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**Level 3 – 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.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

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

The Irish budget airline Ryanair has a plan to deal with oversized luggage. The airline could increase a bonus it pays to staff for spotting bags that are too big. Ryanair staff currently get a "gate bag bonus" of €1.50 (\$1.75) a passenger. This bonus is capped at about €80 (\$94) a month. Ryanair's chief executive officer (CEO) wants to remove the monthly cap. He hopes removing it will mean fewer large bags going on the aircraft. The CEO said: "We're already struggling with that amount of baggage. That's one of the reasons we are so aggressive about [cutting] the [number] of passengers with excess baggage." Passengers must pay a fee of up to €75 for oversized bags and suitcases.

Ryanair's CEO said being stricter with baggage was necessary, even though most people follow the rules. He said more than 99.9 per cent of passengers have luggage that fits within the size limits. Ryanair said most people knew about the company's baggage rules because they are clear to see on different websites. The company said: "Our bag policies and options are well understood, and we remind customers of this when booking, before they travel, and on their boarding pass. A very small proportion of customers who do not [follow our rules] will be charged at the airport." The company hopes the problem of oversized luggage will disappear within 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/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. LUGGAGE ON AIRPLANES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about luggage on airplanes. 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?

budget airline / luggage / bonus / staff / passenger / CEO / struggling / suitcases / follow the rules / size limits / policies / customers / boarding pass / airport / problem

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

**3. TRAVEL:** Students A **strongly** believe flying is the best way to travel; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. IMPROVEMENTS:** How can we make these things better? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How?	Why?
Airports		
Check-in		
Airplanes		
Baggage		
Passport control		
Seats		

**5. BONUS:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "bonus". 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.

- The seats
- The cabin crew
- Being in the air
- Airports
- Airplane food
- In-flight entertainment
- Landing
- Taking off

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 1. budget     | a. Do something to fix a problem.                             |
| 2. deal with  | b. Seeing or finding something.                               |
| 3. luggage    | c. Behaving in a strong or forceful way.                      |
| 4. spotting   | d. The bags and suitcases you carry when you travel.          |
| 5. passenger  | e. Finding something very difficult to do.                    |
| 6. struggling | f. Low-cost; cheap; not expensive.                            |
| 7. aggressive | g. A person who is travelling in a car, bus, train, or plane. |

## Paragraph 2

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 8. stricter    | h. Is the right size or shape.              |
| 9. fits        | i. Rules about how to do things.            |
| 10. policies   | j. Go away; not be seen.                    |
| 11. remind     | k. A person who buys things.                |
| 12. customer   | l. Help someone remember something.         |
| 13. proportion | m. Having strong rules and being less easy. |
| 14. disappear  | n. Part of something.                       |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

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

1. Ryanair staff get a bonus for carrying very heavy bags. **T / F**
2. The most a staff member can currently get as a bonus is \$175 a month. **T / F**
3. The CEO of the airline wants to take away the cap on bonuses. **T / F**
4. Ryanair passenger must pay a fee of up to 75 euros for oversized bags. **T / F**
5. The CEO said most passengers followed Ryanair's baggage rules. **T / F**
6. Ryanair said very few people know about its baggage rules. **T / F**
7. Ryanair reminds customers about baggage rules when they book. **T / F**
8. The CEO hopes there will be no more oversized baggage in a few years. **T / F**

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

- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. <b>budget</b>     | a. regulations |
| 2. <b>spotting</b>   | b. choices     |
| 3. <b>capped</b>     | c. charge      |
| 4. <b>aggressive</b> | d. plain       |
| 5. <b>fee</b>        | e. go away     |
| 6. <b>rules</b>      | f. forceful    |
| 7. <b>clear</b>      | g. ratio       |
| 8. <b>options</b>    | h. low-cost    |
| 9. <b>proportion</b> | i. limited     |
| 10. <b>disappear</b> | j. detecting   |

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

- |                                      |                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. a plan to deal                    | a. going on the aircraft  |
| 2. This bonus is capped at           | b. pass                   |
| 3. it will mean fewer large bags     | c. to €75                 |
| 4. one of the reasons we are so      | d. within a few years     |
| 5. pay a fee of up                   | e. aggressive             |
| 6. people knew about the company's   | f. on different websites  |
| 7. they are clear to see             | g. with oversized luggage |
| 8. we remind customers of this       | h. baggage rules          |
| 9. boarding                          | i. about €80              |
| 10. oversized luggage will disappear | j. when booking           |

