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## Level 6

### World's 'most useless' airport opens

17th October, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

The first scheduled commercial airplane has landed on the remote British island of St Helena in the middle of the South Atlantic. The SA AirLink service from South Africa touched down at Saint Helena Airport on Saturday with 68 passengers on board. One passenger, Libby Weir-Breen, a British travel operator, had flown from Scotland especially to be on the flight. She said: "I've never felt so emotional in all my life. I never thought I'd see this day." The inaugural flight marks a new era of accessibility for the island, which is 1,900 km west of the African nation of Angola. Previously, the only way of getting to Saint Helena was by a ship that sailed once every three weeks from Cape Town, South Africa.

Despite the positive social and economic effects the airport will have for the island and its tourism, the British media have dubbed it as "the most useless airport in the world". The airport was built with \$380m of British taxpayers' money. That's \$80,000 for each of the island's inhabitants. It was beset with delays and was due to open in 2016, but dangerous wind conditions delayed the launch. The Governor of Saint Helena, Lisa Phillips, dismissed the criticism. She said: "I've seen the headlines about the world's most useless airport, but for St Helena, this has already been the most useful airport. It's priceless." She added: "I for one am getting really excited about the new chapter in St Helena's history."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-41620003>  
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/st-helena-first-commercial-plane-remote-british-territory-south-africa-a8001061.html>  
<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/world/st-helena-airport-welcomes-first-commercial-flight-but-it-lands-45-minutes-late-a3658891.html>

# WARM-UPS

**1. AIRPORTS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about airports. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

commercial / airplane / remote / passengers / travel operator / emotional / ship / social / economic / island / media / useless / inhabitants / wind / headlines / priceless

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. REMOTE:** Students A **strongly** believe living in a remote area is better than living in a city; Students B **strongly** believe living in a city is better. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. ISLANDS:** What do you know about these islands? Would you like to visit? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What you know	How much you'd like to visit
Hawaii		
Sicily		
Bali		
Alcatraz		
Jamaica		
Madagascar		

**5. PASSENGER:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "passenger". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. TOURISM:** Rank these with your partner. Put the things that can best help tourism at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- airports
- good food
- sights
- weather
- safety
- language
- value for money
- accommodation

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Ten flights landed on the island of St Helena on Saturday. **T / F**
- b. The flight that landed on St Helena had 168 passengers. **T / F**
- c. A woman flew from Scotland to get on the flight to St Helena. **T / F**
- d. The only way to St Helena before the plane was by ship. **T / F**
- e. British airlines called Saint Helena Airport "useless". **T / F**
- f. The cost of the airport is equal to \$80,000 per St Helena inhabitant. **T / F**
- g. The airport was originally due to open in 2006. **T / F**
- h. St Helena's Governor said she was writing a chapter about the airport. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- |                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| <b>1. scheduled</b>    | a. initial     |
| <b>2. remote</b>       | b. nicknamed   |
| <b>3. touched down</b> | c. bad press   |
| <b>4. inaugural</b>    | d. landed      |
| <b>5. era</b>          | e. troubled    |
| <b>6. dubbed</b>       | f. timetabled  |
| <b>7. built</b>        | g. age         |
| <b>8. beset</b>        | h. invaluable  |
| <b>9. criticism</b>    | i. faraway     |
| <b>10. priceless</b>   | j. constructed |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. The first scheduled commercial | a. down at Saint Helena Airport |
| 2. the remote                     | b. delayed the launch           |
| 3. touched                        | c. flight                       |
| 4. The inaugural                  | d. money                        |
| 5. a ship that sailed once        | e. British island               |
| 6. taxpayers'                     | f. headlines                    |
| 7. It was beset                   | g. in St Helena's history       |
| 8. dangerous wind conditions      | h. airplane                     |
| 9. I've seen the                  | i. with delays                  |
| 10. the new chapter               | j. every three weeks            |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

The first (1) \_\_\_\_\_ commercial airplane has landed on the remote British island of St Helena in the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of the South Atlantic. The SA AirLink service from South Africa (3) \_\_\_\_\_ down at Saint Helena Airport on Saturday with 68 passengers on board. One passenger, Libby Weir-Breen, a British travel operator, had flown from Scotland (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to be on the flight. She said: "I've never felt so (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in all my life. I never thought I'd see this day." The inaugural flight marks a new (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of accessibility for the island, which is 1,900 km west of the African (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of Angola. Previously, the only way of getting to Saint Helena was by a ship that sailed (8) \_\_\_\_\_ every three weeks from Cape Town, South Africa.

