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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 15/12/13

Irritating things people do on planes!

Today let's talk about the irritating things people do on planes. There are many to think about. In this lesson we will discuss a few of them...

Crying babies in the seat behind yours is a good starting point. Almost as bad are hyperactive kids who are noisy for the entire flight. Someone kicking the back of your seat can be annoying.

Then there is the person in front of you who decides to use their reclining seat. Whilst this allows them to relax you can't use your pull down table easily. Legroom is another issue, as is the elbow on the armrest that is a shared space.

When you get on some budget airlines there is a mad scramble for the seats, as many tend to be unallocated. Sometimes it's like being in a rugby scrum when you get on board!

Another irritating thing on planes is the non-stop adverts and promotions the airline crew put on. Ryanair is a top contender for this point. Loud talking by fellow passengers is another irritating point.

Video games on tablets can be annoying, as can video screens that have been left on. Why don't the people who supposedly watch them simply turn them off when not using them?

Another annoying habit is having nicely folded your coat and put it, along with your hat, in the allocated overhead space above you; some nice person shoves their suitcase in squashing them.

"Hi mum! We've just landed!" is another irritating habit, as are the people who hog the toilets. Personal hygiene is another issue. Smelly people are not nice to sit next to. What irritating things that people do on planes gets your goat?

SPEAKING – WARM UP

Think of three irritating things people do on planes. Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) What does 'hog' mean?
- 2) What does 'gets your goat' mean?
- 3) What is a 'rugby scrum'?
- 4) What is a 'budget airline'?
- 5) What does 'shove' mean?

Student B questions

- 1) What does 'hyperactive' mean?
- 2) What does 'mad scramble' mean?
- 3) What is a 'tablet'?
- 4) What does 'irritating' mean?
- 5) What does 'squash' mean?

Category: Irritating Things / Planes / People

Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

Irritating things people do on planes! – 15th December 2013

WRITING / SPEAKING / DRAWING

In pairs. On the board draw two aeroplanes! One is the outside of a plane. The other is the inside of a plane. Label them with as many words as you can. One-two minutes. Compare with other teams. Using these words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – Think of three other irritating things people do on planes that are **not** in the article then add three solutions for these. Write them below. Talk about them!

- 1) _____ (1) _____
- 2) _____ (2) _____
- 3) _____ (3) _____

Add three irritating things you have to do at the airport before you get on the plane. **Add** three other irritating things in your life! Discuss together. Conclusion - Are you easily irritated?

- 1) _____ (1) _____
- 2) _____ (2) _____
- 3) _____ (3) _____

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

SPEAKING – WRITING

As a class – On the board list your top five favourite airlines. Add your worst five airlines. What makes them so? Discuss together.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Have you ever irritated anyone on a plane?
- 3) What recent things have irritated you generally?
- 4) What irritated you the last time you flew?
- 5) Are you an irritating person?
- 6) What was the last airline you flew and to where?
- 7) Which is the best airline?
- 8) Which is the worst airline?
- 9) Have you ever sat next to a smelly person on an aeroplane?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio. Today's interview is about: *Irritating things people do on planes!*

- 1) A passenger with two hyperactive children/a crying baby.
- 2) A fat passenger / ordinary passenger.
- 3) An airline steward/stewardess.
- 4) An airline boss.

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. You are in an airport pub in the departure lounge with a friend. Start a conversation about irritating things people do on planes. 5 mins.

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 3

In pairs – Student A prefers budget airlines. Student B prefers ordinary airlines. Discuss together. 2 mins.

SPEAKING – DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Discuss the following...

Irritating things people do on planes!

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) What gets your goat?
- 3) Do you ever ring your mum to say "Hi mum, we've just landed" when the plane has just touched down?
- 4) Have you had anything squashed in an overhead locker?
- 5) Why is there another rugby scrum once the plane has stopped?
- 6) Which airline offers the best in-flight service?
- 7) Where do you like to sit on a plane?
- 8) Have you experienced any hyperactive kids or crying babies on a plane?
- 9) Have you enjoyed this lesson?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Irritating things people do on planes!

Today let's talk about the irritating things people do on planes. There are many to think about. In this lesson we will discuss a (1)___ of them...

Crying babies in the seat behind yours is a good starting point. Almost as bad are (2)___ kids who are noisy for the entire flight. Someone kicking the back of your seat can be annoying.

Then there is the person in front of you who decides to use their reclining seat. Whilst this allows them to relax you can't use your pull down table (3)___. (4)___ is another issue, as is the (5)___ on the armrest that is a shared space.

