

Talk a Lot

Airport

Sentence Blocks

1. (*Present Simple*) Graham flies about three or four times a year.

How often

2. (*Present Continuous*) Keith is flying economy class today, because he can't afford an upgrade.

Why

3. (*Past Simple*) Last year I bought some duty-free sunglasses from a little shop at the airport in Minsk.

What

4. (*Past Continuous*) Lea and Buzz were going through customs when they were stopped by two armed security guards.

When

5. (*Present Perfect*) Paul's just landed at Heathrow Airport.

Where

6. (*Modal Verbs*) I could book a flight for me and Laura.

Who

7. (*Future Forms*) We're going to pay for priority boarding tomorrow, because we don't like to queue.

When

8. (*First Conditional*) If we use a different airline, we'll have an exciting stopover in Bangkok next Friday night.

What kind

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*Note: the last two lines of each sentence block will vary. Below there are examples given for each sentence block, but students should think of their own way to get the negative forms in the last line. See the **Talk a Lot Elementary Handbook** for full instructions (available free from www.englishbanana.com).*

Answers

1. (Present Simple) Graham flies about three or four times a year. / How often does Graham fly? / About three or four times a year. / Does Graham fly about three or four times a year? / Yes, he does. / Does Graham fly about five or six times a year? / No, he doesn't. Graham doesn't fly about five or six times a year.
2. (Present Continuous) Keith is flying economy class today, because he can't afford an upgrade. / Why is Keith flying economy class today? / Because he can't afford an upgrade. / Is Keith flying economy class today, because he can't afford an upgrade? / Yes, he is. / Is Keith flying economy class today, because he forgot to book an upgrade? / No, he isn't. Keith isn't flying economy class today, because he forgot to book an upgrade.
3. (Past Simple) Last year I bought some duty-free sunglasses from a little shop at the airport in Minsk. / What did you buy from a little shop at the airport in Minsk last year? / Some duty-free sunglasses. / Did you buy any duty-free sunglasses from a little shop at the airport in Minsk last year? / Yes, I did. / Did you buy any souvenirs or postcards from a little shop at the airport in Minsk last year? / No, I didn't. I didn't buy any souvenirs or postcards from a little shop at the airport in Minsk last year.
4. (Past Continuous) Lea and Buzz were going through customs when they were stopped by two armed security guards. / When were Lea and Buzz stopped by two armed security guards? / When they were going through customs. / Were Lea and Buzz going through customs when they were stopped by two armed security guards? / Yes, they were. / Were Lea and Buzz eating an ice-cream in a café when they were stopped by two armed security guards? / No, they weren't. Lea and Buzz weren't eating an ice-cream in a café when they were stopped by two armed security guards.
5. (Present Perfect) Paul's just landed at Heathrow Airport. / Where has Paul just landed? / At Heathrow Airport. / Has Paul just landed at Heathrow Airport? / Yes, he has. / Has Paul just landed at Stansted Airport? / No, he hasn't. / Paul hasn't just landed at Stansted Airport.
6. (Modal Verbs) I could book a flight for me and Laura. / Who could you book a flight for? / For me and Laura. / Could you book a flight for you and Laura? / Yes, I could. / Could you book a flight for your whole family and Laura? / No, I couldn't. I couldn't book a flight for my whole family and Laura.
7. (Future Forms) We're going to pay for priority boarding tomorrow, because we don't like to queue. / When are you going to pay for priority boarding? / Tomorrow. / Are you going to pay for priority boarding tomorrow? / Yes, we are. / Are you going to pay for priority boarding this afternoon? / No, we aren't. We aren't going to pay for priority boarding this afternoon.
8. (First Conditional) If we use a different airline, we'll have an exciting stopover in Bangkok next Friday night. / What kind of stopover will we have in Bangkok next Friday night, if we use a different airline? / An exciting one. / Will we have an exciting stopover in Bangkok next Friday night, if we use a different airline? / Yes, we will. / Will we have a tiring stopover in Bangkok next Friday night, if we use a different airline? / No, we won't. We won't have a tiring stopover in Bangkok next Friday night, if we use a different airline.

Sentence Block Extensions

For all of the sentence block starting sentences there are at least two different wh- question words that can be used to make sentence blocks. In one case eight different sentence blocks can be made from the same starting sentence when using different wh- question words. There isn't room here to print in full all of the sentence block extensions from this unit. Hopefully, the answers given above will give you the teacher (or you the student) enough guidance to be able to make the sentence block extensions for this unit with confidence.

For example, let's look at the third starting sentence from this unit:

Last year I bought some duty-free sunglasses from a little shop at the airport in Minsk.

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On the handout the wh- question word that is given is "What", but this starting sentence also works equally well with seven other wh- question words and phrases: "What", "What kind" (x2), "Where", "When", "Who", and "Which":

What did you do in a little shop at the airport in Minsk last year? / I bought some duty-free sunglasses.

What kind of sunglasses did you buy from a little shop at the airport in Minsk last year? / Some duty-free sunglasses.

