

Boeing grounds 737 Max aircraft worldwide

16th March, 2019



Aircraft manufacturer Boeing has grounded the entire global fleet of its 737 Max aircraft. The move follows last week's fatal Ethiopian Airlines crash. That was the second time in five months a 737 Max has crashed.

Last October, a plane from the Indonesia-based carrier Lion Air crashed in what aviation experts are saying are similar circumstances. Investigators have recovered the black boxes from the crash site in Ethiopia and will study the data in them to ascertain the reason for the aircraft falling from the sky. Dan Elwell, a spokesman from the USA's Federal Aviation Administration, said: "It became clear...that the track of the Ethiopian Airlines flight was very close and behaved very similarly to the Lion Air flight."

Boeing has huge hopes for the 737 Max and views it as a key part of its future. The Max started flying commercially in 2017. Boeing has received over 5,000 orders for the aircraft and has delivered 371 to date. News of the grounding has been disastrous for Boeing's finances. The company's market value has plummeted by nearly \$26 billion since the crash in Ethiopia. Boeing president, chief executive and chairman Dennis Muilenburg said: "We are doing everything we can to understand the cause of the accidents (in partnership with the investigators), deploy safety enhancements, and help ensure this does not happen again." Boeing said that it "continues to have full confidence in the safety of the 737 Max".

Sources: nytimes.com / bbc.com / thestreet.com

Writing

Flying is the safest form of travel. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

aircraft / manufacturer / fatal / carrier / aviation / experts / data / administration / hopes / future / orders / market value / cause / accidents / partnership / confidence

True / False

- a) Boeing has grounded all 737 Max aircraft around the world. T / F
- b) Another Boeing 737 Max crashed six months ago. T / F
- c) Investigators are yet to locate the black boxes in Ethiopia. T / F
- d) There is no similarity in the way the two 737 Max planes crashed. T / F
- e) The Boeing 737 Max has been flying for over a decade. T / F
- f) Boeing has handed 371 737 Max aircraft to its customers. T / F
- g) Boeing has lost \$26 billion in its market value since the crash. T / F
- h) Boeing says it has full confidence in the 737 Max. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. manufacturer | a. specialists |
| 2. fatal | b. total |
| 3. experts | c. acted |
| 4. site | d. dropped |
| 5. behaved | e. location |
| 6. huge | f. maker |
| 7. plummeted | g. use |
| 8. understand | h. deadly |
| 9. deploy | i. unravel |
| 10. full | j. enormous |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What are the worst things about flying?
- c) Would you fly in the Boeing Max?
- d) How do you feel when the plane takes off and lands?
- e) What should Boeing do for the families?
- f) Would you like to work as a pilot or cabin staff member?
- g) What will flying be like in the future?
- h) What questions would you like to ask Boeing's boss?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Boeing has grounded the entire | a. to the Lion Air flight |
| 2. The move follows last week's fatal | b. the reason |
| 3. aviation | c. confidence |
| 4. study the data in them to ascertain | d. experts |
| 5. behaved very similarly | e. we can |
| 6. views it as a key | f. global fleet |
| 7. The company's market value | g. enhancements |
| 8. We are doing everything | h. has plummeted |
| 9. deploy safety | i. part of its future |
| 10. continues to have full | j. Ethiopian Airlines crash |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of flying?
- What do you know about Boeing?
- What are the best things about flying?
- What should happen to the Boeing Max airplane?
- How would you help people who were afraid of flying?
- What do you know about black boxes?
- How safe are airplanes?
- Is flying the best form of travel?

Spelling

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- the Indonesia-based eracrir
- vtaiiano experts
- similar tncmusirsacce
- ntaieasrc the reason
- behaved very iyimlarsl
- started flying mcmclacleiroy
- emmldeptu by nearly \$26 billion
- chief veeuxeitc
- in partnership with the tnosavtisgire
- deploy safety ennteaecnhsm
- have full defnencioc in

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. h	3. a	4. e	5. c
6. j	7. d	8. i	9. g	10. b

Role Play

Role A – Flying

You think flying is the best way to travel. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): car, train or skateboard.

Role B – Car

You think car is the best way to travel. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): flying, train or skateboard.

Role C – Train

You think train is the best way to travel. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): car, flying or skateboard.

Role D – Skateboard

You think skateboard is the best way to travel. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): car, train or flying.

Speaking – Travel

Rank these with your partner. Put the best ways of traveling at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| • flying | • ship |
| • car | • train |
| • bus | • helicopter |
| • bicycle | • skateboard |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	F	c	F	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.