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Level 6 – 4th March 2024

Airline starts to weigh luggage AND passengers

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

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

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THE ARTICLE

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

Finland's national carrier Finnair has started weighing passengers on its flights from the capital city of Helsinki. The weigh-ins are being done on a voluntary basis and are completely anonymous. A company spokesperson said the new initiative is to ensure safety standards on flights are adhered to. He said any airplane should not exceed the prescribed maximum weight for safe take-offs and landings. This weight is made up of the aircraft itself, the fuel, checked baggage and cargo, onboard catering, water tanks, and passengers. Finnair said airlines never know the exact weight of passengers and their carry-on baggage, so they have to rely on average estimates provided by aviation authorities.

Passengers who volunteer to be weighed are stepping on weighing scales at the departure gates at Helsinki Airport. Finnair officials were initially concerned about a customer backlash because weight is such a personal issue. However, in the first week of the tests, over 1,000 passengers had agreed to be weighed. The company said: "We hope to have a good sample of volunteers, both business and leisure travellers, so that we can get the most accurate information possible for important balance calculations." It added: "Our customers have taken it really positively so far." An official said travellers could "rest assured" and have "peace of mind" that their weight would not be linked to their personal data.

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>

WARM-UPS

1. AIRLINES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about airlines. 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?

Finland / passengers / flights / capital city / anonymous / initiative / aircraft / cargo / volunteer / weighing scales / backlash / business / leisure / balance / peace of mind

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

3. KGs: Students A **strongly** believe airplane passengers should pay for flights based on their weight; Students B **strongly** believe this is totally ridiculous. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. AIRPORTS: What is good and bad things about these airport-related things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Good Things	Bad Things
Check-in		
Location		
Transport		
Shopping		
Restaurants		
Chairs		

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. AIRPLANES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best things about airplanes at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Flying
- Food
- In-flight entertainment
- Seat comfort
- Flight crew
- Legroom
- Other passengers
- Reading material

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. carrier | a. When an aircraft moves through the air from one place to another. |
| 2. flight | b. Recommended or ordered to be done by a person in authority. |
| 3. anonymous | c. An act or strategy intended to resolve a difficulty or improve a situation. |
| 4. initiative | d. When a person's name is not known or not given. |
| 5. prescribed | e. The national airline of a country. |
| 6. cargo | f. Flying in aircraft or the science and practice of flight. |
| 7. aviation | g. Goods or items carried by a vehicle, ship, or aircraft. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 8. scales | h. A phrase used to reassure someone that something will happen as promised or expected. |
| 9. initially | i. Devices used to measure weight or balance. |
| 10. backlash | j. Mathematical processes or methods used to find out a result. |
| 11. accurate | k. A feeling of calmness and confidence, knowing that things are okay or will be okay. |
| 12. calculation | l. A strong negative reaction against something. |
| 13. rest assured | m. Correct or exact. |
| 14. peace of mind | n. At first; at the beginning of a particular period or process. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

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

1. All passengers flying with Finnair must now be weighed. **T / F**
2. Weight is important in ensuring safe take-offs and landings. **T / F**
3. The weight of an aircraft includes water tanks. **T / F**
4. Airlines know exactly how much their passengers weigh. **T / F**
5. Finnair said it had no concerns about a possible customer backlash. **T / F**
6. More than 1,000 passengers were weighed in a week. **T / F**
7. Finnair was not interested in weighing business class passengers. **T / F**
8. The weight of passengers is kept entirely confidential. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. carrier | a. comprised |
| 2. anonymous | b. retaliation |
| 3. initiative | c. precise |
| 4. made up of | d. unnamed |
| 5. exact | e. representative |
| 6. initially | f. airline |
| 7. backlash | g. cross section |
| 8. sample | h. details |
| 9. official | i. scheme |
| 10. data | j. at first |

