

3A The truth about air travel

1 READING

- a Read the text once. What did the four incidents have in common?
- A They all happened before the plane took off.
 - B They all happened during the flight.
 - C They all happened during the summer.
 - D None of the above.
- b Read the text again and complete it with the missing sentences. There is one sentence you do not have to use.
- A Unfortunately, they did this incredibly slowly, and no planes could take off until they had completed their journey.
 - B Somehow, the animals managed to open the box and jump out of the hold of the plane onto the runway.
 - C The pilot spoke to the passengers, who were very angry, to try to calm them down.
 - D The cancellation announcement was made when the 169 passengers were waiting to board at the gate.
 - E However, there was thick fog at the time, and so the flight was diverted to Liege in Belgium, about 300 km away.
- c Look at the highlighted words and phrases in the text and try to work out their meaning. Then match them to definitions 1–7.
- 1 arrive _____
 - 2 the part of an aircraft where goods are stored _____
 - 3 something that you can choose to do _____
 - 4 incidents that make it difficult for something to continue in the normal way _____
 - 5 arranged to be done at a particular time _____
 - 6 a period of time worked by a group of workers who start work as another group finishes _____
 - 7 get off an aircraft _____

Why are we waiting?

The normal excuses for flight delays are bad weather, strikes, or technical faults, but sometimes problems are caused by more unexpected events. Below are some of the most unusual reasons for flight disruptions at the world's airports.

Where's the pilot?

In November 2011, an Air India flight had to be cancelled in southern India because there was no one to fly the plane. ¹_____ The pilot who was supposed to fly the plane refused to do so because he had already completed his shift. The airline called someone to substitute for him, but the second pilot did not turn up. In the end, half of the passengers took a different Air India flight and the rest had to travel on a different airline.



Love is in the air

Last year, services were disrupted at New York's JFK Airport by a group of lovesick turtles. It seems that the turtles wanted to get from the area where they had been feeding to their breeding grounds, so they had no other option but to cross the runway. ²_____ Airport authorities say that this is not the first time that flights have been delayed by the turtles, but they can never predict exactly when the crossing will take place.



Passenger protest

In November 2010, Ryanair's flight schedule was interrupted by a protest by the people on board. Most of them were French tourists who had been on holiday in Morocco. The flight had already been delayed for three hours before it left Fez, Morocco, and so everyone was looking forward to arriving at Paris, Beauvais Airport. ³_____ When the plane landed, about 100 passengers demanded to be flown to Paris and refused to disembark. About four hours later, they were finally persuaded to leave the plane and board the coaches that would take them to Paris.



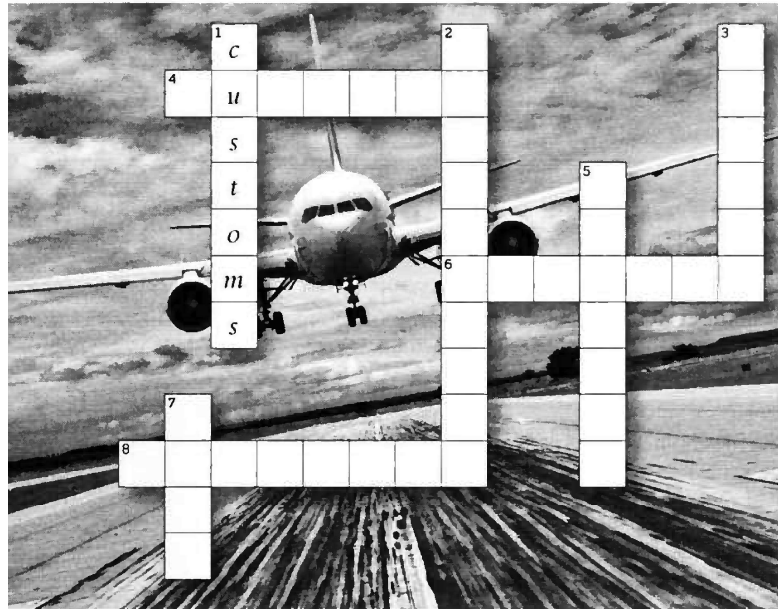
The great escape

In December 2009, a Continental Airlines flight was delayed in Houston, USA, because two animals had got out of their box in the hold. The animals were sea otters, a marine mammal with dense fur that lives in the North and East Pacific ocean. ⁴_____ Passengers had to wait 80 minutes for the sea otters to be caught before their plane could take off. Their flight was scheduled to leave for Columbus, Ohio, at 7.55 pm, but they did not take off until 9.15 pm.



2 VOCABULARY air travel

a Complete the crossword.



