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Level 2 – 24th July 2025

Airline pays staff bonus for spotting oversized bags

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2507/250724-oversized-luggage-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2507/250724-oversized-luggage-2.html>

The budget airline Ryanair has a plan for the problem of oversized luggage. The airline will increase the bonus it pays to staff for spotting bags that are too big. Staff currently get a "gate bag bonus" of \$1.75 a passenger. This is capped at about \$95 a month. Ryanair's CEO wants to remove this cap. He hopes removing it will lead to fewer large suitcases. The CEO said Ryanair was "struggling" with baggage. He said his airline needs to do more to cut the number of passengers with excess baggage. Passengers must pay a fee of up to \$88 for oversized bags.

Ryanair's CEO said stricter rules were necessary, even though most people follow the rules. He said more than 99.9 per cent of passengers' luggage fits the size limits. Ryanair said people know about the baggage rules because they are on its website. The company said: "Our bag policies are well understood. We remind customers of this when booking, and on their boarding pass. The CEO said a small number of customers do not follow the rules. 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-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The budget | a. large suitcases |
| 2. the problem of oversized | b. excess baggage |
| 3. increase the bonus it | c. luggage |
| 4. This is capped at about | d. fee of up to \$88 |
| 5. it will lead to fewer | e. needs to do more |
| 6. He said his airline | f. \$95 a month |
| 7. the number of passengers with | g. airline Ryanair |
| 8. pay a | h. pays to staff |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Ryanair's CEO said stricter | a. booking |
| 2. most people follow | b. size limits |
| 3. luggage fits the | c. understood |
| 4. they are on its | d. a few years |
| 5. Our bag policies are well | e. rules were necessary |
| 6. We remind customers of this when | f. pass |
| 7. their boarding | g. the rules |
| 8. disappear after | h. website |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2507/250724-oversized-luggage-2.html>

The budget airline Ryanair has a plan for (1) _____ oversized luggage. The airline will increase (2) _____ pays to staff for spotting bags that are too big. Staff currently get a "gate bag bonus" of \$1.75 a passenger. This is (3) _____ \$95 a month. Ryanair's CEO wants to remove this cap. He hopes removing it will (4) _____ large suitcases. The CEO said Ryanair was "struggling" with baggage. He said his airline needs to do more to cut (5) _____ passengers with excess baggage. Passengers must (6) _____ of up to \$88 for oversized bags.

Ryanair's CEO (7) _____ were necessary, even though most people follow the rules. He said more than 99.9 per cent of passengers' luggage fits (8) _____. Ryanair said people know about the baggage rules because they are (9) _____. The company said: "Our bag policies are well understood. (10) _____ of this when booking, and on their boarding pass. The CEO said (11) _____ of customers do not follow the rules. 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-2.html>

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LUGGAGE ON AIRPLANES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2507/250724-oversized-luggage-2.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-2.html>

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

[illegible]