Despite the positive social and economic (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the airport will have for the island and its (10) \_\_\_\_\_, the British media have dubbed it as "the most useless airport in the world". The airport was built with \$380m of British (11) \_\_\_\_\_ money. That's \$80,000 for each of the island's inhabitants. It was (12) \_\_\_\_\_ with delays and was due to open in 2016, but dangerous wind conditions delayed the (13) \_\_\_\_\_. The Governor of Saint Helena, Lisa Phillips, dismissed the criticism. She said: "I've seen the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ about the world's most useless airport, but for St Helena, this has already been the most useful airport. It's (15) \_\_\_\_\_." She added: "I for one am getting really excited about the new chapter in St Helena's (16) \_\_\_\_\_."

*especially*  
*era*  
*touched*  
*once*  
*scheduled*  
*nation*  
*middle*  
*emotional*

*taxpayers'*  
*effects*  
*launch*  
*history*  
*tourism*  
*priceless*  
*beset*  
*headlines*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

- 1) The first scheduled commercial airplane has landed on the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. remotely British island
  - b. remoter British island
  - c. remotes British island
  - d. remote British island
- 2) touched down at Saint Helena Airport on Saturday with 68 passengers \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. on board
  - b. in board
  - c. half board
  - d. to board
- 3) a British travel operator had flown from Scotland \_\_\_\_\_ on the flight
  - a. especial to be
  - b. ESP specially to be
  - c. especially to be
  - d. special to be
- 4) The inaugural flight marks a new \_\_\_\_\_ accessibility
  - a. ear of
  - b. era of
  - c. aurora of
  - d. aura of
- 5) the only way of getting to Saint Helena was by a ship that sailed \_\_\_\_\_ three weeks
  - a. once ever
  - b. once evenly
  - c. once cleverly
  - d. once every
- 6) That's \$80,000 for each of the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. island's inhabitants
  - b. island's cohabitants
  - c. island's immigrants
  - d. island's recalcitrance
- 7) It was beset with delays and was \_\_\_\_\_ in 2016
  - a. glue to open
  - b. drew to open
  - c. due to open
  - d. dew to open
- 8) The Governor of Saint Helena, Lisa Phillips, dismissed \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the criticism
  - b. the criticizing
  - c. the critics' schism
  - d. the critics' prism
- 9) ...for St Helena, this has already been the most useful airport. \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. It's priced less
  - b. It's price lest
  - c. It's pricey less
  - d. It's priceless
- 10) I for one am getting really excited about the new \_\_\_\_\_ St Helena's history
  - a. chapter on
  - b. chapter in
  - c. chapter an
  - d. chapter by

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

The first scheduled commercial airplane (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the remote British island of St Helena in (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the South Atlantic. The SA AirLink service from South Africa touched down at Saint Helena Airport on Saturday with 68 (3) \_\_\_\_\_. One passenger, Libby Weir-Breen, a British travel operator, had flown from Scotland especially to be (4) \_\_\_\_\_. She said: "I've never felt so emotional in all my life. I never thought I'd see this day." The inaugural flight marks a new (5) \_\_\_\_\_ for the island, which is 1,900 km west of the African nation of Angola. Previously, the only way of getting to Saint Helena was by a ship (6) \_\_\_\_\_ every three weeks from Cape Town, South Africa.

Despite the positive social (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the airport will have for the island and its tourism, the British media (8) \_\_\_\_\_ as "the most useless airport in the world". The airport was built with \$380m of British taxpayers' money. That's \$80,000 for each of the island's inhabitants. It was (9) \_\_\_\_\_ and was due to open in 2016, but dangerous wind conditions (10) \_\_\_\_\_. The Governor of Saint Helena, Lisa Phillips, dismissed the criticism. She said: "I've seen the headlines about the world's most useless airport, but for St Helena, this (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the most useful airport. It's priceless." She added: "I for one am getting really excited about the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ St Helena's history."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

1. In which ocean is St Helena?
2. How many passengers were on the flight to St Helena?
3. Where had a passenger flown from to be on the flight?
4. Which African country is 1,900km from St Helena?
5. How often does a ship from South Africa sail to St Helena?
6. Who dubbed the airport as the world's "most useless"?
7. How much did British taxpayers have to pay for the airport?
8. In what year was the airport due to open?
9. Who is Lisa Phillips?
10. What did Lisa Phillips call the airport?