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Finland's national | a. customer backlash |
| 2. being done on a voluntary | b. are adhered to |
| 3. ensure safety standards on flights | c. by aviation authorities |
| 4. the prescribed maximum weight | d. assured |
| 5. rely on average estimates provided | e. of mind |
| 6. departure | f. carrier Finnair |
| 7. initially concerned about a | g. gates |
| 8. Our customers have taken it really | h. for safe take-offs |
| 9. travellers could rest | i. positively so far |
| 10. have peace | j. basis |

GAP FILL

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

Finland's national carrier Finnair has started weighing passengers on its (1) _____ from the capital city of Helsinki. The weigh-ins are being done on a voluntary (2) _____ and are completely anonymous. A company spokesperson said the new (3) _____ is to ensure safety standards on flights are adhered to. He said any airplane should not exceed the (4) _____ maximum weight for safe take-offs and landings. This weight is made up of the aircraft itself, the (5) _____, checked baggage and cargo, onboard (6) _____, water tanks, and passengers. Finnair said airlines never know the (7) _____ weight of passengers and their carry-on baggage, so they have to (8) _____ on average estimates provided by aviation authorities.

initiative
exact
basis
rely
fuel
prescribed
flights
catering

Passengers who volunteer to be weighed are stepping on weighing (9) _____ at the departure gates at Helsinki Airport. Finnair officials were (10) _____ concerned about a customer backlash because weight is such a personal (11) _____. However, in the first week of the tests, over 1,000 passengers had agreed to be weighed. The company said: "We hope to have a good (12) _____ of volunteers, both business and leisure travellers, so that we can get the most (13) _____ information possible for important balance calculations." It added: "Our customers have taken it really (14) _____ so far." An official said travellers could "rest assured" and have "peace of (15) _____" that their weight would not be (16) _____ to their personal data.

initially
sample
linked
positively
issue
mind
scales
accurate

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

- 1) Finnair has started weighing passengers on its flights from _____
 - a. the cap it all city
 - b. the capital city
 - c. the capacity
 - d. the cap total city
- 2) The weigh-ins are being done on a voluntary basis and _____
 - a. are completed anonymous
 - b. are complete be anonymous
 - c. are complete anonymous
 - d. are completely anonymous
- 3) the new initiative is to ensure safety standards on flights _____
 - a. are adhered to
 - b. are adhered for
 - c. are adhered at
 - d. are adhered on
- 4) exceed the prescribed maximum weight for safe take-_____
 - a. offs and laud dings
 - b. offs and land dings
 - c. offs and land ins
 - d. offs and landings
- 5) they have to rely on average estimates provided _____
 - a. by avian authorities
 - b. by navigation authorities
 - c. by aviation authorities
 - d. by aviate on authorities
- 6) volunteer to be weighed are stepping on weighing scales at _____
 - a. the departure rates
 - b. the departure lates
 - c. the departure grates
 - d. the departure gates
- 7) Finnair officials were initially concerned about _____
 - a. a custom mar backlash
 - b. a customer backlash
 - c. a custom aback lash
 - d. a customer back rash
- 8) get the most accurate information possible for _____
 - a. important balance calculation
 - b. important balance calculators
 - c. important balance computations
 - d. important balance calculations
- 9) It added: "Our customers have taken it really _____."
 - a. positively so fare
 - b. positively so fair
 - c. positively so fear
 - d. positively so far
- 10) An official said travellers could "rest assured" and have " _____ "
 - a. peace of mind
 - b. piece of mind
 - c. peas of mind
 - d. appease of mind

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

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

Finland's national carrier Finnair has started weighing passengers on its flights (1) _____ city of Helsinki. The weigh-ins are being done (2) _____ basis and are completely anonymous. A company spokesperson said the (3) _____ to ensure safety standards on flights are adhered to. He said any airplane should not exceed the prescribed (4) _____ safe take-offs and landings. This weight is made up of the aircraft itself, the fuel, checked baggage and cargo, onboard catering, water tanks, and passengers. Finnair said airlines never know the (5) _____ passengers and their carry-on baggage, so they have to rely on average estimates (6) _____ authorities.

