



Topic: Airport

Level: Advanced

Grammar Focus: Verbs



Discussion:

A. Look at the picture. What do you see? These words will help you.

aeroplane runway control tower computer concentration head phones lights



B. Read and discuss the following questions.

1. The man in the foreground is looking at his watch. Time is important in this work environment. Why?
2. The view in the picture is only part of an airport environment. Describe the bigger picture. What else would you see at an airport? Consider the buildings and the people.
3. One aeroplane is landing and one is taking off. During these times what is it like inside an aeroplane, both for the passengers and for the pilots?

C. General chat about airports.

Have you been to an airport? Where? What was the occasion? Do you know anyone who works in the airport or aviation industry? Talk about the range of jobs.

The work of an air traffic controller is very stressful. What other occupations have this level of responsibility for many lives?

D. Word Play. The following task involves verbs or action words.

From the list below which verbs are associated with leaving and which with returning?

to take off

to greet

to land

to depart

to farewell

to arrive



Story:

A. Read the following story. Take your time, pronounce words carefully and follow the punctuation.

Lost Luggage

Tom was feeling anxious and flustered. He was sure that the strap he had secured around his suitcase was red and that his case was the old battered one he had borrowed from his university friend Paul – and failed to return after his holiday two years ago. There was another old suitcase stored in his basement that he may have picked up in his hurry to pack.

He never thought such detail would matter. Now he was filling in a form and needed to be accurate. He was promised that his case would be delivered to his hotel accommodation as soon as it was located. It could be in South America or Australia by now. Pity his ticket had not allowed him to go with it!

He looked over his shoulder at the baggage carousel as if for inspiration. One lone suitcase suddenly rounded the corner. The cheerful pink strap looked familiar and he realised that his suitcase had found him. He turned back to the airport attendant, mumbled an apology and went to collect his case. His holiday could begin without further delay.



B. Testing your general understanding.

The following statements are either true or false. Read each one and decide whether it is 'true' or 'false'.

1. Tom is on a business trip.
2. Tom has bought a new red suitcase.
3. Tom apologises to the airport attendant.
4. Tom is going to meet Paul.
5. The story has a happy ending.

C. Ultimate Challenge. Read each question and the four possible answers. Which one do you think is correct?

Q.1 Why was Tom feeling anxious and flustered?

- a. He was having trouble filling in a form.
- b. An airport attendant had stopped him.
- c. He could not find his suitcase.
- d. He thought he had arrived in Australia.

Q.2 Where was the baggage carousel?

- a. In Tom's basement with the suitcases.
- b. At an airport.
- c. With Tom's friend Paul.
- d. At Tom's hotel accommodation.



Q.3 What do we know about Paul?

- a. He got lost on holiday two years ago.
- b. He wanted to join Tom on his trip.
- c. He used to work with Tom.
- d. He once lent Tom a suitcase.

Q.4 What is the meaning of 'flustered'?

- a. angry
- b. agitated
- c. unhappy
- d. sad

Q.5 How did Tom recognise his suitcase?

- a. It was the only suitcase he could see on the carousel.
- b. It was covered in pink stickers.
- c. It was old and battered.
- d. By the colour of the strap around it.

Exploring other ideas:

- What are the positives about air travel? Are there any negatives?
- How will air travel change in the future?
- What is the future for space travel for the adventurer or the commuter?
- Current news item on new technology for air travel.