- All of the passengers on our flight were stopped at... for their bags to be checked.
- After we'd checked in, we went through to...to find the right gate.
- We could see our plane on the...while we were waiting to board.
- When I went to pick up my..., I found that one bag hadn't arrived.
- My first flight was...for two hours so I missed my connecting flight.
- Our suitcases were really heavy, so we went to find a... to put them on.
- The cabin...were very efficient when we had to make an emergency landing.
- When I got to the airport, I went straight to...to see if my mother's flight had landed yet.

b Complete the text with suitable words.

The worst journey I ever had was when I flew to New York last year. I arrived at the ¹terminal in plenty of time, but when I got to the ²ch_____ desk, there was an enormous queue. By the time it was my turn, there were no ³a_____ seats left, so I had to sit in the middle of a row. I showed my ID card to the man at passport control and then I went to ⁴s_____ where I had my scissors confiscated. My ⁵fl_____ was already boarding as soon as I arrived at the departure lounge, and I had to run to reach the gate in time. I sat next to a small child who screamed loudly when we ⁶t_____, and didn't stop screaming for the next two hours. The weather over the Atlantic was terrible and we experienced a lot of ⁷t_____. I was so relieved when we finally landed in New York. The worst thing was that when I went to baggage reclaim to ⁸p_____ my luggage, I was told that my suitcase hadn't arrived. I spent my first two days in New York with no clothes!

3 MINI GRAMMAR so / such...that

Circle the correct answer.



- 1 Her suitcase was so / such heavy that she couldn't pick it up.



- 2 I've never had such / such a bumpy flight – there was a lot of turbulence.



- 3 This is the first time we've had a so long / such a long delay at the airport.



- 4 The terminal was so / such crowded that we couldn't find a trolley for our cases.



- 5 There was so much / so many traffic that we nearly missed our flight.



- 6 There were so / such a lot of people at the airport because it was the first day of the summer holidays.

4 GRAMMAR past perfect continuous, narrative tenses

a Circle the correct verb form. Tick (✓) if both are correct.

- Tim's suitcase was really heavy because he had packed / had been packing all of his camera equipment.
- Jess was fed up because she had waited / had been waiting for three hours for her flight to board.
- I had been sitting / had sat in departures for 20 minutes when I realized my flight was already boarding.
- After I had picked up / had been picking up my luggage, I took a taxi to my hotel.
- The kids were bored because we had stood / had been standing in line at check-in for over an hour.
- My flight arrived late because it hadn't taken off / hadn't been taking off on time.

- b Complete the text with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

My parents ¹ *had never flown* (never fly) before, and so they were very nervous when we ² _____ (arrive) at Heathrow Airport to take our flight to Rome. I ³ _____ (leave) them at the terminal building with instructions to get in the queue at the check-in desk while I ⁴ _____ (go) to park my car in the long-term car park. However, when I ⁵ _____ (get) to the check-in desk myself, they were nowhere in sight. I ⁶ _____ (look) for them everywhere until it suddenly occurred to me that they ⁷ _____ (already / check in) and they ⁸ _____ (wait) for me in the departure lounge. This was a real problem because I ⁹ _____ (give) my passport to my mother, so I couldn't check in.

I immediately ¹⁰ _____ (call) my parents on their mobile. I was right; they ¹¹ _____ (already / go) through to the departure lounge. They ¹² _____ (wait) for me for nearly half an hour at the gate. Luckily, my mum managed to find an understanding member of staff who met me at the information desk with my passport!

5 PRONUNCIATION irregular past forms

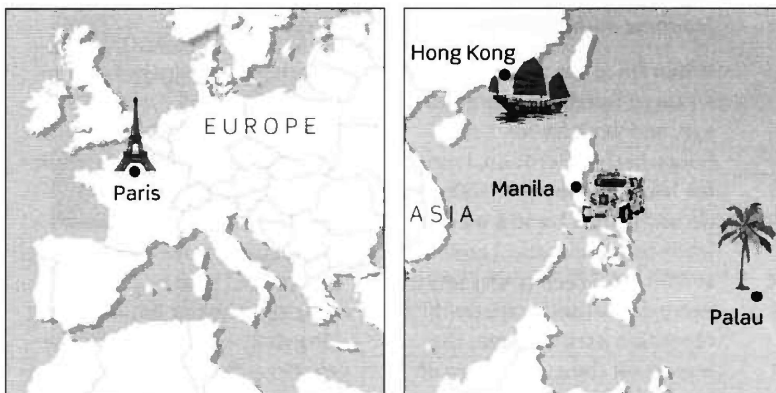
- a Put the irregular verbs in the box into the past simple. Then write them next to the past simple verbs 1–10 which have the same sound.

catch fly meet pay say sing stand tell wake wear

1 bought	<u>caught</u>	6 spoke	_____
2 rang	_____	7 sold	_____
3 made	_____	8 knew	_____
4 let	_____	9 could	_____
5 saw	_____	10 read	_____

- b **iChecker** Listen and check. Then listen and repeat the past simple forms.