Passengers who volunteer to be weighed are stepping on (7) _____ the departure gates at Helsinki Airport. Finnair officials were initially concerned about (8) _____ because weight is such a personal issue. However, in the first week of the tests, over 1,000 passengers had agreed to be weighed. The company said: "We hope to have a good (9) _____, both business and leisure travellers, so that we can get (10) _____ information possible for important balance calculations." It added: "Our customers have taken it really (11) _____." An official said travellers could "rest assured" and have "(12) _____" that their weight would not be linked to their personal data.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

1. Where is Finnair weighing passengers?
2. Who will know about the weight of individual passengers?
3. What are the weigh-ins designed to ensure?
4. What kind of tanks does an airplane's weight include?
5. Who usually gives airlines estimates on the weight of passengers?
6. Where in the airport are the weighing scales?
7. What was Finnair worried might happen?
8. How many passengers agreed to be weighed in the first week?
9. What does the airline want to calculate?
10. What did an official say travellers could have regarding their data?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

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

- 1) Where is Finnair weighing passengers?
 - a) in a private room
 - b) in a hospital
 - c) Helsinki Airport
 - d) at the check-in desk
- 2) Who will know about the weight of individual passengers?
 - a) no one
 - b) doctors
 - c) everyone
 - d) the check-in staff
- 3) What are the weigh-ins designed to ensure?
 - a) health
 - b) safety standards
 - c) faster flights
 - d) more comfortable seats
- 4) What kind of tanks does an airplane's weight include?
 - a) heating tanks
 - b) armoured tanks
 - c) ink tanks
 - d) water tanks
- 5) Who usually gives airlines estimates on the weight of passengers?
 - a) doctors
 - b) passenger groups
 - c) aviation authorities
 - d) flight booking websites
- 6) Where in the airport are the weighing scales?
 - a) in the corner
 - b) the departure gates
 - c) at check-in
 - d) passport control
- 7) What was Finnair worried might happen?
 - a) flight cancellations
 - b) lower profits
 - c) customers would eat more
 - d) a customer backlash
- 8) How many passengers agreed to be weighed in the first week?
 - a) exactly 1,000
 - b) more than 1,000
 - c) fewer than 1,000
 - d) around 1,000
- 9) What does the airline want to calculate?
 - a) flight distances
 - b) balance
 - c) aerodynamics
 - d) future profits
- 10) What did an official say travellers could have regarding their data?
 - a) peace of mind
 - b) a printout
 - c) regular updates
 - d) health checks

ROLE PLAY

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

Role A – Food

You think the food is the best thing about airplanes. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): seat comfort, in-flight entertainment or other passengers.

Role B – Seat Comfort

You think seat comfort is the best thing about airplanes. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): food, in-flight entertainment or other passengers.

Role C – In-flight Entertainment

You think the in-flight entertainment is the best thing about airplanes. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): seat comfort, food or other passengers.

Role D – Other Passengers

You think other passengers are the best thing about airplanes. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): seat comfort, in-flight entertainment or food.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

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

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

passenger	weight
------------------	---------------

- 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">• national• basis• ensure• safe• cargo• rely	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• gates• concerned• 1,000• possible• far• linked
---	---

AIRLINES SURVEY

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

AIRLINES 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 'passengers'?
3. What do you think of your national carrier?
4. What do you think of being weighed before you fly?
5. Should passengers pay for their ticket according to their weight?
6. Do you ever worry that airplanes are too heavy?
7. What do you think of flying?
8. How safe is flying?
9. Should there be more limits on the weight of baggage?
10. What do you think of taking off and landing?

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AIRLINES 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 'weight'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Would you volunteer to be weighed?
15. Are you worried about your weight?
16. What might Finnair change after it finishes its tests?
17. How much do you worry about the security of your personal data?
18. What advice do you have for Finnair?
19. What do you think of airports?
20. What questions would you like to ask Finnair?

