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## Level 5

### World's 'most useless' airport opens

17th October, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports-5.html>

The first scheduled flight has landed on the remote island of St Helena in the middle of the South Atlantic. The flight touched down at Saint Helena Airport on Saturday with 68 passengers on board. One passenger, a British travel operator, had flown from Scotland to be on the flight. She said: "I've never felt so emotional in all my life. I never thought I'd see this day." This first flight marks a new era for the island, which is 1,900 km west of Africa. Previously, the only way of getting there was by a ship that sailed once every three weeks from Cape Town, South Africa.

The airport will boost the island's economy and tourism. However, the British media said it was "the most useless airport in the world". It was built with \$380m of British taxpayers' money - \$80,000 for every person on the island. It was due to open in 2016, but dangerous winds delayed the launch. Saint Helena's Governor, Lisa Phillips, dismissed the criticism from the British media. She said: "For St Helena, this has already been the most useful airport. It's priceless." She added: "I for one am getting really excited about the new chapter in St Helena's history."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-41620003>  
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/st-helena-first-commercial-plane-remote-british-territory-south-africa-a8001061.html>  
<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/world/st-helena-airport-welcomes-first-commercial-flight-but-it-lands-45-minutes-late-a3658891.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                   |                       |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The first scheduled flight has | a. of Africa          |
| 2. The flight touched             | b. so emotional       |
| 3. 68 passengers                  | c. three weeks        |
| 4. I've never felt                | d. landed             |
| 5. This first flight marks a new  | e. down               |
| 6. 1,900 km west                  | f. getting there      |
| 7. the only way of                | g. on board           |
| 8. once every                     | h. era for the island |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. The airport will boost  | a. one                    |
| 2. the British             | b. taxpayers' money       |
| 3. \$380m of British       | c. the launch             |
| 4. It was due to           | d. useful airport         |
| 5. dangerous winds delayed | e. the island's economy   |
| 6. the most                | f. in St Helena's history |
| 7. I for                   | g. media                  |
| 8. the new chapter         | h. open in 2016           |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports-5.html>

The first scheduled (1) \_\_\_\_\_ on the remote island of St Helena in the middle of the South Atlantic. The (2) \_\_\_\_\_ at Saint Helena Airport on Saturday with (3) \_\_\_\_\_ board. One passenger, a British travel operator, had flown from Scotland to be on the flight. She said: "I've never (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in all my life. I never thought I'd see this day." This first flight marks (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the island, which is 1,900 km west of Africa. Previously, the only way of getting there was by a ship that (6) \_\_\_\_\_ three weeks from Cape Town, South Africa.

The airport will (7) \_\_\_\_\_ economy and tourism. However, the British media said it was "the most useless airport in the world". It was built with \$380m of British (8) \_\_\_\_\_ - \$80,000 for every person on the island. It was (9) \_\_\_\_\_ in 2016, but dangerous winds (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Saint Helena's Governor, Lisa Phillips, dismissed (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the British media. She said: "For St Helena, this has already been the most useful airport. It's priceless." She added: "(12) \_\_\_\_\_ getting really excited about the new chapter in St Helena's history."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports-5.html>

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# AIRPORTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171017-airports-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about airports in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

*World's 'most useless' airport opens - 17th October, 2017*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

