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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 10/08/13

## A visit to an airport

Today, let's talk about a visit to an airport. Many of us are likely to visit one when we go on holiday. Others who don't jet-off are likely to pick someone up or drop them off at the *drop off zones* outside most airports. These days many airport owners make a killing by charging exorbitant car park fees, both for short stay and long stay car parks. People are encouraged to take the bus or train to avoid this.

On arrival at an airport those people picking someone up wait patiently in the *Arrivals* area. Some wave a sign of the person they are expecting. For people wishing to hire a car for their onward journey many car hire companies can be located here.

Most people though head for the *Departures* area in the relevant terminal where their airline is situated. Many people use the check-in desks. However, those travelling on budget airlines, like Ryanair, tend to check-in online; otherwise they face massive extra check-in costs. Baggage allowance is also being cut on many airlines, especially those who fly short-haul. Long distance fliers generally get a larger baggage allowance as they tend to pay more for their flights using conventional airlines.

Airport terminals offer shops, toilets, information desks and foreign-exchange counters. After mulling around these there is the final security check to pass through. This involves a baggage and body scan. You are now in the duty free zone, where you can buy all sorts of goodies. After waiting for your flight it's now time to depart and get on your plane. A long walk to the gate usually follows, as does another queue to get on the plane. Soon you are on it and are taxiing down towards the runway. After take-off you are heading towards your destination...

### SPEAKING – WARM UP

When did you last visit an airport? Think of three things you'll see at an airport. Go round the room swapping details with others.

### LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

### READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

### SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

#### Student A questions

- 1) What is a long term car park?
- 2) What does 'exorbitant' mean?
- 3) In the arrivals area what do some people wave and why?
- 4) What is 'baggage allowance'?
- 5) Why do some people check-in online?

#### Student B questions

- 1) What is a budget airline?
- 2) What is a check-in desk?
- 3) Airport terminals offer what?
- 4) After take-off where are you heading?
- 5) Explain what a baggage and body scan are.

**Category: Transport / Airports / Terminals**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate**

## A visit to an airport – 10<sup>th</sup> August 2013

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs.* On the board write as many words as you can to do with '**A visit to an airport**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs* – Think of three things you might see in the *Arrivals* area of an airport. Add three things you'll see in the *Departures* area. Write them below. Talk about them!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Add** three negative and three positive points about your local airport.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_

*The teacher* will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

### SPEAKING – AIRPORT TERMINAL

**Check-in** – *In pairs* - Student A is a check-in operator. Student B is someone checking-in. *2 mins.*

### SPEAKING – AIRPORT TERMINAL

**Final security check** – *In pairs* - Student A is a tourist going on holiday. Student B is a security person scanning and searching their luggage. *2 mins.*

### DISCUSSION

#### Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Which is your favourite airport? Why?
- 3) Which is your least favourite airport?
- 4) Have you ever experienced any flight delays? Why?
- 5) Are airport terminal car parks a rip off in your country?
- 6) Why are airport operators able to charge mostly what they like?
- 7) What do you buy at an airport?
- 8) What do you do if your baggage allowance is over its limit?
- 9) Do you check-in online?
- 10) Has this been a difficult lesson in English for you to understand?

### SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

*In groups.* One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Take Off FM* radio studio. Today's interview is about: *Your local international airport.*

1. A long-haul tourist
2. A short-haul tourist
3. The Minister of Transport
4. An airline spokesperson

*The teacher* will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

### SPEAKING - DEBATE

*In pairs* – Student A is a short-haul business traveller. Student B is a tourist on the same plane. You are both stuck at your local airport due to a flight delay of two hours. You get talking...*5 mins.*

### SPEAKING - GAME

*As a class* – "I recently visited my local airport and I saw..." Repeat the previous suggestions. You are eliminated if you forget one of the previous suggestions! *5 mins.*

### SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

*Allow 10 minutes* – *As a class.*

*Discuss the following...*

The airport terminals in my country compared with other countries

*The teacher* can moderate the session.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) When did you last drop-off or pick someone up at an airport terminal?
- 3) What did you buy when you were last in a duty free zone?
- 4) What do you do in the duty free zone?
- 5) Have you ever missed a flight? Why?
- 6) Do you fly long-haul or short-haul?
- 7) Do you hire a car at an airport?
- 8) Which airline do you prefer to use?
- 9) Have you learnt anything in today's lesson?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

**GAP FILL: READING**

**A visit to an airport**

Today, let's talk about a visit to an airport. Many of us are likely to visit one when we go on holiday. Others who don't (1)\_\_\_ are likely to pick someone up or drop them off at the *drop off zones* outside most airports. These days many airport owners make a killing by charging (2)\_\_\_ car park fees, both for short stay and long stay car parks. People are encouraged to take the bus or train to avoid this.

On arrival at an (3)\_\_\_ those people picking someone up wait patiently in the *Arrivals* area. Some wave a (4)\_\_\_ of the person they are expecting. For people wishing to hire a car for their onward journey many (5)\_\_\_ companies can be located here. Most people though head for the *Departures* area in the relevant (6)\_\_\_ where their airline is situated. Many people use the (7)\_\_\_ desks. However, those travelling on (8)\_\_\_, like Ryanair, tend to check-in online; otherwise they face massive extra check-in costs.

***terminal / budget airlines / check-in / car hire / airport / exorbitant / jet-off / sign***

Baggage allowance is also being cut on many airlines, especially those who fly short-haul. Long distance fliers generally get a larger (1)\_\_\_ as they tend to pay more for their flights using (2)\_\_\_ airlines.

