**EPISODE 49**
**LEVEL A1.2/A2.1**

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**READING COMPREHENSION**

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**ON THE PLANE**

Let's continue our lessons about air travel. When we **board** (= get on) the plane, we are greeted by **flight attendants** (= stewards and stewardesses) who help us find our seat. Everybody must remember to put their **hand luggage** (= luggage we can take with us on board) in the **overhead locker** (= a special cupboard where we keep our bags during the flight) and **fasten** (= fix together) **their seatbelts** when a plane **takes off** (= leaves the ground). It is very important to be safe on the plane. If there are some problems during the **flight** (= a trip by plane), the plane can be **delayed** (= late). Before the plane **lands**, we need to fasten our seatbelts again and **put our seat in the upright position** (= a position in which we can only sit). Now we are ready to finish our flight safely.

**More contexts for the new words:**

- This is **private land**. Keep away!
  (= This area belongs to a private person)
- We have no time for **delay**!
  (= We cannot be late)

**EXERCISE 1**
Use the words from the text to complete the sentences.

1. If you want a drink on the flight, you have to call the flight ………………………………
2. Please put your seat in the …………………………… position before we land.
3. I will take the camera with me on the plane – as ……………………………… luggage.
4. Please fasten your ………………………………
5. The plane is ready to take …………………… – it will leave the ground any minute now.
6. Please put your bags in the overhead ……………………………

**EXERCISE 2**

Match phrases from the two columns to make questions and then answer them.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Do you always fasten | a. takes off? |
| 2. How much hand luggage | b. your seatbelts on a plane? |
| 3. Are you worried when a plane | c. a flight is delayed? |
| 4. How do you feel when | d. do you usually have? |

**ENGLISH IN USE**

Let's look again at **PASSIVE VOICE** with a modal verb. We already know that in this case we need a modal verb, "be" and a past participle.
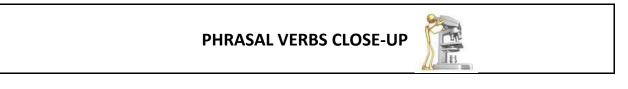Now look at a sentence from the text and some more examples:

*The plane **can be delayed**.*
*Tea **can be drunk** hot or cold.*
*In Poland water **can't be drunk** from a tap.*

**IDIOM CLOSE-UP**

*A/ Do you like Paulo Coelho's books?*
*B/ No, not really, too many **FLIGHTS OF FANCY**.*

A **flight of fancy** (or a **flight of imagination**) is an idea that is unusual and exciting or fun, but silly or not practical.

**PHRASAL VERBS CLOSE-UP**

1. If something GETS you DOWN, it makes you feel worried or depressed.

*It really **gets me down** when a plane is delayed.*
*Take-offs always **get me down**.*

2. If something CHEERS you UP, it makes you feel happy, especially when before that you felt sad.

*If I'm fed up with work, travelling to a hot country always **cheers me up**.*
*You look so depressed! Have a chocolate – it will surely **cheer you up**!*

**EXERCISE 3**

Complete the conversation with words from the idiom/phrasal verbs you're learned.

Anna: How are you feeling?
Bob: Oh, terrible. Travelling by plane always gets me (1)……………………
A: Oh, that's too bad. Here, try this muffin I've made. It will surely cheer you
(2)…………………………
B: What's that? A muffin with bananas and tomatoes? What a strange idea!
A: Yes, well, just a flight of (3)……………………, I suppose.

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**NEWS**

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**NO TOILETS**

One of the cheap airlines has announced recently that, in an attempt to **maximize profits** and increase the number of seats that can fit on a plane, they are considering **getting rid of** toilets on their planes. As a result, eight more passengers might be able to travel on each of the **altered** machines. The airline **spokesperson** assures the travelers that only short-distance flights will be affected, as most people are able to hold their biological needs for an hour or so. So, don't drink too much before the flight!

GLOSSARY
- **to maximize profits** – to make more money
- **to get rid of sth** – to throw sth away
- **altered** – changed
- **a spokesperson** – a person whose job it is to talk to the media

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**KEY TO EXERCISES**

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**Ex.1**
1. attendant
2. upright
3. hand
4. seatbelts
5. off
6. locker

**Ex.2**
1. b

2. d
3. a
4. c

**Ex.3**
1. down
2. up
3. fancy/ imagination