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/2403/240304-weighing-airline-passengers.html>

Finland's national carrier Finnair has started (1) _____ passengers on its flights from the capital city of Helsinki. The weigh-ins are being done (2) _____ a voluntary basis and are completely anonymous. A company spokesperson said the new (3) _____ is to ensure safety standards on flights are adhered (4) _____. He said any airplane should not exceed the prescribed maximum weight for safe take-offs and landings. This weight is made up of the aircraft itself, the fuel, checked baggage and cargo, (5) _____ catering, water tanks, and passengers. Finnair said airlines never know the exact weight of passengers and their carry-on baggage, so they have to (6) _____ on average estimates provided by aviation authorities.

Passengers who volunteer to be weighed are stepping on weighing (7) _____ at the departure gates at Helsinki Airport. Finnair officials were initially concerned about a customer (8) _____ because weight is such a personal issue. However, in the first week of the tests, over 1,000 passengers had agreed to be weighed. The company said: "We hope to have a good sample of volunteers, both business and (9) _____ travellers, so that we can get the most accurate information possible for important balance calculations." It added: "Our customers have (10) _____ it really positively so far." An official said travellers could "(11) _____ assured" and have "peace of mind" that their weight would not be linked to their personal (12) _____.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) weight | (b) weighs | (c) weighing | (d) weighed |
| 2. | (a) on | (b) at | (c) of | (d) to |
| 3. | (a) initiative | (b) intuition | (c) initiation | (d) invitation |
| 4. | (a) to | (b) at | (c) on | (d) as |
| 5. | (a) full board | (b) onboard | (c) outboard | (d) boarding |
| 6. | (a) rally | (b) relay | (c) really | (d) rely |
| 7. | (a) gauges | (b) pressures | (c) scales | (d) balances |
| 8. | (a) whiplash | (b) lash | (c) slash | (d) backlash |
| 9. | (a) leisure | (b) leisurely | (c) leisured | (d) lesion |
| 10. | (a) given | (b) taken | (c) passed | (d) weighed |
| 11. | (a) pause | (b) rest | (c) breathe | (d) nap |
| 12. | (a) datum | (b) dated | (c) data | (d) dative |

SPELLING

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

Paragraph 1

1. Finland's national iacerrr Finnair
2. completely mnsaynuoo
3. the new ntvetiiaa
4. exceed the bdircrpees maximum weight
5. carry-on begagag
6. iiavatno authorities

Paragraph 2

7. at the aeprrudt gates
8. officials were intaiiy concerned
9. a customer bhcklsaa
10. get the most aucretac information
11. important balance claoitnsaulc
12. rest aesrdus

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () Passengers who volunteer to be weighed are stepping on weighing scales at the departure
- () gates at Helsinki Airport. Finnair officials were initially concerned about a customer backlash because weight
- () catering, water tanks, and passengers. Finnair said airlines never know the exact weight of passengers and their carry-
- () city of Helsinki. The weigh-ins are being done on a voluntary basis and are completely
- (**1**) Finland's national carrier Finnair has started weighing passengers on its flights from the capital
- () "rest assured" and have "peace of mind" that their weight would not be linked to their personal data.
- () is such a personal issue. However, in the first week of the tests, over 1,000 passengers had agreed to
- () adhered to. He said any airplane should not exceed the prescribed maximum weight for safe take-offs and
- () calculations." It added: "Our customers have taken it really positively so far." An official said travellers could
- () anonymous. A company spokesperson said the new initiative is to ensure safety standards on flights are
- () on baggage, so they have to rely on average estimates provided by aviation authorities.
- () be weighed. The company said: "We hope to have a good sample of volunteers, both business and
- () landings. This weight is made up of the aircraft itself, the fuel, checked baggage and cargo, onboard
- () leisure travellers, so that we can get the most accurate information possible for important balance