6 LISTENING



- a **iChecker** You are going to listen to an interview with a woman called Debbie who went on an exciting trip. Number the places on the map in the order she went to them.

1 Paris ___ Palau ___ Manila ___ Hong Kong

- b Listen again and choose the right answers.

- The Republic of Palau is...
 - to the east of the Philippines.
 - an island of the Philippines.
 - to the west of the Philippines.
 - The travel agent couldn't book all of Debbie's flights because...
 - the computer wasn't working.
 - she couldn't contact all the airlines.
 - one of the airlines was on strike.
 - When Debbie landed in Hong Kong, she...
 - went to a travel agent's.
 - booked a flight to Manila.
 - bought the rest of her airline tickets.
 - The problem with the flight from Manila to Palau was...
 - the plane didn't carry any passengers.
 - there weren't any tickets left.
 - passengers weren't allowed to board at that airport.
 - Both Debbie and the pilot...
 - spoke the same language.
 - came from the same city.
 - had met before.
 - Debbie's friend met her at the airport in Palau because...
 - he had looked at the flight times.
 - she had called him.
 - he happened to be there.
- c Listen again with the audio script on p.71 and try to guess the meaning of any words that you don't know. Then check in your dictionary.

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Learn these words and phrases.

air traffic controller /eə 'træfɪk kən'trəʊlə/
 lifejacket /'laɪf dʒækɪt/
 safety demonstration /'seɪfti demən'streɪʃn/
 damage (n and v) /'dæmɪdʒ/
 emergency /i'mɜ:dʒənsi/
 engine /'endʒɪn/
 flight announcement /flaɪt ə'naʊnsmənt/
 smuggle /'smʌɡl/
 wheelchair /'wi:lʃeə/
 whistle /'wɪsl/

3B Incredibly short stories

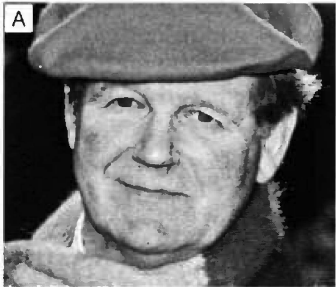
1 READING

- a Read the article about different writers and their writing styles. Which one of them only works in the morning?
- b Read the article again and match each writer (A–D) to a sentence. Who says / said that...
- 1 he / she does some sport after writing? _____
 - 2 he / she has days when they do not write anything? _____
 - 3 he / she writes a minimum number of pages every day? _____
 - 4 he / she finds they can concentrate better when they are in bed? _____

- c Look at the highlighted words and phrases in the text and try to work out their meaning. Then use them to complete the sentences.
- 1 My sewing machine wasn't working, so I had to mend my skirt _____.
 - 2 I gave my son the jug and told him to _____ with water.
 - 3 I was so late I only had time to _____ my coat and rush out of the door.
 - 4 The psychologist gave her some _____ advice on how to deal with her teenage son.
 - 5 He finds it difficult to study at home because there are too many _____.
 - 6 She's in a very confused _____ so she doesn't know whether to stay or go.

How do writers write?

All writers have their own particular ways of getting words down – a favourite pen, a special place, even a certain time of day. Four famous writers reveal their secrets.



Michael Morpurgo

British children's author

I had problems some years ago sitting at a desk because I got pains in my wrist and shoulder, so I decided to copy my writing hero Robert Louis Stevenson instead and found his way worked. Now, when I have a story in my head I go to bed with a small notebook, like the one children are given in primary school, and fill it up. I keep my manuscripts in the fridge just in case the house burns down.

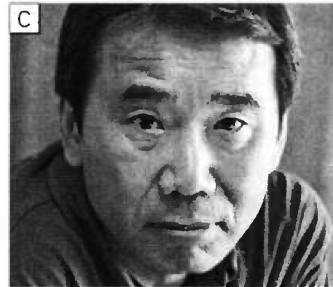


Suzanne Collins

American screenwriter and novelist

I grab some cereal and sit down to work as soon as possible. The more distractions I have to deal with before I actually begin writing, the harder focusing on the story becomes. Then I work until I'm tapped out*, usually sometime in the early afternoon. If I actually write three to five hours, that's a productive day. Some days all I do is stare at the wall. That can be productive too, if you're working out character and plot problems. The rest of the time, I walk around with the story slipping in and out of my thoughts.