# GAP FILL

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

The Irish budget airline Ryanair has a plan to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ with oversized luggage. The airline could (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a bonus it pays to staff for (3) \_\_\_\_\_ bags that are too big. Ryanair staff currently get a "gate bag bonus" of €1.50 (\$1.75) a passenger. This bonus is (4) \_\_\_\_\_ at about €80 (\$94) a month. Ryanair's chief executive officer (CEO) wants to remove the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ cap. He hopes removing it will mean fewer large bags going on the aircraft. The CEO said: "We're already (6) \_\_\_\_\_ with that amount of baggage. That's one of the reasons we are so (7) \_\_\_\_\_ about [cutting] the [number] of passengers with excess baggage." Passengers must pay a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of up to €75 for oversized bags and suitcases.

*increase*  
*struggling*  
*capped*  
*fee*  
*spotting*  
*aggressive*  
*deal*  
*monthly*

Ryanair's CEO said being stricter with baggage was (9) \_\_\_\_\_, even though most people follow the rules. He said more than 99.9 per cent of passengers have luggage that (10) \_\_\_\_\_ within the size limits. Ryanair said most people knew about the company's baggage rules because they are (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to see on different websites. The company said: "Our bag policies and (12) \_\_\_\_\_ are well understood, and we (13) \_\_\_\_\_ customers of this when booking, before they travel, and on their boarding (14) \_\_\_\_\_. A very small proportion of customers who do not [follow our rules] will be (15) \_\_\_\_\_ at the airport." The company hopes the problem of oversized luggage will disappear (16) \_\_\_\_\_ a few years.

*options*  
*fits*  
*pass*  
*necessary*  
*within*  
*remind*  
*charged*  
*clear*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

- 1) The Irish budget airline Ryanair has a plan to deal \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. with oversized roughage
  - b. with oversized lug gauge
  - c. with oversized luggage
  - d. with oversized lag ledge
- 2) The airline could increase a bonus it pays to staff \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. for spotting bags
  - b. for sporting bags
  - c. for spitting bags
  - d. for spot tin bags
- 3) This bonus is capped at about €80 \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. (\$94) the month
  - b. (\$94) a month
  - c. (\$94) for month
  - d. (\$94) in month
- 4) Ryanair's chief executive officer (CEO) wants to remove \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the monthly cape
  - b. the monthly carp
  - c. the monthly scrap
  - d. the monthly cap
- 5) aggressive about cutting the number of passengers \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. with access baggage
  - b. with recess baggage
  - c. with excess baggage
  - d. with success baggage
- 6) baggage was necessary, even though most people \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. follow a rules
  - b. follows the rules
  - c. follow the rules
  - d. follower the rules
- 7) passengers have luggage that fits within \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the sized limits
  - b. the sizes limits
  - c. the size limits
  - d. the seize limits
- 8) policies and options are well understood, and we remind customers of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. this where book in
  - b. this when book king
  - c. this what booking
  - d. this when booking
- 9) before they travel, and on \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. their boarding parse
  - b. their boarding past
  - c. their boarding pass
  - d. their boarding passer
- 10) The company hopes the problem of oversized luggage will disappear within \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a flew year
  - b. a few yearly
  - c. a few years
  - d. a flew years

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

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

The Irish budget airline Ryanair has a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ with oversized luggage. The airline could increase a (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to staff for spotting bags that are too big. Ryanair staff currently get a "gate bag bonus" of €1.50 (\$1.75) a passenger. This bonus (3) \_\_\_\_\_ about €80 (\$94) a month. Ryanair's chief executive officer (CEO) wants to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ cap. He hopes removing it will mean fewer large bags going on the aircraft. The CEO said: "We're already struggling with that (5) \_\_\_\_\_. That's one of the reasons we are so aggressive about [cutting] the [number] of passengers with excess baggage." Passengers must (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of up to €75 for oversized bags and suitcases.