What kind of shop at the airport in Minsk did you buy some duty-free sunglasses from last year? / A little shop.

Where did you buy some duty-free sunglasses last year? / From a little shop at the airport in Minsk.

When did you buy some duty-free sunglasses from a little shop at the airport in Minsk? / Last year.

Who bought some duty-free sunglasses from a little shop at the airport in Minsk? / I did.

Which shop did you buy some duty-free sunglasses from last year? / A little shop at the airport in Minsk.

The idea is easy. Change the wh- question word each time and you can make several completely different sentence blocks from the original starting sentence, simply by finding the relevant information for the answer in the starting sentence. As you can see below, sometimes the same wh- question word can be used more than once to make different sentence blocks.

You could cut out and give the section below to students:

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Airport

Make new sentence blocks from the starting sentences in this unit using different "wh-" question words:

	WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	WHO	WHY	WHICH	HOW
1.	what		when	who			
2.	what what class		when	who		which	how
3.	what (2 nd) what kind (x2)	where	when	who		which	
4.	what what kind	where		who			
5.	what			who		which	
6.	what (x2)			who (2 nd)			
7.	what (x2) what kind			who	why		
8.	what (x2)	where	when	who			how

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Airport

Sentence Blocks

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Sentence Blocks – Sentence Stress and Vowel Sounds

Task 1: Circle the content words in the following starting sentences. (For answer, see Task 2 below.)

Airport

1. Graham flies about three or four times a year.
2. Keith is flying economy class today, because he can't afford an upgrade.
3. Last year I bought some duty-free sunglasses from a little shop at the airport in Minsk.
4. Lea and Buzz were going through customs when they were stopped by two armed security guards.
5. Paul's just landed at Heathrow Airport.
6. I could book a flight for me and Laura.
7. We're going to pay for priority boarding tomorrow, because we don't like to queue.
8. If we use a different airline, we'll have an exciting stopover in Bangkok next Friday night.

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Sentence Blocks – Sentence Stress and Vowel Sounds

Task 2: Underline the stressed syllable in each content word, shown in black. (For answer, see Task 3 below.)

Airport

1. Graham flies **about** three or four times a year.
2. Keith **is** flying economy class today, **because** he can't afford an upgrade.
3. Last year I bought **some** duty-free sunglasses from a little shop at the airport in Minsk.
4. Lea and Buzz **were** going through customs when they were stopped by two armed security guards.
5. Paul's just landed at Heathrow Airport.
6. I could book a flight for me and Laura.
7. We're going to pay for priority boarding tomorrow, because we don't like to queue.
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Sentence Blocks – Sentence Stress and Vowel Sounds

Task 3: Write the correct vowel sound above each stressed syllable (underlined). (For answer, see below.)

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1. Graham flies about three or four times a year.
2. Keith is flying economy class today, because he can't afford an upgrade.
3. Last year I bought some duty-free sunglasses from a little shop at the airport in Minsk.
4. Lea and Buzz were going through customs when they were stopped by two armed security guards.
5. Paul's just landed at Heathrow Airport.
6. I could book a flight for me and Laura.
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Sentence Blocks – Sentence Stress and Vowel Sounds

Each content word (shown in black) contains one syllable with a strong stress, which is underlined. Each stressed syllable has one vowel sound. The vowel sounds on stressed syllables are the most important sounds in the sentence. They make the "sound spine" of the sentence. To improve communication, try to get the sound spine right.

Airport

1. Graham flies about three or four times a year.
/eɪ/ /aɪ/ /i:/ /ɔ:/ /aɪ/ /ɪə/
2. Keith is flying economy class today, because he can't afford an upgrade.
/i:/ /aɪ/ /ɒ/ /ɑ:/ /aɪ/ /ɑ:/ /ɔ:/ /ʌ/
3. Last year I bought some duty-free sunglasses from a little shop at the airport in Minsk.
/ɑ:/ /ɪə/ /ɔ:/ /u:/ /i:/ /ʌ/ /ɪ/ /ɒ/ /eə/ /ɪ/
4. Lea and Buzz were going through customs when they were stopped by two armed security guards.
/ɪə/ /ʌ/ /əʊ/ /u:/ /ʌ/ /ɒ/ /u:/ /ɑ:/ /ʊə/ /ɑ:/
5. Paul's just landed at Heathrow Airport.
/ɔ:/ /ʌ/ /æ/ /i:/ /eə/
6. I could book a flight for me and Laura.
/ʊ/ /aɪ/ /ɔ:/
7. We're going to pay for priority boarding tomorrow, because we don't like to queue.
/aɪ/ /ɒ/ /ɔ:/ /ɒ/ /əʊ/ /aɪ/ /u:/
8. If we use a different airline, we'll have an exciting stopover in Bangkok next Friday night.
/u:/ /ɪ/ /eə/ /æ/ /aɪ/ /ɒ/ /ɒ/ /aɪ/ /aɪ/