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

- 1) In which ocean is St Helena?
  - a) the Indian Ocean
  - b) the Atlantic Ocean
  - c) the Pacific Ocean
  - d) the Arctic Ocean
- 2) How many passengers were on the flight to St Helena?
  - a) 62
  - b) 67
  - c) 69
  - d) 68
- 3) Where had a passenger flown from to be on the flight?
  - a) Scotland
  - b) Argentina
  - c) China
  - d) India
- 4) Which African country is 1,900km from St Helena?
  - a) Egypt
  - b) Madagascar
  - c) Angola
  - d) South Africa
- 5) How often does a ship from South Africa sail to St Helena?
  - a) three times a week
  - b) once every three weeks
  - c) three times a month
  - d) once every three months
- 6) Who dubbed the airport as the world's "most useless"?
  - a) Britain's press
  - b) pilots
  - c) an airport group
  - d) a passenger group
- 7) How much did British taxpayers have to pay for the airport?
  - a) \$318m
  - b) \$388m
  - c) \$380m
  - d) \$308m
- 8) In what year was the airport due to open?
  - a) 2016
  - b) 2015
  - c) 2014
  - d) 2013
- 9) Who is Lisa Phillips?
  - a) Governor of Saint Helena
  - b) President of Saint Helena
  - c) Queen of Saint Helena
  - d) Prime Minister of Saint Helena
- 10) What did Lisa Phillips call the airport?
  - a) nice
  - b) Lisa Phillips International
  - c) Bob
  - d) priceless

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

## **Role A – Airports**

You think airports are the most important things to help tourism. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): safety, value for money or accommodation.

## **Role B – Safety**

You think safety is the most important thing to help tourism. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): airports, value for money or accommodation.

## **Role C – Value for Money**

You think value for money is the most important thing to help tourism. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): safety, airports or accommodation.

## **Role D – Accommodation**

You think accommodation is the most important thing to help tourism. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): safety, value for money or airports.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'airport' and 'flight'.

<b>airport</b>	<b>flight</b>
----------------	---------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• first</li><li>• touched</li><li>• especially</li><li>• so</li><li>• nation</li><li>• ship</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• social</li><li>• built</li><li>• money</li><li>• due</li><li>• headlines</li><li>• chapter</li></ul>
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# AIRPORTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

Write five GOOD questions about airports 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.

# AIRPORTS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'airport'?
3. What is your favourite airport?
4. How could airports be improved?
5. What would it be like to live on a remote island?
6. How important is the new airport to the people of St Helena?
7. What do you know about St Helena?
8. Would you like to visit St Helena?
9. What islands would you like to visit?
10. Which is better – flying or sailing?

*World's 'most useless' airport opens – 17th October, 2017*  
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# AIRPORTS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'flight'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How important are airports?
15. What do you dislike about airports?
16. What do you think of flying?
17. Why do the British media think it's the most useless airport?
18. Why did the Governor say the airport was priceless?
19. What will the new chapter look like for St Helena?
20. What questions would you like to ask people on St Helena?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

The first scheduled commercial airplane has landed on the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ British island of St Helena in the middle (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the South Atlantic. The SA AirLink service from South Africa touched (3) \_\_\_\_\_ at Saint Helena Airport on Saturday with 68 passengers on board. One passenger, Libby Weir-Breen, a British travel (4) \_\_\_\_\_, had flown from Scotland especially to be on the flight. She said: "I've never felt so emotional in all my life. I never thought I'd see this day." The inaugural flight marks a new (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of accessibility for the island, which is 1,900 km west of the African nation of Angola. Previously, the only way of getting to Saint Helena was by a ship that (6) \_\_\_\_\_ once every three weeks from Cape Town, South Africa.

