

LISTENING TAPESCRIPT

(Please read/play twice.)

Interviewer: These days we all know that time is money. People don't want to waste a moment of their lives travelling when they could be working, or let's face it, relaxing on holiday. So with this in mind, why is the London-based company Seymour Powell working on a new form of transport which will go from London to New York in 37 hours, when we can already get there in seven? With me here in the studio is Mark Baker. Mark, why on earth would anyone want to travel so slowly?

Mark: Well, the company Seymour Powell have come up with the idea that 'slow is the new fast'. It's true that people traditionally want to get to their destination as quickly as possible, but I think everyone would agree that there is nothing pleasant about flying in a small, crowded passenger jet. That's why this company has developed the Aircruise concept. It aims to carry people to their destination in comfort and style.

Interviewer: Rather like the old ocean liners.

Mark: You could say that.

Interviewer: So what is an Aircruise? Is it a type of plane?

Mark: No, it's not. It is proposed that the Aircruise will be a huge kite-shaped airship. It will fly at 12,000 feet, but it would be able to fly at just a few hundred feet above the ground if there was something interesting to see on the ground.

Interviewer: It sounds like a sort of luxurious hot air balloon.

Mark: Well, the plan is that it will be powered, not by hot air, but another type of air. Hydrogen. Hydrogen is capable of lifting weights of 1.2 kg per cubic metre, and you can also use hydrogen fuel to provide on-board power and drinking water. With hydrogen as the fuel, you'd be able to reach speeds of around ninety miles per hour. It would be pollution free, and what's more, it'd be completely silent!

Interviewer: It reminds me of those airships they had back in the 1930s.

Mark: Zeppelins.

Interviewer: That's right. Weren't they very dangerous?

Mark: They were rather, after the famous Hindenburg disaster in May 1937 which killed 35 of the 97 people on board. But technology has moved on a good deal since then, and scientists are looking at ways that we can create transport options that are more sustainable and kinder to the environment.

Interviewer: So you mentioned that this Aircruise was going to be a luxurious form of transport. Why is that? What sort of luxuries can a passenger expect?

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LISTENING TAPESCRIPT
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Mark: Well, first of all it won't be full of people. One Aircruise ship will carry just 100 people. There'll also be plenty of staff to attend to your every need. They're estimating that there'll be one crew member for every five people! Thirdly, you won't be pinned in your seat for the entire journey. You'll be able to walk around. There's to be a bar, private apartments and even a glass floor so that you can see the view beneath your feet!

Interviewer: Gosh, I don't know if I fancy that!

Mark: No, me neither!

Interviewer: And would these airships depart from airports?

Mark: No, I think that would be very dangerous! No, the plan is that they would build special landing pads. Compared to airports, these are much smaller, so the airships would be able to land much closer to urban centres.

Interviewer: So, this Aircruise idea. Is it just an idea, or is it actually going into production?

Mark: Well, that's hard to say at this stage, but the company is certainly gaining a lot of attention. One of the major Korean electrical goods companies is showing a lot of interest and providing some funding. So there is some talk that this dream could be realised in as little as five years' time.

Interviewer: So in the future we'll all be gliding slowly to our holiday destinations, while drinking beer at the bar then?

Mark: You will if you can afford it! I don't expect that these new airships will be cheap!

Interviewer: Well, thank you very much, Mark Baker. Now it's time for...

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– riešenia a úlohy

PICTURE STORY

Make up a story about the people in the pictures. Compare and contrast the situations. Give as many details as possible.



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A N S W E R K E Y

GRAMMAR – 15 points

1. you had not / hadn't told me that.
2. I did not / didn't have to work late tonight.
3. had his flat broken into last week.
4. did not / didn't turn on the radio.
5. was being bent to the ground by the wind.
6. bound to / sure to be on time.
7. has so much money been spent to so little purpose.
8. seeing each other a long time ago.
9. not telling / having told you the truth.
10. not allowed / forbidden to take his dog to work (*forbidden from taking*).

10 points

11. unless 12. will 13. were 14. would 15. provided

5 points

VOCABULARY – 10 points (0.5 pt each)

1. layers 2. insulation 3. warmth 4. metabolic 5. European 6. quickly 7. less 8. heat
9. tropics 10. blood 11. enables 12. effectively 13. humidity 14. production

7 points (0.5 pt each)

15. b 16. d 17. b 18. b 19. d 20. c

3 points (0.5 pt each)

READING COMPREHENSION – 10 points

- 1 A 2 B 3 C 4 D 5 D 6 C 7 C

7 points

8. strain 9. ergonomist 10. tendon

3 points

LISTENING COMPREHENSION – 5 points (0.5 pt each)

1. London, New York
2. comfort, style
3. interesting to see
4. 35
5. sustainable
6. electrical goods

3 points (0.5 pt each)

- 7 F 8 T 9 F 10 F

2 points (0.5 pt each)

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ROLE PLAY

Student

You and your good friends have just finished celebrating your birthday at an expensive restaurant. Unfortunately, a number of things went wrong and spoilt your whole evening.

You are now complaining to the manager of the restaurant about the quality of the food, the service and the wait time. You are not willing to pay the bill.

The manager insists you pay your bill and claims that you and your friends were very noisy during the dinner, disturbing the other customers.

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ROLEPLAY

Teacher

You are the manager of an expensive restaurant. Your customer and his/her friends are complaining about the food, services and wait time. They are even refusing to pay their bill. On the other hand, you are not satisfied with their behaviour during the dinner because they were very noisy and the other customers were complaining. You say that the restaurant has a very good reputation and customers have always been satisfied with everything.

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