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. from capital . flights its passengers the on Weighing
2. to new The ensure standards . is safety initiative
3. made aircraft . is weight This the of up
4. know the of passengers . exact never Airlines weight
5. by on Rely provided aviation average estimates authorities .
6. concerned initially a were customer backlash . Officials about
7. most the information We accurate possible . get can
8. have far . really taken it so Customers positively
9. could An travellers said official rest assured .
10. linked wouldn't their to be Weight data . personal

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

Finland's national carrier Finnair has started weighing passengers on its flights from the capital city *on / of* Helsinki. The weigh-ins are being *done / doing* on a voluntary *bases / basis* and are completely anonymous. A company spokesperson said the new initiative is to *insure / ensure* safety standards on flights are adhered *at / to*. He said any airplane should not exceed the prescribed maximum weight for safe take-offs and *touchdowns / landings*. This weight is made *in / up* of the aircraft itself, the fuel, checked baggage and cargo, *onboard / outboard* catering, water tanks, and passengers. Finnair said airlines never know the *exact / exactly* weight of passengers and their carry-on baggage, so they have to *relay / rely* on average estimates provided by aviation authorities.

Passengers who volunteer to be weighed are stepping *up / on* weighing scales at the departure *gates / doors* at Helsinki Airport. Finnair officials were initially *concerned / cornered* about a customer backlash because weight is such a *personality / personal* issue. However, in the first week of the tests, over 1,000 passengers had *agreed / agreement* to be weighed. The company said: "We hope to have a good sample of volunteers, both business and *leisurely / leisure* travellers, so that we can get the most *accuracy / accurate* information possible for important balance calculations." It added: "Our customers have *given / taken* it really positively so far." An official said travellers could "rest assured" and have "*piece / peace* of mind" that their weight would not be linked to their personal *datum / data*.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

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

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

F_n_l_n_d's n_t__n_l c_rr__r F_nn__r h_s st_rt_d
w__gh_ng p_ss_ng_rs _n _ts fl_ghts fr_m th_ c_p_t_l
c_ty _f H_ls_nk_. Th_ w__gh-ns _r_ b__ng d_n_ _n _
v_l_nt_ry b_s_s _nd _r_ c_mpl_t_ly _n_nym__s. _
c_m_p_n_y sp_k_sp_rs_n s__d th_ n_w _n_t__t_v_ _s t_
_ns_r_ s_f_ty st_nd_rds _n fl_ghts _r_ _dh_r_d t_. H_
s__d _ny __rpl_n_ sh__ld n_t _xc__d th_ pr_scr_b_d
m_x_m_m w__ght f_r s_f_ t_k_-__ffs _nd l_nd_ngs. Th_s
w__ght _s m_d_ _p _f th_ __rcr_ft _ts_lf, th_ f__l,
ch_ck_d b_gg_g_ _nd c_rg_, _nb__rd c_t_r_ng, w_t_r
t_nks, _nd p_ss_ng_rs. F_nn__r s__d __rl_n_s n_v_r
kn_w th_ _x_ct w__ght _f p_ss_ng_rs _nd th__r c_rry-
_n b_gg_g_, s_ th_y h_v_ t_ r_ly _n _v_r_g_
_st_m_t_s pr_v_d_d by _v__t__n __th_r_t__s.

