

LESSON 14

AIRPORTS

● KEY POINT AIRPORT DISRUPTIONS

Consider the following:

Have you ever experienced airport construction?

Is there a lot of renovation going on in your airport?

How does this impact your travel?



DEFINITION:

To hear a pin drop (Expression): A place that is very quiet.

Airports have been growing at greater and greater speeds. Greater travel demands have been requiring better solutions. Airport Authorities have been renovating. The following is a report on the progress on an airport renovation.

Time 60 Minutes

Vocabulary Travel and Airports

Key Points Airport Disruptions

Grammar Irregular verbs

Objectives Airport vocabulary and expressions

● VOCABULARY AND EXPRESSION BUILDERS

Airport authority: People responsible for running an airport.

The airport authority is responsible for the terminal.

Renovate: To fix up.

They renovated the house.

First phase: The first part.

The first phase of the project is completed.

Record time: The fastest time.

They completed the race in record time.

From scratch: From the beginning.

They worked on the project from scratch.

To hear a pin drop: Very quiet.

It was so quiet you could hear a pin drop.

On time and on budget: Respecting project parameters.

The software project was on time and on budget.

Take off: A plane leaving.

The plane took off from runway 52.

Carrier: A people transport company like an airline or a train company.

Delta Airlines is a carrier.

Career: A job track.

His career progress was impressive.

Deep pockets: She has a lot of money.

The investment banker has deep pockets.

To oversee: To supervise.

He is overseeing the project.

Runway: An airstrip.

The airplane landed on runway 16.

To Shake: To move from one side to the other. (Irregular verb Shake Shook Shaken)

The ground shook when the airplane passed.

SENTENCE BUILDERS

Read each sentence out loud several times.

1. The terminal was so quiet you could hear a pin drop.
2. He is regarded as a world expert on the subject.
3. We began the final phases of the project in 1999.
4. There were 20 million passengers in 2001.
5. They have deep pockets. They can pay for the project.

COMPREHENSION BUILDERS

Transport infrastructure upgrading.

Airport Disruptions. (The Globe and Mail)

Air transportation activities have been expanding at an astronomical rate. Airports have to meet the ever-increasing needs of travel. This often results in many inconveniences at the airport. Read about how one airport is managing this situation.

Toronto International Airport Construction Update

On June 7th 1996 the airport authority at Toronto's Pearson International airport in Ontario, Canada, began a project to renovate the three terminals, making it one of the most expensive airport projects in the world. Thomas Watkins, senior manager and partner at Hansen Engineering Ltd. oversaw the first phase of the project only last year.

We began this over ten years ago and we built the first terminal in record time. When we finish on September 9th 2009, all three terminals will be rebuilt, he said while he stood in one of the construction zones that shook every time an airplane landed on nearby runway 2.

"A lot of people ask me what we need to complete a mega project, and I say a few good managers, a few deep pockets, and a little luck with the weather." When further asked about noise problems he said, "when we are finished, you will be able to hear a pin drop inside the terminal when an Airbus A380 is taking off." "To make the project more complicated, we have to do the construction work around the 20 million passengers that come through every year" said Reno Gabrielli a construction worker. "The project will be finished in 12 months, on time and on budget."

The construction schedule

June 1st, 1996 Project Launched.

August 2nd, 2000 Terminal One completed.

April 21st 2005 Terminal Two completed.

November 20th 2008 Terminal Three completed.

September 9 th 2009 Project completion.

Vancouver International Airport

QUESTIONS

1. Recently, airport upgrades are the result of _____.
 - a) the need to meet the ever-increasing airport travel
 - b) pressure from airlines to improve services
 - c) the desire to improve infrastructure
2. The airport project in Toronto will be _____.
 - a) the best airport improvement in Canada
 - b) one of the most expensive airport projects in the world
 - c) the biggest construction project in the world
3. The management for the project is being done by _____.
 - a) the government
 - b) Hansen engineering
 - c) the city of Toronto

TECHNIQUE BUILDERS (Using a few, few, a little, or little.)

4. The Vancouver Airport project will not have the same _____.
 - a) prestige as the Pearson project
 - b) budget as the first project
 - c) size as Toronto

TECHNIQUE BUILDERS (Using a few, few, a little, or little.)

He shook his wallet to see if he could get more change.
Jack oversaw the entire project at work.
The tech support team troubleshot the problem.

Used as in past simple tenses.

The structures vary according to verb. Basically, there are no rules.

Irregular verbs are for the past simple and perfect tenses.

They built a new garage.
He caught a cold.

EXERCISES

Complete the following sentences expressing actions in the past (irregular verbs).

1. The airport authority (to buy) _____ a new computer system last year.
2. They also (to build) _____ a new terminal and renovated another one.
3. For the final phase of the project they (to bring) _____ in an engineering company.
4. The passengers (to catch) _____ the last flight out of New York.
5. They (to cut) _____ some of the project, so they could finish on time and on budget.

EXERCISES

6. When the low cost airline (to leave) _____, it took off from La Guardia airport.
 7. The major airlines (to learn) _____ to adjust to the competition.
 8. The manager (to know) _____ he had to do the project from scratch.
 9. The more the project (to grow) _____ the more they needed deep pockets.
 10. They (to write) _____ to the discount airline for a refund.
 11. They (to understand) _____ that fuel prices affect the cost of plane tickets.
 12. The project manager (to oversee) _____ the entire project.
- 