Despite the positive social and economic (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the airport will have for the island and its tourism, the British media have (8) \_\_\_\_\_ it as "the most useless airport in the world". The airport was built with \$380m of British taxpayers' money. That's \$80,000 for each of the island's (9) \_\_\_\_\_. It was beset with delays and was due to open in 2016, but dangerous wind conditions (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the launch. The Governor of Saint Helena, Lisa Phillips, dismissed the criticism. She said: "I've seen the headlines about the world's most useless airport, but for St Helena, this has already been the most useful airport. It's (11) \_\_\_\_\_." She added: "I for one am getting really excited about the new (12) \_\_\_\_\_ in St Helena's history."

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                |                 |               |                 |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) reluctant  | (b) remain      | (c) repost    | (d) remote      |
| 2.  | (a) from       | (b) for         | (c) off       | (d) of          |
| 3.  | (a) on         | (b) down        | (c) landing   | (d) up          |
| 4.  | (a) operative  | (b) operation   | (c) operator  | (d) operates    |
| 5.  | (a) aura       | (b) aurora      | (c) era       | (d) ear         |
| 6.  | (a) sailed     | (b) voyaged     | (c) submerged | (d) surfed      |
| 7.  | (a) affects    | (b) effects     | (c) reflects  | (d) inflects    |
| 8.  | (a) dubbed     | (b) clubbed     | (c) rubbed    | (d) subbed      |
| 9.  | (a) immigrants | (b) inhabitants | (c) emigrants | (d) cohabitants |
| 10. | (a) delay      | (b) delaying    | (c) delayed   | (d) delays      |
| 11. | (a) priced     | (b) pricey      | (c) priceless | (d) pricing     |
| 12. | (a) charger    | (b) chastise    | (c) charter   | (d) chapter     |

# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. The first elhcsddeu commercial airplane
2. the meroet British island of St Helena
3. with 68 eesnpsag on board
4. a British travel ptroorea
5. I've never felt so oanmletoi
6. The lraiunuag flight

## Paragraph 2

7. economic ectsffe
8. each of the island's sinihttabna
9. wind conditions yaeledd the launch
10. dismissed the cmrctsiij
11. It's slscierpe
12. the new eptrcah in St Helena's history



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) the criticism. She said: "I've seen the headlines about the world's most useless
- ( ) airport, but for St Helena, this has already been the most useful airport. It's
- ( ) media have dubbed it as "the most useless airport in the world". The airport was built with \$380m of British taxpayers'
- ( ) priceless." She added: "I for one am getting really excited about the new chapter in St Helena's history."
- ( ) down at Saint Helena Airport on Saturday with 68 passengers on board. One passenger, Libby Weir-Breen, a British
- ( **1** ) The first scheduled commercial airplane has landed on the remote British island
- ( ) for the island, which is 1,900 km west of the African nation of Angola. Previously, the only
- ( ) travel operator, had flown from Scotland especially to be on the flight. She said: "I've never felt so
- ( ) of St Helena in the middle of the South Atlantic. The SA AirLink service from South Africa touched
- ( ) emotional in all my life. I never thought I'd see this day." The inaugural flight marks a new era of accessibility
- ( ) in 2016, but dangerous wind conditions delayed the launch. The Governor of Saint Helena, Lisa Phillips, dismissed
- ( ) money. That's \$80,000 for each of the island's inhabitants. It was beset with delays and was due to open
- ( ) way of getting to Saint Helena was by a ship that sailed once every three weeks from Cape Town, South Africa.
- ( ) Despite the positive social and economic effects the airport will have for the island and its tourism, the British

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

1. airplane landed first commercial has The scheduled .
2. from flown had operator travel British A Scotland .
3. "I've . emotional life so" my felt said: all never She in
4. of marks accessibility a The new inaugural era flight .
5. three that Cape sailed Town once A weeks ship from every .
6. economic airport for The the have island effects will the .
7. of The built \$380m money was taxpayers' airport with .
8. was and delays with beset was It 2016 in open to due .
9. useless most world's the about headlines The airport .
10. the new chapter I for one am getting really excited about .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

The first scheduled commercial airplane has landed on the *remoteness / remote* British island of St Helena in the middle of the South Atlantic. The SA AirLink service from South Africa touched *up / down* at Saint Helena Airport on Saturday with 68 passengers *on / in* board. One passenger, Libby Weir-Breen, a British travel *operation / operator*, had flown from Scotland *especially / special* to be on the flight. She said: "I've never felt so *emotional / emotionally* in all my life. I never *thought / think* I'd see this day." The inaugural flight *mark / marks* a new era of accessibility for the island, which is 1,900 km west of the African *national / nation* of Angola. Previously, the only way of getting to Saint Helena was by a ship that *sailed / sealed* once every three weeks from Cape Town, South Africa.

