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Level 4 – 2nd November 2026

Study finds majority of pilots nod off mid-flight

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https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261102-pilot-fatigue-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/2611/261102-pilot-fatigue-4.html

A new report has raised concerns about pilot fatigue. A European pilots' association conducted a survey of 7,200 pilots. It found that exhaustion was widespread and underreported. More than three-quarters of respondents said they had dozed off while being in control of an airplane. Almost a quarter of them said they had flown even when they were too tired. Tiredness can result from long working hours, not having enough rest, and changing schedules.

The pilots were honest in their answers. Many said they didn't report fatigue because they were worried about being punished. A pilots' spokesperson said: "When pilots fear career consequences, fatigue goes unreported and the risk returns to the cockpit." Safety experts say fatigue can slow judgement and reaction times. The experts said pilots should be able to report fatigue without worrying. Airlines should prioritise passenger safety.

Sources: https://www.**fodors.com**/world/europe/experiences/news/european-pilots-are-accidentally-falling-asleep-in-the-cockpit
https://www.**euronews.com**/2026/10/28/more-than-half-of-pilots-say-they-flew-while-tired-as-trust-in-reporting-systems-remains-l
https://www.**theguardian.com**/business/2026/oct/26/quarter-europe-airline-pilots-fly-too-fatigued-to-work-survey

PHRASE MATCHING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261102-pilot-fatigue-4.html

PARAGRAPH ONE:

1. A new report has raised	a. working hours
2. A European pilots'	b. survey
3. conducted a	c. of an airplane
4. exhaustion was	d. rest
5. they had dozed	e. association
6. being in control	f. widespread
7. Tiredness can result from long	g. off
8. not having enough	h. concerns

PARAGRAPH TWO:

1. The pilots were	a. judgement
2. they were worried about being	b. report fatigue
3. pilots fear career	c. unreported
4. fatigue goes	d. passenger safety
5. fatigue can slow	e. honest
6. reaction	f. punished
7. pilots should be able to	g. times
8. Airlines should prioritise	h. consequences

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261102-pilot-fatigue-4.html

A new report (1) _____ about pilot fatigue. A European pilots' association (2) _____ of 7,200 pilots. It found (3) _____ widespread and underreported. More than three-quarters of respondents said they had dozed off while (4) _____ of an airplane. Almost a quarter of them said they (5) _____ when they were too tired. Tiredness can result from long working hours, not (6) _____, and changing schedules.

The pilots (7) _____ their answers. Many said they didn't report fatigue because they were worried (8) _____. A pilots' spokesperson said: "When pilots fear career consequences, (9) _____ and the risk returns to the cockpit." (10) _____ fatigue can slow judgement (11) _____. The experts said pilots should be able to report fatigue without worrying. Airlines should (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261102-pilot-fatigue-4.html

Anewreporthasraisedconcernsaboutpilotfatigue.AEuropeanpilot'sa
ssociationconductedasurveyof7,200pilots.Itfoundthatexhaustionw
aswidespreadandunderreported.Morethanthree-quartersofrespon
dentssaidtheyhaddozedoffwhilebeingincontrolofanairplane.Almost
aquarterofthemsaidtheyhadflownevenwhentheyweretootired.Tired
nesscanresultfromlongworkinghours,nothavingenoughrest,andcha
ngingschedules.Thepilotswerehonestintheiranswers.Manysaidthey
didn'treportfatiguebecausetheywereworriedaboutbeingpunished.A
pilots'spokespersonsaid:"Whenpilotsfearcareerconsequences,fatig
uegoesunreportedandtheriskreturnstothecockpit."Safetyexpertssa
yfatiguecanslowjudgementandreactiontimes.Theexpertssaidpilotss
houldbeabletoreportfatiguewithoutworrying.Airlinesshouldprioritis
epassengersafety.

FATIGUE SURVEY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2611/261102-pilot-fatigue-4.html

Write five GOOD questions about fatigue 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/2611/261102-pilot-fatigue-4.html

Write about **fatigue** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.