volunteers...so that we can get the most accurate information possible for (11) _____." An official said travellers could "rest assured" and have "peace of mind" that their weight would not be (12) _____ personal information.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240304-weighing-airline-passengers-5.html>

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AIRLINES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240304-weighing-airline-passengers-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about airlines in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240304-weighing-airline-passengers-5.html>

Write about **airlines** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner’s paper.