Despite the positive *socially / social* and economic *effects / affects* the airport will have for the island and its tourism, the British *medium / media* have dubbed it as "the most useless airport in the world". The airport was *built / building* with \$380m of British taxpayers' money. That's \$80,000 for each of the island's *cohabitants / inhabitants*. It was *beset / best* with delays and was due to open in 2016, but dangerous wind conditions delayed the *launch / lunch*. The Governor of Saint Helena, Lisa Phillips, *dismissive / dismissed* the criticism. She said: "I've seen the headlines about the world's most useless airport, but for St Helena, this has already been the most useful airport. It's *priced / priceless*." She added: "I for one am getting really excited about the new *chapter / sentence* in St Helena's history."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

Th\_ f\_rst sch\_d\_l\_d c\_mm\_rc\_\_l \_\_rpl\_n\_ h\_s l\_nd\_d  
\_n th\_ r\_m\_t Br\_t\_sh \_sl\_nd \_f St H\_l\_n\_ \_n th\_  
m\_ddl\_ \_f th\_ S\_\_th \_tl\_nt\_c. Th\_ S\_ \_\_rL\_nk s\_rv\_c\_  
fr\_m S\_\_th \_fr\_c\_ t\_\_ch\_d d\_wn \_t S\_\_nt H\_l\_n\_  
\_\_rp\_rt \_n S\_t\_rd\_y w\_th 68 p\_ss\_ng\_rs \_n b\_\_rd. \_n\_  
p\_ss\_ng\_r, L\_bby W\_\_r-Br\_\_n, \_ Br\_t\_sh tr\_v\_l  
\_p\_r\_t\_r, h\_d fl\_wn fr\_m Sc\_tl\_nd \_sp\_c\_\_lly t\_b\_\_n  
th\_ fl\_gh\_t. Sh\_ s\_\_d: "'v\_n\_v\_r f\_lt s\_\_m\_t\_\_n\_l\_n  
\_ll my l\_f\_. \_n\_v\_r th\_gh\_t 'd s\_\_th\_s\_d\_y." Th\_  
\_n\_g\_r\_l fl\_gh\_t m\_rks \_n\_w\_r \_f \_cc\_ss\_b\_l\_ty f\_r  
th\_ \_sl\_nd, wh\_ch \_s 1,900 km w\_st \_f th\_ \_fr\_c\_n  
n\_t\_\_n\_f\_ng\_l\_. Pr\_v\_\_sly, th\_ \_nly w\_y \_f g\_tt\_ng  
t\_ S\_\_nt H\_l\_n\_ w\_s by \_sh\_p th\_t s\_\_l\_d \_nc\_ \_v\_ry  
thr\_\_ w\_\_ks fr\_m C\_p\_T\_wn, S\_\_th \_fr\_c\_.

