

6

Safety and emergencies

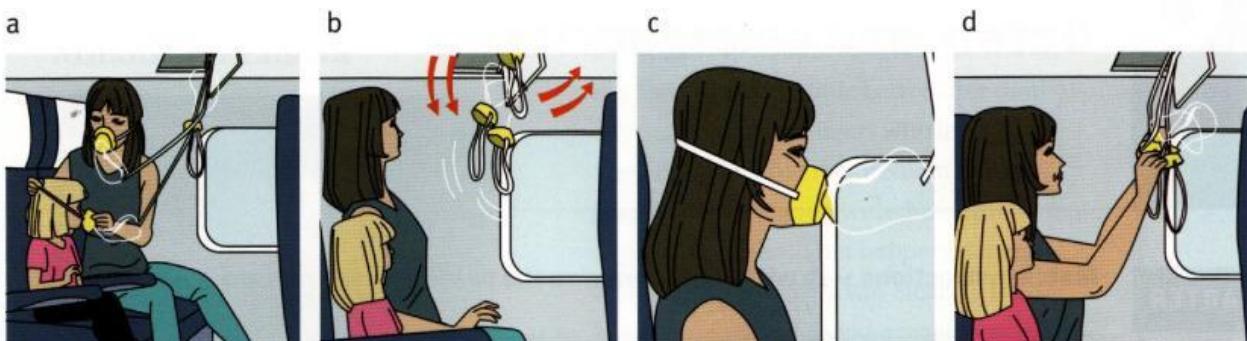
STARTER

Match instructions 1–10 with the pictures on the passenger safety card.



- 1 _____ Close overhead lockers and stow bags under seats.
- 2 _____ Disarm the door.
- 3 _____ Fasten your seat belts.
- 4 _____ Get down low and follow the floor lighting.
- 5 _____ Jump onto the slide feet first.
- 6 _____ Open the emergency exit next to your seat.
- 7 _____ Put on your own oxygen mask first.
- 8 _____ Take up the brace position.
- 9 _____ Use the overwing emergency exits over water.
- 10 _____ Your life jacket is under your seat.

1 Listen to the flight attendant's announcement. Which pictures from the safety card apply to this situation?

2 Listen again. Number the pictures in the right order.**3 Match each action with the pictures in exercise 2.**

- 1 Pull a mask towards your face.
- 2 Place the mask over your nose and mouth.
- 3 Remember to secure your own mask before helping others.
- 4 The oxygen masks will drop down.

4 Now match the actions in exercise 3 with a link word and an explanation below.

Link word	Explanation
<u>Pull a mask towards your face</u>	due to/because of
<u>so</u>	
<u>because</u>	
<u>in order to</u>	
	a a drop in cabin pressure.
	b keep the mask in place.
	c you must remain conscious and alert.
	d you can breathe the oxygen.

5 Listen to the pilot's announcement. Use the words in the box to complete the sentences.

after • before • once • until • when • while

- 1 _____ your oxygen masks drop down, please use them _____ we descend to a lower altitude.
- 2 Keep your masks on _____ we tell you to take them off.
- 3 _____ we get down to 10,000 feet, we'll make another announcement.
- 4 Please feel free to ask the cabin crew if you need any assistance _____ we get to Minsk.
- 5 _____ landing, we will make alternative arrangements for you.

6 Underline the correct alternative.

- 1 The Captain is concerned about the **loss of pressure / rapid descent**.
- 2 The aircraft is descending **slowly / quickly** in order to reach a safe altitude.
- 3 The aircraft is descending to **above / below** 10,000 feet because passengers can breathe without extra oxygen at that altitude.
- 4 The Captain is explaining the process so this is probably **a controlled / an emergency** descent.

7 Even in a controlled descent, passengers will usually be concerned. Match the concerns in A with the responses in B.

A Passenger concerns	B Cabin crew responses
1 Are we going to crash?	a We're descending to a lower altitude.
2 I feel fine. Why do I need oxygen?	b There's nothing to worry about. Everything's fine.
3 What's happening?	c Because the air pressure in the cabin is too low.
4 When can we have something to eat?	d So we can land quickly.
5 Why are we diverting?	e Because it's too far away.
6 I'm really scared.	f After we arrive in Minsk.
7 Why aren't we going on to Almaty?	g In order to fix the problem.
8 Why do we need to land?	h Of course not. We'll be on the ground before you know it.

Listen and check.

8 Look again at the cabin crew responses in B above. Answer the questions.

- 1 Which words are used to reassure passengers?
- 2 Which words signal that a reason is being given?
- 3 Which phrases give the passengers information?

9 Work with a partner and take turns.

Student A: Give the information or instructions below and reassure passengers.

Student B: Respond to the information.

- 1 Keep seat belts fastened.
- 2 Observe the 'No Smoking' signs.
- 3 Keep all electrical equipment switched off.
- 4 Remove oxygen masks.
- 5 Return seats to upright position.
- 6 Remain seated.

A: You can take your oxygen mask off now.

B: Are you sure it's safe?

A: Yes. You can breathe normally once we get below 10,000 feet.

You're quite safe now.

GIVING INFORMATION/ADVICE	GIVING A REASON	REASSURING THE PASSENGER
Pull the mask towards your face We're diverting to City airport We'll contact Air Traffic Control	because the air pressure is too low. because of a drop in pressure. so we can land. (in order) to fix the problem. due to a loss of pressure.	There's (really) nothing to worry/be concerned about. (I can assure you) it's normal/fine/OK. It's/You're perfectly/quite/completely safe. It's all under control. You can breathe normally.

10 Read the text and answer the questions.

A rapid decompression is much more serious than a gradual decompression and the effects will appear extremely quickly. There will be no time to ask and answer questions.

During a rapid decompression ...

- 1 there will be a loud noise and a sudden fogging or misting of the cabin. These are caused by the sudden change in pressure. There will also be a rapid temperature drop.
- 2 oxygen levels will fall very quickly and cause hypoxia – a condition where the human body isn't getting enough oxygen.
- 3 lack of oxygen quickly leads to dizziness, nausea, loss of judgement, and problems with vision.
- 4 you may have less than one minute to put on your oxygen mask before you lose consciousness.
- 5 physical activity becomes difficult and dangerous because oxygen levels are low.
- 6 the temperature will fall rapidly.
- 7 exposure to extremely low temperatures causes hypothermia, a condition where body temperature becomes dangerously low.
- 8 sudden pressure changes may cause pain from trapped gas in the body.
- 9 any unsecured objects or persons may move around the cabin or be sucked out of the aircraft.

- 1 What causes a loud noise when there is a rapid decompression?
- 2 What is *hypoxia*?
- 3 What will happen to you if you don't put on your oxygen mask?
- 4 Why does physical activity become difficult after a rapid decompression?

11 Put the words in the box in the correct column in the table.

dizziness • fog and mist • hypothermia • loss of judgement • nausea •
objects moving around the cabin • pain from trapped gases • vision problems

Rapid decompression problems caused by ...

very low temperatures	lack of oxygen	sudden pressure change

**12** In emergency situations, the crew have to issue direct orders. Listen and underline the main stress on each order.

1 Keep your mask <u>on</u> !	6 Sit down!
2 Stay calm!	7 Breathe normally.
3 Stay in your seat!	8 Put your own mask on first.
4 Keep your seat belt fastened!	9 Hold on!
5 Don't unfasten your seat belt!	10 Don't get up.

13 Work with a partner. Take turns reading the orders aloud and saying the main stress.