Ryanair's CEO said (7) \_\_\_\_\_ baggage was necessary, even though most people follow the rules. He said more than 99.9 per cent of passengers have luggage that fits within (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Ryanair said most people knew about the company's baggage rules because they are (9) \_\_\_\_\_ on different websites. The company said: "Our bag policies and options are well understood, and (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of this when booking, before they travel, and on (11) \_\_\_\_\_. A very small proportion of customers who do not [follow our rules] will be charged at the airport." The company hopes the problem of oversized luggage will disappear (12) \_\_\_\_\_ years.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

1. What kind of airline did the article say Ryanair is?
2. What is the biggest "gate bag bonus" a worker can get in one month?
3. What does the Ryanair CEO want to remove?
4. What did the CEO say Ryanair was struggling with?
5. What is the highest fee a passenger might pay for an oversized bag?
6. What percentage of passengers follow the baggage size rules?
7. Where can people clearly see Ryanair's baggage size rules?
8. What did Ryanair say people understood well?
9. Where are people who do not follow the baggage rules charged?
10. What might disappear in a few years from now?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

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

- 1) What kind of airline did the article say Ryanair is?
  - a) a national airline
  - b) a budget airline
  - c) an award-winning airline
  - d) a premium airline
- 2) What is the biggest "gate bag bonus" a worker can get in one month?
  - a) about \$100
  - b) about €94
  - c) about \$80
  - d) about €80 (\$94)
- 3) What does the Ryanair CEO want to remove?
  - a) the monthly cap
  - b) his hat
  - c) uniforms
  - d) flight delays
- 4) What did the CEO say Ryanair was struggling with?
  - a) check-in processes
  - b) turbulence
  - c) the amount of baggage
  - d) passport control
- 5) What is the highest fee a passenger might pay for an oversized bag?
  - a) €65
  - b) €75
  - c) €85
  - d) €95
- 6) What percentage of passengers follow the baggage size rules?
  - a) 99.9%
  - b) 99.8%
  - c) 99.6%
  - d) 98.9%
- 7) Where can people clearly see Ryanair's baggage size rules?
  - a) at airports
  - b) in newspapers
  - c) on different websites
  - d) on suitcases
- 8) What did Ryanair say people understood well?
  - a) bag policies and options
  - b) how to check-in
  - c) the dangers of turbulence
  - d) geography
- 9) Where are people who do not follow the baggage rules charged?
  - a) at the airport
  - b) on the airplane
  - c) online
  - d) at their destination
- 10) What might disappear in a few years from now?
  - a) airplane pollution
  - b) airplane food
  - c) flight delays
  - d) the problem of oversized luggage

# ROLE PLAY

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

## **Role A – Being in the Air**

You think being in the air is the best thing about flying. 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): airplane food, taking off or in-flight entertainment.

## **Role B – Airplane Food**

You think airplane food is the best thing about flying. 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): being in the air, taking off or in-flight entertainment.

## **Role C – Taking Off**

You think taking off is the best thing about flying. 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): airplane food, being in the air or in-flight entertainment.

## **Role D – In-flight Entertainment**

You think in-flight entertainment is the best thing about flying. 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): airplane food, taking off or being in the air.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

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

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'airline' and 'luggage'.

airline	luggage

- 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"><li>• deal</li><li>• pays</li><li>• month</li><li>• fewer</li><li>• aggressive</li><li>• fee</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• stricter</li><li>• size</li><li>• clear</li><li>• remind</li><li>• charged</li><li>• years</li></ul>
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# LUGGAGE ON AIRPLANES SURVEY

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

# LUGGAGE ON AIRPLANES 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 'airline'?
3. What do you think of airlines?
4. What do you think of the baggage allowance on airplanes?
5. What do you think of flying?
6. What do you think of budget airlines?
7. What are the good and bad things about flying?
8. What should the weight limit be for taking baggage on airplanes?
9. What can people do to cut down on the weight of their luggage?
10. What things do you need to take with you onto an airplane?

*Airline pays staff bonus for spotting oversized bags – 24th July 2025*  
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# LUGGAGE ON AIRPLANES 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 'luggage'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think of your country's national airline?
15. Why are some airlines strict with the weight of baggage?
16. In what ways are budget airlines and non-budget airlines different?
17. Do you worry about what is in the luggage of other passengers?
18. What good and bad experiences have you had of flying?
19. What should happen to passengers who do not follow the rules?
20. What questions would you like to ask the boss of a budget airline?

