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**Level 4** – 4th March 2024

## Airline starts to weigh luggage AND passengers

**FREE** online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

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

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

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

Finland's national airline is weighing passengers on flights from its capital city. The weigh-ins are voluntary and anonymous. They are to ensure safety standards on flights are met. Airplanes should not exceed the maximum weight for safe take-offs and landings. This weight is made up of the aircraft, the fuel, baggage, cargo, food, water, and passengers. Airlines never know the exact weight of passengers. They rely on estimates given by aviation officials.

Volunteers are stepping on scales at Helsinki Airport's departure gates. Finnair was concerned about a customer backlash because weight is a personal topic. However, more than 1,000 passengers agreed to be weighed. The company said: "We hope to have a good sample...so that we can get the most accurate information possible for important balance calculations." It said travellers could have "peace of mind" about 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-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                |                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Finland's national          | a. and landings       |
| 2. on flights from its         | b. and anonymous      |
| 3. The weigh-ins are voluntary | c. weight             |
| 4. ensure safety standards     | d. on estimates       |
| 5. exceed the maximum          | e. airline            |
| 6. take-offs                   | f. on flights are met |
| 7. They rely                   | g. aviation officials |
| 8. given by                    | h. capital city       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Volunteers are stepping       | a. sample       |
| 2. departure                     | b. backlash     |
| 3. concerned about a customer    | c. of mind      |
| 4. weight is a personal          | d. calculations |
| 5. We hope to have a good        | e. topic        |
| 6. the most accurate information | f. on scales    |
| 7. important balance             | g. possible     |
| 8. travellers could have peace   | h. gates        |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

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

Finland's national (1) \_\_\_\_\_ passengers on flights from its capital city. The weigh-ins are (2) \_\_\_\_\_. They are to ensure safety standards on (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Airplanes should not exceed the maximum weight for safe (4) \_\_\_\_\_. This weight is made up of the aircraft, the fuel, (5) \_\_\_\_\_, water, and passengers. Airlines never know the exact weight of passengers. They rely on estimates (6) \_\_\_\_\_ officials.

Volunteers are (7) \_\_\_\_\_ at Helsinki Airport's departure gates. Finnair was concerned about (8) \_\_\_\_\_ because weight is (9) \_\_\_\_\_. However, more than 1,000 passengers agreed to be weighed. The company said: "We hope to have (10) \_\_\_\_\_...so that we can get the most accurate information possible for (11) \_\_\_\_\_." It said travellers could have "peace of mind" (12) \_\_\_\_\_ information.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

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

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