P_ss_ng_rs wh_ v_l_nt__r t_ b_ w__gh_d _r_ st_pp_ng
_n w__gh_ng sc_l_s _t th_ d_p_rt_r_ g_t_s _t
H_ls_nk_ __rp_rt. F_nn__r _ff_c__ls w_r_ _n_t__lly
c_nc_rn_d _b__t _ c_st_m_r b_ckl_sh b_c__s_ w__ght
_s s_ch _ p_rs_n_l _ss__. H_w_v_r, _n th_ f_rst w__k
f th t_sts, _v_r 1,000 p_ss_ng_rs h_d _gr__d t_ b_
w__gh_d. Th_ c_m_p_n_y s__d: "W_ h_p_ t_ h_v_ _
g__d s_mpl_ _f v_l_nt__rs, b_th b_s_n_ss _nd l__s_r_
tr_v_ll_rs, s_ th_t w_ c_n g_t th_ m_st _cc_r_t_
_nf_rm_t__n p_ss_bl_ _f_r _mp_rt_nt b_l_nc_
c_l_c_l_t__ns." _t _dd_d: "__r c_st_m_rs h_v_ t_k_n _t
r__lly p_s_t_v_ly s_ f_r." _n _ff_c__l s__d tr_v_ll_rs
c__ld "r_st _ss_r_d" _nd h_v_ "p__c_ _f m_nd" th_t
th__r w__ght w__ld n_t b_ l_nk_d t_ th__r p_rs_n_l
d_t_.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

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

finlands national carrier finnair has started weighing passengers on its flights from the capital city of helsinki the weighins are being done on a voluntary basis and are completely anonymous a company spokesperson said the new initiative is to ensure safety standards on flights are adhered to he said any airplane should not exceed the prescribed maximum weight for safe takeoffs and landings this weight is made up of the aircraft itself the fuel checked baggage and cargo onboard catering water tanks and passengers finnair said airlines never know the exact weight of passengers and their carryon baggage so they have to rely on average estimates provided by aviation authorities

passengers who volunteer to be weighed are stepping on weighing scales at the departure gates at helsinki airport finnair officials were initially concerned about a customer backlash because weight is such a personal issue however in the first week of the tests over 1000 passengers had agreed to be weighed the company said we hope to have a good sample of volunteers both business and leisure travellers so that we can get the most accurate information possible for important balance calculations it added our customers have taken it really positively so far an official said travellers could rest assured and have peace of mind that their weight would not be linked to their personal data

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

Finland's national carrier Finnair has started weighing passengers on its flights from the capital city of Helsinki. The weigh-ins are being done on a voluntary basis and are completely anonymous. A company spokesperson said the new initiative is to ensure safety standards on flights are adhered to. He said any airplane should not exceed the prescribed maximum weight for safe take-offs and landings. This weight is made up of the aircraft itself, the fuel, checked baggage and cargo, onboard catering, water tanks, and passengers. Finnair said airlines never know the exact weight of passengers and their carry-on baggage, so they have to rely on average estimates provided by aviation authorities. Passengers who volunteer to be weighed are stepping on weighing scales at the departure gates at Helsinki Airport. Finnair officials were initially concerned about a customer backlash because weight is such a personal issue. However, in the first week of the tests, over 1,000 passengers had agreed to be weighed. The company said: "We hope to have a good sample of volunteers, both business and leisure travellers, so that we can get the most accurate information possible for important balance calculations." It added: "Our customers have taken it really positively so far." An official said travellers could "rest assured" and have "peace of mind" that their weight would not be linked to their personal data.

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 story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

4. PAY PER KILO: Write a magazine article about airlines charging for flights according to their weight. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 airlines. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to make flying better. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. b 6. g 7. f
8. i 9. n 10. l 11. m 12. j 13. h 14. k

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 T 3 T 4 F 5 F 6 T 7 F 8 T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Helsinki Airport
- No one
- Safety standards
- Water tanks
- Aviation authorities
- The departure gates
- A customer backlash
- More than 1,000
- Balance
- Peace of mind

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Weighing passengers on its flights from the capital.
- The new initiative is to ensure safety standards.
- This weight is made up of the aircraft.
- Airlines never know the exact weight of passengers.
- Rely on average estimates provided by aviation authorities.
- Officials were initially concerned about a customer backlash.
- We can get the most accurate information possible.
- Customers have taken it really positively so far.
- An official said travellers could rest assured.
- Weight wouldn't be linked to their personal data.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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