## 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/2507/250724-oversized-luggage.html>

The Irish budget (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Ryanair has a plan to deal with oversized luggage. The airline could increase a bonus it (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to staff for spotting bags that are too big. Ryanair staff currently get a "gate bag bonus" of €1.50 (\$1.75) (3) \_\_\_\_\_ passenger. This bonus is capped at about €80 (\$94) a month. Ryanair's chief executive officer (CEO) wants to remove the monthly (4) \_\_\_\_\_. He hopes removing it will mean fewer large bags going on the aircraft. The CEO said: "We're already (5) \_\_\_\_\_ with that amount of baggage. That's one of the reasons we are so aggressive about [cutting] the [number] of passengers with excess baggage." Passengers must pay a fee of (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to €75 for oversized bags and suitcases.

Ryanair's CEO said being (7) \_\_\_\_\_ with baggage was necessary, even though most people follow the rules. He said more than 99.9 per cent of passengers have luggage that (8) \_\_\_\_\_ within the size limits. Ryanair said most people knew about the company's baggage rules because they are clear (9) \_\_\_\_\_ see on different websites. The company said: "Our bag policies and options are (10) \_\_\_\_\_ understood, and we remind customers of this when booking, before they travel, and on their boarding (11) \_\_\_\_\_. A very small proportion of customers who do not [follow our rules] will be charged at the airport." The company hopes the problem of oversized luggage will disappear (12) \_\_\_\_\_ a few years.

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

- |     |                |              |                |               |
|-----|----------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) airliner   | (b) aircraft | (c) airplane   | (d) airline   |
| 2.  | (a) pay        | (b) payee    | (c) paying     | (d) pays      |
| 3.  | (a) the        | (b) a        | (c) for        | (d) to        |
| 4.  | (a) lid        | (b) hat      | (c) cap        | (d) top       |
| 5.  | (a) struggles  | (b) struggle | (c) struggling | (d) struggled |
| 6.  | (a) up         | (b) over     | (c) down       | (d) along     |
| 7.  | (a) strictly   | (b) stricter | (c) strictness | (d) stricture |
| 8.  | (a) fits       | (b) fitness  | (c) fitting    | (d) fitter    |
| 9.  | (a) for        | (b) to       | (c) by         | (d) at        |
| 10. | (a) good       | (b) nice     | (c) well       | (d) bad       |
| 11. | (a) past       | (b) parts    | (c) pass       | (d) passerby  |
| 12. | (a) withdrawal | (b) wither   | (c) without    | (d) within    |



# SPELLING

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

## Paragraph 1

1. The Irish debutg airline Ryanair
2. Ryanair's chief etuecvxie officer (CEO)
3. We're already rnuiglggts with that
4. we are so grsasevieg
5. passengers with sexsce baggage
6. oversized bags and tsceisau

## Paragraph 2

7. being tcirtes with baggage
8. Our bag iesicpol and options
9. we remind meucssotr of this
10. on their danibgor pass
11. A very small ooprtorpion
12. oversized luggage will ppieadars

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) airport." The company hopes the problem of oversized luggage will disappear within a few years.
- ( ) baggage." Passengers must pay a fee of up to €75 for oversized bags and suitcases.
- ( ) bonus" of €1.50 (\$1.75) a passenger. This bonus is capped at about €80 (\$94) a month. Ryanair's chief executive
- ( ) limits. Ryanair said most people knew about the company's baggage rules because they are clear to
- ( ) officer (CEO) wants to remove the monthly cap. He hopes removing it will mean fewer large bags going on
- ( ) pass. A very small proportion of customers who do not [follow our rules] will be charged at the
- ( ) reasons we are so aggressive about [cutting] the [number] of passengers with excess
- ( ) rules. He said more than 99.9 per cent of passengers have luggage that fits within the size
- ( ) Ryanair's CEO said being stricter with baggage was necessary, even though most people follow the
- ( ) see on different websites. The company said: "Our bag policies and options are well
- ( ) the aircraft. The CEO said: "We're already struggling with that amount of baggage. That's one of the
- ( **1** ) The Irish budget airline Ryanair has a plan to deal with oversized luggage. The airline could increase a bonus it pays
- ( ) to staff for spotting bags that are too big. Ryanair staff currently get a "gate bag
- ( ) understood, and we remind customers of this when booking, before they travel, and on their boarding

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. The Ryanair Irish budget airline a has plan .
2. a it to bonus pays staff Increase .
3. it large will fewer mean Removing bags .
4. We're that amount with already struggling baggage of .
5. pay Passengers a must euros fee 75 of .
6. being stricter baggage Ryanair said with was necessary .
7. Passengers luggage within limits the that fits have .
8. remind customers We booking when this of .
9. Customers not do who our follow rules .
10. problem luggage The of disappear will oversized .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

