AIR TRAVEL



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Expemo code:
17GR-51DF-VBQ

1 Warm up

Match the words and pictures related to air travel.

aisle seat	scales	cabin crew	boarding pass
tray	departure gate	seat belt	a carry-on bag in an overhead bin



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

1. **How often do you fly?**
2. **Have you ever used English while you were traveling?**

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2 Listening

Listen to these three airport situations and answer the questions.

Situation 1: check in

1. Where is the passenger flying to? _____
2. How many bags does the passenger want to check? _____
3. What gate does the flight leave from? _____

Situation 2: security

What order do you hear these words: bag / jewelry / shoes / tray?

Situation 3: on the plane

What three problems does the passenger talk about?

Listen again and write in the missing words, using the first letter you are given.

Situation 1: Check in

1. M..... I see your passport, please?
2. A..... you checking any bags today?
3. D..... you pack your bag yourself?
4. P..... your bag on the scales.
5. The flight will be r..... to board at 10:35.

Situation 2: Security

1. P..... your items in the tray.
2. S..... this way, please.
3. T..... off your shoes and belt.
4. A..... you wearing any jewelry?
5. C..... you open your bag, please?

Situation 3: On the plane

1. Please p..... your bags in the overhead bins.
2. Please fasten your seatbelt when we switch on the s..... .
3. We are about to t..... off.
4. We are experiencing some turbulence, but we'll shortly be p..... through the cabin with drinks and snacks.

We often hear special vocabulary in airport situations.

1. What does *step* mean in Situation 2, Security?
2. What word is often used with the same meaning as *put*?
3. You heard the phrasal verb *take off* in two situations, Security and On the plane. What two different meanings does it have? What are the opposites?
4. Find two time phrases in Situation 3. What do they mean?

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3 Language point

In a service situation, like air travel, you will hear several types of language: questions and requests, as well as instructions and announcements. It's helpful to know what type of thing people are saying so you know how to respond.

Study the table and choose the best word to complete the sentences.

	questions	requests	responding to requests
staff	Where are you flying to today? / Are you checking any bags today? / Did you pack your bag yourself? / Have you left your bag unattended at any time? / Did anyone give you anything to carry on the flight today? / Are you wearing any jewelry?	May I see your passport, please? / Can you open your bag, please? / Could you show me your boarding pass, please?	
passenger	Are you sure this is your seat?	Do you have any tissues?	Here you are. / OK. / Of course. / Sure.

When someone makes a request, they **want you to do something / need information.**

In requests, we often use phrases with modal verbs: **may**, **can**, and **could**.

1. In this situation, can you say "no" to the staff requests about showing your passport or opening your bag?
2. When someone asks a question, they **want you to do something** / **need information**.
3. When we ask yes/no questions, including requests, we use **rising** / **falling** intonation.
4. When we ask questions with question words (like *where* or *how many*), we use **rising** / **falling** intonation.
5. We usually **don't need** / **need** to say something in response to a question or request.

If you don't understand something, you should ask the person to repeat it.

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At an airport, you also hear instructions and announcements.

1. Instructions **suggest what to do / tell you what you need to do**.
2. Announcements give instructions or information to **many people / one person**.
3. After an instruction or an announcement, we usually need to **do something / say something**.

Label the columns as instructions or announcements.

_____ 1	_____ 2
Place your bag on the scales.	Please fasten your seatbelt when we switch on the sign.
Go through Security and make your way to departure gate C45.	We are about to take off.
Place your items in the tray.	We are experiencing some turbulence.
Step this way, please.	We'll shortly be passing through the cabin with drinks and snacks.
Take off your shoes and belt.	If you need anything, please ask the cabin crew.

4 Practice

Add one missing word to each sentence in the correct place, as in the example: *Are you this is your seat? Are you sure this is your seat?*

1. I see your passport, please?
2. Are you checking bags today?
3. Did you pack your bag ?
4. your bag on the scales.
5. Place your in the tray.
6. this way, please.
7. you open your bag, please?
8. Please place bags in the overhead lockers.
9. Please fasten your when we switch on the sign.
10. We'll shortly be passing the cabin with drinks and snacks.

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5 Speaking

Plan and perform 2 dialogues - check in and in the air.

Work in A/B pairs. Look through the plans for two airport dialogues and roleplay the conversations, using language from the lesson. Use natural rising/falling intonation for requests and questions.

At check in	
Student A: airline staff	**Student B:** passenger
1 greet the passenger; destination?	2 answer the question
3 request: passport	4 show passport
5 check bags?	6 say how many
7 request: put on scales	8 put on scales
9 security question	10 answer the question
11 boarding pass; instructions for gate number, and time to board	12 thank you

On the plane	
Student A: passenger	**Student B:** cabin crew
1 greet the passenger; request: boarding pass	2 show boarding pass
3 explain seat location and type of seat	4 find seat
5 request: put carry-on bags in bin	6 put bags in bin
7 announce seat belt	8 follow instructions - seat belt
9 announce drinks and snacks	10 order drinks and snacks; request: something else
11 help the passenger with their request	12 thank you

Try the conversations again in different roles. This time, the passenger doesn't understand something and needs to ask for repetition.

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6 Extra practice/homework

Put these sentences in order to show what happens when you travel by air.

The plane takes off. ___

You answer some questions about your bags, and you check them. ___

You board the plane and find your seat. ___

You fasten your seat belt. ___

You find the departure gate. ___

You go through a duty-free shopping area where you can buy things tax-free. ___

You may also have to take off your shoes and jewelry. ___

You put your carry-on bags in the overhead bin. ___

You put your things onto a tray for a machine to check that they are safe. ___

You show your passport and say where you're going. 1

7 Optional extension

Read this text about what happens after your plane lands and choose the best words to complete the gaps.

checked electronic Goods illegal landed Nothing officials visa

Once the plane has _____ and you get off, there will be a short walk or bus ride to the airport terminal. The next stage is Immigration. Here, _____ will check your passport and you might need to fill in a landing card. Also, if you need a _____ for the country you are arriving in, some airports ask you to open your passport and show them the page where it is. A lot of airports now have _____ scanners for your passport, and they also take your photo. After that, you will go to Baggage Claim. If you _____ your bags, you can find them again here, usually after a short wait. Make sure you take the right one.The final stage is Customs. There will be two signs: one will say "_____ to declare," which will be in green, while the other sign, which is red, says "_____ to declare." If you are sure that you have nothing _____ with you, and you didn't buy too many duty-free products, take the green exit.

Have you ever had any problems after your plane landed? What happened?

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