When you get on some (6)___ airlines there is a mad (7)___ for the seats, as many tend to be unallocated. Sometimes it's like being in a (8)___ when you get on board!

rugby scrum / scramble / easily / budget/ hyperactive / elbow / legroom / few

Another irritating thing on planes is the non-stop adverts and (1)___ the airline crew put on. Ryanair is a top (2)___ for this point. (3)___ talking by fellow passengers is another irritating point.

Video games on tablets can be annoying, as can video screens that have been left on. Why don't the people who (4)___ watch them simply turn them off when not using them?

Another annoying habit is having nicely folded your coat and put it, along with your hat, in the allocated (5)___ space above you; some nice person (6)___ their suitcase in squashing them.

"Hi mum! We've just landed!" is another irritating habit, as are the people who hog the toilets. Personal hygiene is another issue. (7)___ people are not nice to sit next to.

What irritating things that people do on planes gets your (8)___?

goat / overhead / contender / loud / promotions / supposedly / smelly / shoves

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Irritating things people do on planes!

Today let's talk about the irritating things people do on planes. There are (1)___ to think about. In (2)___ lesson we will discuss a few of (3)___...

Crying babies in the seat behind yours is a good starting point. Almost as bad are hyperactive kids who are noisy for the entire flight. Someone kicking the back of your seat can be annoying.

(4)___ there is the person in front of you who decides to use their reclining seat. (5)___ this allows them to relax you can't use (6)___ pull down table easily. Legroom is another issue, as is the elbow on the armrest (7)___ is a shared space.

When you get on some budget airlines there is a mad scramble for the seats, as many tend to be unallocated. Sometimes it's like being in a rugby scrum (8)___ you get on board!

then / this / whilst / many / when / your / them / that

Another irritating thing on planes is the non-stop adverts (1)___ promotions (2)___ airline crew put on. Ryanair is a top contender for this point. Loud talking by fellow passengers is another irritating point.

Video games on tablets can be annoying, (3)___ can video screens that have been left on. Why don't the people who supposedly watch them simply turn them off when not using them?

Another annoying habit is having nicely folded your coat and put (4)___, along with your hat, in the allocated overhead space above (5)___; some nice person shoves their suitcase in squashing them.

"Hi mum! (6)___'ve just landed!" is another irritating habit, as are the people (7)___ hog the toilets. Personal hygiene is another issue. Smelly people are not nice to sit next to.

What irritating things that people do (8)___ planes gets your goat?

on / as / we / it / who / you / the / and

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GAP FILL: LISTENING

Irritating things people do on planes!

Today let's talk about _____ people do on planes. There are many to think about. In this lesson we will discuss a few of them...

Crying babies in the seat behind yours is a good starting point. Almost as bad are hyperactive kids who are noisy for the entire flight. Someone kicking the back of your seat can be annoying.

Then there is the person in front of you who decides to use _____. Whilst this allows them to relax you can't use your pull down table easily. Legroom is another issue, as is the elbow on the armrest that is a shared space.

When you get _____ there is a mad scramble for the seats, as many tend to be unallocated. Sometimes it's like being in a rugby scrum when you get on board!

Another irritating thing on planes is the non-stop adverts and promotions the airline crew put on. Ryanair is _____ this point. Loud talking by fellow passengers is another irritating point.

Video games on tablets can be annoying, as can video screens that have been left on. Why don't the people who supposedly watch them simply turn them off when not using them?

_____ is having nicely folded your coat and put it, along with your hat, in the allocated overhead space above you; some nice person shoves their suitcase in squashing them.

"Hi mum! _____!" is another irritating habit, as are the people who hog the toilets. _____ another issue. Smelly people are not nice to sit next to. What irritating things that people do on planes gets your goat?

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) The top ten irritating things people do on planes!

In pairs/ As a class – list them on the board. Now add 10 solutions!

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) The irritating _____
- 2) The person _____
- 3) Sometimes _____

3) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Irritating things people do on planes.** Your email can be read out in class.

GAP FILL READING

1)	few	1)	promotions
2)	hyperactive	2)	contender
3)	easily	3)	loud
4)	legroom	4)	supposedly
5)	elbow	5)	overhead
6)	budget	6)	shoves
7)	scramble	7)	smelly
8)	rugby scrum	8)	goat

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

1)	irritating	11)	sometimes
2)	airlines	12)	scramble
3)	almost	13)	rugby
4)	about	14)	scrum
5)	discuss	15)	promotions
6)	whilst	16)	contender
7)	legroom	17)	fellow
8)	armrest	18)	supposedly
9)	budget	19)	shoves
10)	unallocated	20)	squashing

ANSWERS

Use the following ratings:
Pass = 12
Good = 15
Very good = 18
Excellent = 20

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