The Irish budget airline Ryanair has a plan *to / for* deal with oversized luggage. The airline could increase a bonus it *pays / paying* to staff for spotting bags *that / what* are too big. Ryanair staff *currently / currency* get a "gate bag bonus" *of / to* €1.50 (\$1.75) a passenger. This bonus is capped at about €80 (\$94) a *month / monthly*. Ryanair's chief executive officer (CEO) wants to remove the monthly *hat / cap*. He hopes *removing / remove* it will mean fewer large bags going on the aircraft. The CEO said: "We're already struggling with that amount of baggage. That's one of the reasons we are so aggressive about [cutting] the [number] of *passenger / passengers* with excess baggage." Passengers must pay a fee of up *for / to* €75 for oversized bags and suitcases.

Ryanair's CEO said being stricter with baggage was *need / necessary*, even though most people *unfollow / follow* the rules. He said more than 99.9 per cent of passengers have luggage that fits *with / within* the size limits. Ryanair said most people *knowing / knew* about the company's baggage rules because they *are / be* clear to see on different websites. The company said: "Our bag policies and *options / optional* are well understood, and we remind customers of this *what / when* booking, before they travel, and *on / at* their boarding pass. A very small proportion of customers who do not [follow our rules] will be charged *at / as* the airport." The company hopes the problem of oversized luggage will disappear within a few *year / years*.

**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/2507/250724-oversized-luggage.html>

Th\_ \_r\_sh b\_dg\_t \_\_rl\_n\_ Ry\_n\_\_r h\_s \_ pl\_n t\_ d\_\_l w\_th  
\_v\_rs\_z\_d l\_gg\_g\_. Th\_ \_\_rl\_n\_ c\_\_ld \_ncr\_\_s\_ \_ b\_n\_s \_t  
p\_ys t\_ st\_ff f\_r sp\_tt\_ng b\_gs th\_t \_r\_ t\_\_ b\_g. Ry\_n\_\_r  
st\_ff c\_rr\_ntly g\_t \_ "g\_t\_ b\_g b\_n\_s" \_f €1.50 (\$1.75) \_  
p\_ss\_ng\_r. Th\_s b\_n\_s \_s c\_pp\_d \_t \_b\_\_t €80 (\$94) \_  
m\_nth. Ry\_n\_\_r's ch\_\_f \_x\_c\_t\_v\_ \_ff\_c\_r (C\_\_) w\_nts t\_  
r\_m\_v\_ th\_ m\_nthly c\_p. H\_ h\_p\_s r\_m\_v\_ng \_t w\_ll m\_\_n  
f\_w\_r l\_rg\_ b\_gs g\_\_ng \_n th\_ \_\_rcr\_ft. Th\_ C\_\_ s\_\_d:  
"W\_'r\_ \_lr\_\_dy str\_ggl\_ng w\_th th\_t \_m\_\_nt \_f b\_gg\_g\_.  
Th\_t's \_n\_ \_f th\_ r\_\_s\_ns w\_ \_r\_ s\_ \_ggr\_ss\_v\_ \_b\_\_t  
[c\_tt\_ng] th\_ [n\_mb\_r] \_f p\_ss\_ng\_rs w\_th \_xc\_ss b\_gg\_g\_."  
P\_ss\_ng\_rs m\_st p\_y \_ f\_\_ \_f \_p t\_ €75 f\_r \_v\_rs\_z\_d b\_gs  
\_nd s\_\_tc\_s\_s.