Airport terminals offer shops, toilets, information desks and foreign-exchange counters. After mulling around these there is the (3)\_\_\_ to pass through. This involves a baggage and (4)\_\_\_ . You are now in the (5)\_\_\_, where you can buy all sorts of (6)\_\_\_.

After waiting for your flight it's now time to depart and get on your plane. A long walk to the gate usually follows, as does another (7)\_\_\_ to get on the plane. Soon you are on it and are (8)\_\_\_ down towards the runway. After take-off you are heading towards your destination.

***goodies / queue / taxiing / body scan / duty free zone / conventional / final security check / baggage allowance***

**GAP FILL: GRAMMAR**

**A visit to an airport**

Today, let's talk about a visit to an airport. (1)\_\_\_ of us are likely to visit one when we go on holiday. Others who don't jet-off are likely to pick someone up or drop them off at the *drop off zones* outside (2)\_\_\_ airports. (3)\_\_\_ days many airport owners make a killing by charging exorbitant car park fees, both for short stay and long stay car parks. People are encouraged to take the bus or train to avoid this.

On arrival at an airport (4)\_\_\_ people picking someone up wait patiently in the *Arrivals* area. (5)\_\_\_ wave a sign of the person they are expecting. For people wishing to hire a car for (6)\_\_\_ onward journey many car hire companies can be located here. Most people though head for the *Departures* area in the relevant terminal (7)\_\_\_ their airline is situated. Many people use the check-in desks. (8)\_\_\_, those travelling on budget airlines, like Ryanair, tend to check-in online; otherwise they face massive extra check-in costs.

***some / however / where / many / their / these / most / those***

Baggage allowance is also being cut (1)\_\_\_ many airlines, especially those (2)\_\_\_ fly short-haul. Long distance fliers generally get a larger baggage allowance as they tend to pay more (3)\_\_\_ their flights using conventional airlines.

Airport terminals offer shops, toilets, information desks and foreign-exchange counters. After mulling around these there is the final security check to pass through. This involves a baggage and body scan. You are now (4)\_\_\_ the duty free zone, where (5)\_\_\_ can buy all sorts of goodies.

After waiting for your flight it's now time to depart (6)\_\_\_ get on your plane. (7)\_\_\_ long walk to the gate usually follows, as does another queue to get on the plane. Soon you are on (8)\_\_\_ and are taxiing down towards the runway. After take-off you are heading towards your destination.

***you / for / who / and / a / it / on / in***

## GAP FILL: LISTENING

### A visit to an airport

Today, let's talk about \_\_\_\_\_. Many of us are likely to visit one when we go on holiday. Others who don't jet-off are likely to pick someone up or drop them off at the *drop off zones* outside most airports. These days many airport owners make a killing by charging \_\_\_\_\_ fees, both for short stay and long stay car parks. People are encouraged to take the bus or train to avoid this. On arrival at an airport those people picking someone up \_\_\_\_\_ *Arrivals* area. Some wave a sign of the person they are expecting. For people wishing to hire a car for their onward journey many car hire companies can be located here. Most people though head for the \_\_\_\_\_ the relevant terminal where their airline is situated. Many people use the check-in desks. However, those travelling on budget airlines, like Ryanair, tend to check-in online; \_\_\_\_\_ massive extra check-in costs.

Baggage allowance is also being cut on many airlines, especially those who fly short-haul. \_\_\_\_\_ generally get a larger baggage allowance as they tend to pay more for their flights using \_\_\_\_\_.

Airport terminals offer shops, toilets, information desks and foreign-exchange counters. After mulling around these there is the final security check to pass through. This involves a baggage and body scan. You are now in \_\_\_\_\_, where you can buy all sorts of goodies.

After waiting for your flight it's now time to depart and get on your plane. A long walk to the \_\_\_\_\_, as does another queue to get on the plane. Soon you are on it and are taxiing down towards the runway. After take-off you are heading towards \_\_\_\_\_.

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## WRITING/SPELLING

### WRITING / SPEAKING

**1) A day at your local international airport** - You are one of the following people who work at your local international airport. Spend one minute preparing notes of your day. Spend two minutes telling your partner/group/class all about it. *5-10 mins.*

- 1) A toilet cleaner.
- 2) A restaurant worker / a duty free shop worker.
- 3) A security person / other.
- 4) A person who works at an information desk.

**The teacher** will choose some groups to roleplay their roles in front of the class.

**2) Sentence starters** - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) My local airport \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) At the airport \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) I fly \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **A visit to an airport.** Your email can be read out in class.

### GAP FILL READING

- 1) jet-off
- 2) exorbitant
- 3) airport
- 4) sign
- 5) car hire
- 6) terminal
- 7) check-in
- 8) budget airlines

### ANSWERS

- 1) baggage allowance
- 2) conventional
- 3) final security check
- 4) body scan
- 5) duty free zone
- 6) goodies
- 7) queue
- 8) taxiing

### SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) through
- 2) exorbitant
- 3) patiently
- 4) onward
- 5) journey
- 6) departures
- 7) relevant
- 8) however
- 9) budget
- 10) airlines

### SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

**Pass = 12**

**Good = 15**

**Very good = 18**

**Excellent = 20**

- 11) otherwise
- 12) massive
- 13) baggage
- 14) especially
- 15) generally
- 16) allowance
- 17) conventional
- 18) terminal
- 19) usually
- 20) taxiing

A visit to an airport – *10<sup>th</sup> August 2013*