Name: Class:

MAP/ EmSAT Reading Practice

Reading: Travel

There are many ways to travel and many places to travel to in this world. If you live in the Emirates you are lucky because two of the largest and most modern airlines in the world fly outof Abu Dhabi and Dubai. They are Etihad Airlines and Emirates Airline. The UAE has another advantage because **it** is located strategically between Asia, Europe and Africa.

Nowadays, if we are travelling long distances then the easiest and most affordable way to go is by airplane. However, after the war in Europe there were few airlines and in the decades of the 40s and 50s most people travelled long distances by ship or train. On the other hand, air travel did become very important quickly in countries where there was a poor road and rail transport infrastructure and a small coastline. The USSR, a republic consisting of Russia and 14 other countries had few railways and roads, and so, early on, air transport quickly became essential to the country. By 1950 Aeroflot was carrying 1,603,700 passengers a year.

Britain was the first to develop the jet engine and jet airliners; the BOAC Comet was the first passenger jet. But, outside the USSR, in the more developed world, air travel was very expensive and there were other cheaper alternatives. Only the wealthy could afford to fly in jet planes on a regular basis early on. More people began to travel on planes in the 60s and the price fell. Air travel in the USA became cheaper. It also took far less time to go from New Yorkto Los Angeles in an airplane than it did on a train. Mass air travel took off in the 1970s. By then 500 million people every year were flying to their destinations. The most popular airliners in those early years were the DC8 and the Boeing 707.

Currently, around 3.5 billion people travel by air every year and, on average, about 8 million people fly every day. The Airports Council International estimates that 9 billion people will travel by air in 2025. In fact, if this happens this will have a catastrophic effect on the climate because of all the fuel the planes burn. Enormous additional amounts of CO2 would be released into the atmosphere and would contribute to heating up the planet. We must assume, therefore, that if air travel grows as projected, then it will have do so using a much more efficient version of the technology we already have or using a different technology altogether.

Statistics from IATA

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Questions

1. The main idea of the text is the_____
   A. number of people who fly in airplanes
   B. growth of air travel
   C. effect of air travel on the environment
   D. air travel in the USSR

2. How many passengers did Aeroflot carry on its planes in 1950?
   A. 1,603,700
   B. 3,000,000
   C. 10,007
   D. 10,060,000

3. How many people flew in 1970?
   A. 3 Billion
   B. 8 million
   C. 500,000,000
   D. 30,000,000

4. The word "it" in paragraph 1 refers to_____
   A. CO_2
   B. Aeroflot
   C. the UAE
   D. Dubai

5. How many people does the Airports Council International think will fly in 2025?
   A. 500 million
   B. Around 9 billion
   C. 8 million
   D. 3.3 billion

6. What could be a dangerous result of 9 billion people flying every year?
   A. More accidents
   B. Not enough airports
   C. Too much tourism
   D. A warmer climate

LIVEWORKSHEETS