Ry\_n\_\_r's C\_\_ s\_\_d b\_\_ng str\_ct\_r w\_th b\_gg\_g\_ w\_s  
n\_c\_ss\_ry, \_v\_n th\_\_gh m\_st p\_\_pl\_ f\_ll\_w th\_ r\_l\_s. H\_  
s\_\_d m\_r\_ th\_n 99.9 p\_r c\_nt \_f p\_ss\_ng\_rs h\_v\_ l\_gg\_g\_  
th\_t f\_ts w\_th\_n th\_ s\_z\_ l\_m\_ts. Ry\_n\_\_r s\_\_d m\_st p\_\_pl\_  
kn\_w \_b\_\_t th\_ c\_m\_p\_ny's b\_gg\_g\_ r\_l\_s b\_c\_\_s\_ th\_y \_r\_  
cl\_\_r t\_ s\_\_ \_n d\_ff\_r\_nt w\_bs\_t\_s. Th\_ c\_m\_p\_ny s\_\_d: "\_\_r  
b\_g p\_l\_c\_\_s \_nd \_pt\_\_ns \_r\_ w\_ll \_nd\_rst\_\_d, \_nd w\_  
r\_m\_nd c\_st\_m\_rs \_f th\_s wh\_n b\_\_k\_ng, b\_f\_r\_ th\_y tr\_v\_l,  
\_nd \_n th\_\_r b\_\_rd\_ng p\_ss. \_ v\_ry sm\_ll pr\_p\_rt\_\_n \_f  
c\_st\_m\_rs wh\_ d\_ n\_t [f\_ll\_w \_\_r r\_l\_s] w\_ll b\_ ch\_rg\_d \_t  
th\_ \_\_rp\_rt." Th\_ c\_m\_p\_ny h\_p\_s th\_ pr\_bl\_m \_f \_v\_rs\_z\_d  
l\_gg\_g\_ w\_ll d\_s\_pp\_\_r w\_th\_n \_ f\_w y\_\_rs.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

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

the irish budget airline ryanair has a plan to deal with oversized luggage the airline could increase a bonus it pays to staff for spotting bags that are too big ryanair staff currently get a gate bag bonus of €150 \$175 a passenger this bonus is capped at about €80 \$94 a month ryanairs chief executive officer ceo wants to remove the monthly cap he hopes removing it will mean fewer large bags going on the aircraft the ceo said were already struggling with that amount of baggage thats one of the reasons we are so aggressive about cutting the number of passengers with excess baggage passengers must pay a fee of up to €75 for oversized bags and suitcases

ryanairs ceo said being stricter with baggage was necessary even though most people follow the rules he said more than 999 per cent of passengers have luggage that fits within the size limits ryanair said most people knew about the companys baggage rules because they are clear to see on different websites the company said our bag policies and options are well understood and we remind customers of this when booking before they travel and on their boarding pass a very small proportion of customers who do not follow our rules will be charged at the airport the company hopes the problem of oversized luggage will disappear within a few years

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

The Irish budget airline Ryanair has a plan to deal with oversized luggage. The airline could increase a bonus it pays to staff for spotting bags that are too big. Ryanair staff currently get a "gate bag bonus" of €1.50 (\$1.75) a passenger. This bonus is capped at about €80 (\$94) a month. Ryanair's chief executive officer (CEO) wants to remove the monthly cap. He hopes removing it will mean fewer large bags going on the aircraft. The CEO said: "We're already struggling with that amount of baggage. That's one of the reasons we are so aggressive about [cutting] the [number] of passengers with excess baggage." Passengers must pay a fee of up to €75 for oversized bags and suitcases. Ryanair's CEO said being stricter with baggage was necessary, even though most people follow the rules. He said more than 99.9 percent of passengers have luggage that fits within the size limits. Ryanair said most people knew about the company's baggage rules because they are clear to see on different websites. The company said: "Our baggage policies and options are well understood, and we remind customers of this when booking, before they travel, and on their boarding pass. A very small proportion of customers who do not [follow our rules] will be charged at the airport." The company hopes the problem of oversized luggage will disappear within a few years.

## FREE WRITING

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

Write about **luggage on airplanes** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

[illegible]



# ACADEMIC WRITING

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

There should be big charges for people who take too much on airplanes. Discuss.

[illegible]

# **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. LUGGAGE ON AIRPLANES:** Make a poster about luggage on airplanes. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. WEIGHT AND SIZE LIMIT:** Write a magazine article about increasing the charge for luggage on airplanes that is too large and/or heavy. 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 luggage on airplanes. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to travel lighter. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A budget airline
2. About €80 (\$94)
3. The monthly cap
4. The amount of baggage
5. €75
6. 99.9%
7. On different websites
8. Bag policies and options
9. At the airport
10. The problem of oversized luggage

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. The Irish budget airline Ryanair has a plan.
2. Increase a bonus it pays to staff.
3. Removing it will mean fewer large bags.
4. We're already struggling with that amount of baggage.
5. Passengers must pay a fee of 75 euros.
6. Ryanair said being stricter with baggage was necessary.
7. Passengers have luggage that fits within the limits.
8. We remind customers of this when booking.
9. Customers who do not follow our rules.
10. The problem of oversized luggage will disappear.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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