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**Level 1 – 24th July 2025**

## **Airline pays staff bonus for spotting oversized bags**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2507/250724-oversized-luggage-1.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2507/250724-oversized-luggage-1.html>

The budget airline Ryanair will increase the bonus it pays to staff for finding bags that are too big. Staff currently get a "gate bag bonus". The is capped at \$95 a month. Ryanair wants to remove this cap. This could lead to fewer large suitcases. Ryanair's CEO said the company was "struggling" with baggage. He said he wants to lower the number of passengers with oversized baggage. Passengers must pay up to \$88 for oversized bags.

Ryanair said stricter rules were necessary, even though most people follow the rules. Over 99.9 per cent of passengers' luggage is the correct size. Ryanair said people know about the baggage rules because they are on its website. The company said it reminds customers about baggage size when they book an air ticket. The company hopes the problem of oversized luggage will disappear after a few years.

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2025/jul/21/ryanair-weighs-up-higher-bonus-paid-to-staff-intercepting-oversized-luggage>  
<https://www.foxbusiness.com/lifestyle/airline-considering-bigger-bonuses-staff-who-spot-oversized-bags>  
<https://www.thesun.co.uk/travel/35946197/ryanair-staff-bonus-oversized-bags/>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2507/250724-oversized-luggage-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                    |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. budget                          | a. oversized baggage |
| 2. Ryanair will increase the bonus | b. large suitcases   |
| 3. This is capped at \$95          | c. airline           |
| 4. Ryanair wants to remove         | d. up to \$88        |
| 5. This could lead to fewer        | e. a month           |
| 6. the company was "struggling"    | f. it pays           |
| 7. the number of passengers with   | g. this cap          |
| 8. Passengers must pay             | h. with baggage      |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Ryanair said stricter rules   | a. the rules      |
| 2. most people follow            | b. few years      |
| 3. 99.9 per cent of passengers'  | c. size           |
| 4. the correct                   | d. rules          |
| 5. people know about the baggage | e. were necessary |
| 6. The company said it reminds   | f. air ticket     |
| 7. when they book an             | g. luggage        |
| 8. disappear after a             | h. customers      |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2507/250724-oversized-luggage-1.html>

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Ryanair will increase the  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ to staff for finding bags that are  
too big. Staff (3) \_\_\_\_\_ "gate bag bonus".  
The is capped at \$95 a month. Ryanair wants  
(4) \_\_\_\_\_ cap. This could lead to fewer large  
suitcases. Ryanair's CEO said the company was "struggling" with  
baggage. He said he (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the number  
of passengers with oversized baggage. Passengers  
(6) \_\_\_\_\_ to \$88 for oversized bags.

Ryanair (7) \_\_\_\_\_ were necessary, even  
though most people (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Over 99.9  
per cent of passengers' luggage is the correct size. Ryanair said  
people know about (9) \_\_\_\_\_ because they  
are on its website. The company (10) \_\_\_\_\_  
customers about baggage size when they  
(11) \_\_\_\_\_ ticket. The company hopes the  
problem of oversized luggage will disappear  
(12) \_\_\_\_\_ years.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2507/250724-oversized-luggage-1.html>

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# LUGGAGE ON AIRPLANES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2507/250724-oversized-luggage-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about luggage on airplanes 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/2507/250724-oversized-luggage-1.html>

Write about **luggage on airplanes** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

[illegible]