D\_sp\_t\_ th\_ p\_s\_t\_v\_s\_c\_\_l\_nd \_c\_n\_m\_c\_ff\_cts th\_  
\_\_rp\_rt w\_ll h\_v\_ f\_r th\_ \_sl\_nd \_nd \_ts t\_\_r\_sm, th\_  
Br\_t\_sh m\_d\_\_ h\_v\_d bb\_d \_t\_s "th\_ m\_st\_s\_l\_ss  
\_\_rp\_rt \_n th\_ w\_rld". Th\_ \_\_rp\_rt w\_s b\_\_lt w\_th  
\$380m \_f Br\_t\_sh t\_xp\_y\_rs' m\_n\_y. Th\_t's \$80,000 f\_r  
\_\_ch \_f th\_ \_sl\_nd's \_nh\_b\_t\_nts. \_t w\_s b\_s\_t w\_th  
d\_l\_ys \_nd w\_s d\_\_t\_ \_p\_n \_n 2016, b\_t d\_ng\_r\_\_s  
w\_nd c\_nd\_t\_\_ns d\_l\_y\_d th\_ l\_\_nch. Th\_ G\_v\_rn\_r \_f  
S\_\_nt H\_l\_n\_, L\_s\_ Ph\_ll\_ps, d\_sm\_ss\_d th\_  
cr\_t\_c\_sm. Sh\_ s\_\_d: "'v\_s\_\_n th\_ h\_\_dl\_n\_s b\_\_t  
th\_ w\_rld's m\_st\_s\_l\_ss \_\_rp\_rt, b\_t f\_r St H\_l\_n\_,  
th\_s h\_s \_lr\_\_dy b\_\_n th\_ m\_st\_s\_f\_l \_\_rp\_rt. \_t's  
pr\_c\_l\_ss." Sh\_ \_dd\_d: "\_ f\_r \_n\_ \_m g\_tt\_ng r\_\_lly  
\_xc\_t\_d \_b\_\_t th\_ n\_w ch\_pt\_r \_n St H\_l\_n\_'s  
h\_st\_ry."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

the first scheduled commercial airplane has landed on the remote british island of st helena in the middle of the south atlantic the sa airlink service from south africa touched down at saint helena airport on saturday with 68 passengers on board one passenger libby weir-breen a british travel operator had flown from scotland especially to be on the flight she said "i've never felt so emotional in all my life i never thought i'd see this day" the inaugural flight marks a new era of accessibility for the island which is 1900 km west of the african nation of angola previously the only way of getting to saint helena was by a ship that sailed once every three weeks from cape town south africa

despite the positive social and economic effects the airport will have for the island and its tourism the british media have dubbed it as "the most useless airport in the world" the airport was built with \$380m of british taxpayers' money that's \$80000 for each of the island's inhabitants it was beset with delays and was due to open in 2016 but dangerous wind conditions delayed the launch the governor of saint helena lisa phillips dismissed the criticism she said "i've seen the headlines about the world's most useless airport but for st helena this has already been the most useful airport it's priceless" she added "i for one am getting really excited about the new chapter in st helena's history"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports.html>

The first scheduled commercial airplane has landed on the remote British island of St Helena in the middle of the South Atlantic. The SAAirlink service from South Africa touched down at Saint Helena Airport on Saturday with 68 passengers on board. One passenger, Libby Weir-Breen, a British travel operator, had flown from Scotland especially to be on the flight. She said: "I've never felt so emotional in all my life. I never thought I'd see this day." The inaugural flight marks a new era of accessibility for the island, which is 1,900 km west of the African nation of Angola. Previously, the only way of getting to Saint Helena was by a ship that sailed once every three weeks from Cape Town, South Africa. Despite the positive social and economic effects the airport will have for the island and its tourism, the British media have dubbed it as "the most useless airport in the world". The airport was built with \$380 million of British taxpayers' money. That's \$80,000 for each of the island's inhabitants. It was beset with delays and was due to open in 2016, but dangerous wind conditions delayed the launch. The Governor of Saint Helena, Lisa Phillips, dismissed the criticism. She said: "I've seen the headlines about the world's most useless airport, but for St Helena, this has already been the most useful airport. It's priceless." She added: "If one of us is getting really excited about the new chapter in St Helena's history."







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. AIRPORTS:** Make a poster about airports. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. INFRASTRUCTURE:** Write a magazine article about airports being the most important part of a country's infrastructure. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against building more airports.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on airports. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how airports could be better. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b F    c T    d T    e F    f T    g F    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. scheduled    | a. timetabled  |
| 2. remote       | b. faraway     |
| 3. touched down | c. landed      |
| 4. inaugural    | d. initial     |
| 5. era          | e. age         |
| 6. dubbed       | f. nicknamed   |
| 7. built        | g. constructed |
| 8. beset        | h. troubled    |
| 9. criticism    | i. bad press   |
| 10. priceless   | j. invaluable  |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. The Atlantic
2. 68
3. Scotland
4. Angola
5. Once every three weeks
6. Britain's media
7. \$380 million
8. 2016
9. Governor of St Helena
10. Priceless

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b    2. d    3. a    4. c    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. a    10. d

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)