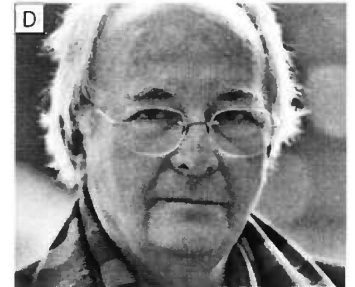
* *tapped out* – tired, exhausted



Haruki Murakami

Japanese author and translator

When I'm in the process of writing a novel, I get up at 4.00 a.m. and work for five to six hours. In the afternoon, I run for 10km or swim for 1500m (or do both), then I read a bit and listen to some music. I go to bed at 9.00 pm. I keep to this routine every day without variation. The repetition itself becomes the important thing; it's a form of hypnotism and it helps me reach a deeper state of mind.



Philip Pullman

British author

I sit down to write by hand, in ballpoint, on A4 narrow lined paper, after breakfast, and work through till lunch with a break for coffee and reading mail. Then I have lunch and watch *Neighbours** (invaluable). In the afternoon I read or take the dog for a walk or do something physically constructive. In the evening I finish the three pages which is my daily task, or if I finished them in the morning, I do whatever journalism or reviewing or lecture-planning I have in hand.

* *Neighbours* – an Australian soap opera

2 GRAMMAR adverbs and adverbial phrases

a Right (✓) or wrong (✗)? Correct the wrong words.

- Jack played brilliant, so he won the tennis final.
brilliantly
- Flying is a very safe way to travel. _____
- My brother had an accident because he was driving too fast. _____
- I speak French really bad. Nobody can understand me when I speak it. _____
- She works hardly and she's very ambitious as well.

- Is this word spelt correctly here? _____
- His parents have been happy married for nearly forty years. _____
- My friend sings quite good, but she'll never be a professional.

b Order the words to make sentences. Put the adverb in its usual position.



- 1 I / umbrella / an / had / luckily / taken
Luckily I had taken an umbrella



- 2 ill / hardly / daughter / is / my / ever



- 3 parents / next / are / his / retiring / year



- 4 boy / rude / teacher / was / to / the / extremely / his



- 5 eats / my / unhealthily / very / brother



- 6 is / James / apparently / divorced / getting



- 7 were / would / you / never / thought / I / have / thirty

c Put the adverbs / adverbial phrases in the correct place in each sentence.

usually immediately

- He ~~gets up~~ when his alarm clock rings.
(usually / immediately)
- Although she studies, she goes to the library.
(a lot / hardly ever)
- I crashed my new car. (unfortunately / last week)
- We should leave tomorrow. (ideally / early)
- I can understand a word when people speak English. (hardly / quickly)
- My brother forgot his girlfriend's birthday.
(nearly / yesterday)
- It didn't rain while we were in London.
(surprisingly / at all)
- We're tired because we went to bed late.
(incredibly / last night)

3 VOCABULARY

adverbs and adverbial phrases

Circle the correct answer.

- My father worked very hard / hardly all his life.
- I haven't seen Harry late / lately, have you?
- I can't stand most TV programmes, *especially* / *especially* reality shows.
- Dave *near* / *nearly* broke his leg skiing in the Alps.
- Please don't tell me what happens because I haven't read the book *still* / *yet*.
- I'm not going to Sam's party. I *hard* / *hardly* know him! He's your friend, not mine.
- Do you *ever* / *even* wear jeans to work?
- A Do your parents live *near* / *nearly* here?
B No, they live about 30 miles away.
- Ellie ate all her lunch, *ever* / *even* the vegetables!
- Alan's feet are so big that his shoes are *especially* / *specially* made for him.
- My cousin is a doctor and *at the moment* / *actually* she's working in Africa.
- I can't wait to find out what happens *at the end* / *in the end* of this book.

4 PRONUNCIATION word stress

- a Underline the stressed syllable and then write the adverb in the correct column.

absolutely apparently definitely eventually
 fortunately immediately incredibly insecurely
 obviously successfully surprisingly

stress on 1st syllable	stress on 2nd syllable	stress on 3rd syllable
		<i>absolutely</i>

- b **iChecker** Listen and check. Then listen and repeat the adverbs.

5 LISTENING

- a **iChecker** Listen to five speakers talk about reading. Which two read the most? Speakers ___ and ___.
- b Listen again and complete the table.

	What do they read?	Where do they read it?
Speaker 1	<i>best-sellers</i>	
Speaker 2		
Speaker 3		
Speaker 4		
Speaker 5		

- c Listen again with the audio script on p.71 and try to guess the meaning of any words that you don't know. Then check in your dictionary.

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Learn these words and phrases.

aggressively /ə'gresɪvli/
 bushes /'bʊʃɪz/
 cliff /klɪf/
 gang /gæŋ/
 grab (sb or sth) /græb/
 stab (sb) /stæb/
 frantic /'fræntɪk/
 slightly /'slɑɪtli/
 target /'tɑ:ɡɪt/
 tough /tʌf/

iChecker TESTS FILE 3

