

#### 4 LISTENING



- a You are going to listen to an airline pilot talking on a radio programme. Before you listen, discuss questions 1–6 with a partner and imagine what the answers will be.
- 1 What weather conditions are the most dangerous when you are flying a plane?
  - 2 Is turbulence really dangerous?
  - 3 Which is more dangerous, take-off or landing?
  - 4 Why do passengers have to switch off electronic devices and put their tables up during take-off and landing?
  - 5 Is it really worth listening to safety demonstrations?
  - 6 Do you ever get scared?
- b **3.9** Listen to the programme. How many of the pilot's answers did you predict correctly?
- c Listen again and take notes. How does he explain his answers?
- d What did the pilot say that might make you feel more relaxed next time you fly?

#### 5 GRAMMAR narrative tenses, past perfect continuous

- a Read a newspaper story about a delayed easyJet flight. What did the *Daily Mail* say had happened? What really happened?
- b Read the story again and circle the correct form of the verbs 1–8.
- c Now look at a sentence from the story. Which nights were the passengers at the hotel? What tense do you think the **highlighted** verb is?

The 150 passengers **had been waiting** in hotels in Malaga for 36 hours before they were finally able to re-board the Airbus. On Saturday afternoon, they eventually left their hotels...

- d **p.136 Grammar Bank 3A**
- e In pairs or groups, try to complete the two sentences in four different ways, using the four narrative tenses.
- 1 The police stopped the driver because he...
  - 2 I couldn't sleep last night because...

## easyJet denies passengers asked to vote

Britain's biggest budget airline has denied that passengers on a delayed flight from Malaga to Bristol were asked to vote on whether they wanted to take off with only one engine working.

Flight EZY6058 from Malaga had originally been due to take off shortly before midnight on Thursday 8th June, but the flight was delayed because of problems with the plane. The 150 passengers had been waiting for 36 hours in hotels in Malaga before they were finally able to re-board the Airbus. On Saturday afternoon, they eventually left their hotels and <sup>1</sup>boarded / were boarding the plane. They <sup>2</sup>had sat / were sitting inside the plane waiting to take off, when the easyJet pilot told them that there was still a problem with one of the engines. He then <sup>3</sup>asked / had asked if the passengers, who were by now extremely frustrated and angry, would like to get off the plane, or remain on board while he <sup>4</sup>had tried / was trying to start the engines. However, the *Daily Mail* reported that the pilot had told passengers that there was a high chance that they would fly with only one engine working, and <sup>5</sup>asked / had asked the passengers whether they wanted to remain on the plane or get off.



An easyJet spokesperson <sup>6</sup>said / was saying later, 'The pilot never asked the passengers to vote. We would never attempt to fly the aircraft without both engines working correctly.'

After a further delay, easyJet <sup>7</sup>provided / had provided a replacement aircraft to take the passengers back to Bristol. They finally <sup>8</sup>landed / were landing in the UK at 6pm on Saturday 10th June, 40 hours behind schedule.

Adapted from *The Independent*

**LIVEWORKSHEETS**