

Talk a Lot

Airport – Who would you look for first?

Student A

Four passengers have been reported lost at a large airport near London, where you work as a customer service assistant. The time is 6.49 pm. Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out information about each person. Who would you look for first? Why?

	Passenger #1	Passenger #2
Name / Age		Mr. P. MacNaulty / 42 y.o.
Destination / Check-in closes	Madrid / 19.25	
Flight no. / Airline		A303 / Scot Air
Departs / Gate No.	19.55 / 46	
Travelling with / Last seen	parents / 18.40	
Wearing		long brown jacket, black hat, grey shoes
Nationality / More information	English / first time abroad	
Reason for travelling		family reunion

	Passenger #3	Passenger #4
Name / Age	Claudia Estobar / 34 y.o.	
Destination / Check-in closes	Santiago / 19.15	
Flight no. / Airline		B916 / Overseas
Departs / Gate No.		20.10 / 35
Travelling with / Last seen	colleague / 18.07	
Wearing		new charcoal grey suit, red tie, buttonhole
Nationality / More information	Chilean / registered epileptic	
Reason for travelling		honeymoon

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Student B

Four passengers have been reported lost at a large airport near London, where you work as a customer service assistant. The time is 6.49 pm. Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out information about each person. Who would you look for first? Why?

	Passenger #1	Passenger #2
Name / Age	Rosie Cooper / 14 y.o.	
Destination / Check-in closes		Aberdeen / 19.00
Flight no. / Airline	M458 / Fly Me	
Departs / Gate No.		19.30 / 13
Travelling with / Last seen		brother / 17.52
Wearing	shorts, blue t-shirt, pink sandals	
Nationality / More information		Scottish / tall, glasses, curly hair, big nose
Reason for travelling	holiday	

	Passenger #3	Passenger #4
Name / Age		David Morgan (Lord) / 88 y.o.
Destination / Check-in closes		Bahamas / 19.40
Flight no. / Airline	S284 / Condor Airways	
Departs / Gate No.	19.45 / 1	
Travelling with / Last seen		new bride / 18.15
Wearing	floral print dress, white sandals	
Nationality / More information		Welsh / bald, red cheeks, has pacemaker
Reason for travelling	business trip	

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Information Exchange

Answers

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Task: "Four passengers have been reported lost at a large airport near London, where you work as a customer service assistant. The time is 6.49 pm. Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out information about each person. Who would you look for first? Why?"

	Passenger #1	Passenger #2
Name / Age	Rosie Cooper / 14 y.o.	Mr. P. MacNaulty / 42 y.o.
Destination / Check-in closes	Madrid / 19.25	Aberdeen / 19.00
Flight no. / Airline	M458 / Fly Me	A303 / Scot Air
Departs / Gate No.	19.55 / 46	19.30 / 13
Travelling with / Last seen	parents / 18.40	brother / 17.52
Wearing	shorts, blue t-shirt, pink sandals	long brown jacket, black hat, grey shoes
Nationality / More information	English / first time abroad	Scottish / tall, glasses, curly hair, big nose
Reason for travelling	holiday	family reunion

	Passenger #3	Passenger #4
Name / Age	Claudia Estobar / 34 y.o.	David Morgan (Lord) / 88 y.o.
Destination / Check-in closes	Santiago / 19.15	Bahamas / 19.40
Flight no. / Airline	S284 / Condor Airways	B916 / Overseas
Departs / Gate No.	19.45 / 1	20.10 / 35
Travelling with / Last seen	colleague / 18.07	new bride / 18.15
Wearing	floral print dress, white sandals	new charcoal grey suit, red tie, buttonhole
Nationality / More information	Chilean / registered epileptic	Welsh / bald, red cheeks, has pacemaker
Reason for travelling	business trip	honeymoon

"Who would you look for first? Why?" Answers will vary. When they have completed filling the gaps, students should discuss which passenger they would look for first. They should produce appropriate reasons for their choices – why they would choose one person rather than another. For example: "I would look for Rosie Cooper first, because she's only fourteen and hasn't flown before..." Or... "I would look for Mr. P. MacNaulty first, because the check-in for his flight closes the soonest..." [etc.]

Sample Questions

What is the name of Passenger # _____?
How old is Passenger # _____?
Where is Passenger # _____ flying to?
What is Passenger # _____'s destination?
What time does check-in close for Passenger # _____'s flight?
What is the flight number of Passenger # _____'s flight?
Which airline is Passenger # _____ flying with?
What time does Passenger # _____'s flight depart?
Which gate does Passenger # _____'s flight depart from?
Who is Passenger # _____ travelling with?
When was Passenger # _____ last seen?
What is Passenger # _____ wearing?
What is Passenger # _____'s nationality?
Please tell me more information about Passenger # _____.
Why is Passenger # _____ travelling?

Sample Answers

His / her name is _____.
He / she is _____ years old.
He / she is flying to _____.
His / her destination is _____.
It closes at _____.
It's _____.

It departs at _____.
It departs from gate number _____.
He / she's travelling with _____.
At _____.
He / she is wearing _____.
He / she's _____.

He / she is travelling for _____.

Note: students should convert the times from the 24-hour clock, which we don't use in spoken English, to the 12-hour clock, which we do use. For example: "seven fifty five pm" or "five to eight", rather than "nineteen fifty five".

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Examples

What time does Passenger #1's flight depart?	It departs at five to eight [or seven fifty five].
Which airline is Passenger #2 flying with?	Scot Air.
Who is Passenger #3 travelling with?	She's travelling with a colleague.
Why is Passenger #4 travelling?	He is travelling for his honeymoon.

[etc.]

Extension 1: you could try to encourage some comparative/superlative questions and sentences too, for example:

Who is the oldest passenger?	Lord Morgan is...
Whose flight departs the soonest?	Mr. P. MacNaulty's flight...
Which passenger is travelling the furthest?	Claudia Estobar is...

[etc.]

Extension 2: you could get students to develop short role plays where the worried parent, brother, colleague, or bride of each missing passenger comes to your customer service desk, and asks for help in finding their missing person. The role play could also work the other way around, with the missing person coming to your desk to report *themselves* missing. Students working in pairs could ask for and receive all of the information on the information exchange page and put it in the form of a dialogue – and then decide how each situation works out. Is Mr. P. MacNaulty reunited with his brother? Why has Lord Morgan disappeared? Does Rosie Cooper meet up with her parents before the flight departs? Will Claudia Estobar catch her flight on time?

[etc.]

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