

# English on the airplane



useful vocabulary for flying

# To board / to embark

**PASSPORT** and **BOARDING CARD** always in your hand!

After you have checked-in and after the security and immigration process, you have to board the aircraft.

Listen carefully to all the boarding announcements you will hear:

e.g. “British Airways flight 954 to London is now boarding at Gate 5A”

**Hurry up, it's time to go to the gate!**



# Cabin: interiors of the aircraft, doors, emergency exits



**Flight attendant:** professional who is responsible for ensuring the safety, security, and comfort of passengers on board an airplane



# Aisle and seat

Window/ middle /aisle seat

“Excuse me, could you help me find my seat?”, “I’m sorry, I think you’re in my seat”, “Is it possible to switch/change seats?”



**Overhead bin/compartment** A very chaotic moment of boarding is when passengers place their luggage in the overhead compartments: be aware that you don't always find room exactly above your head!

<https://youtu.be/otu9igo5jGs> :-)



**Galley** the kitchen of the aircraft (hot and cold drinks, meals, snacks)



# Cockpit / Flight deck

Control room of the a/c

pilot/co-pilot





# More vocabulary on an airplane

Taxing

Take-off

Motion sickness (sickness bag in every pocket)

To cruise (What are we flying over?)

Turbulence

Call light (Can I have a blanket/headsets, please?)

In-flight entertainment

Refreshments / Meals

Landing



# A day in the life of a flight attendant



# 1. Cabin crew grooming and uniform

Fortunately, you don't waste time thinking about what to wear and how to do your make-up before going to work :)

About two hours before briefing, I get ready for the flight: comb my hair (pigtail or bun if hair is long), put on make up and wear **full uniform**. Check that **crew bag** (and luggage if you have one or more nights out) contains all the necessary items for the flight such as operation manual, pens, apron, spare tights... Make sure you have **passport, company ID** and other important documents for travelling.

I leave home, I go the airport and then directly to the company's offices: I wait for the coworkers, pilots and flight attendants I will work with that day. **WE ARE A CREW, WE ARE A TEAM!**



## 2. Briefing



It's the moment when the crew meets and the **cabin manager** provides all **flight data**: number of flight, destination, length of flight, number of passengers (adults, children, infants), special passengers, animals on board, meals and refreshment, and so on. The cabin manager assigns C/A stations. The pilots tell us about the **weather conditions** during the flight (be ready for expected turbulence?) and other essential information.

Then we start the emergency briefing: it's a revision of the **emergency procedures** and it's a crucial moment!

We catch the bus and get all together on the airplane: we check all the emergency equipments, we check **catering, cleaning and cabin**. We perform the last security check and we are **ready for boarding**: EVERY C/A AT THEIR STATION WITH A **BIG SMILE**, welcoming passengers on board!

### 3. Cabin crew prepare for take-off!

After boarding, one C/A reads the welcome announcement and the other members prepare for the safety demonstration (**demo**).

When the doors are closed and armed, and passengers, cabin and galley are secure for take off, we come back to our jump seats, sit down, fasten our seatbelts and we start the self-briefing!

Then the airplane takes off!

When possible, the CAPTAIN allows us to stand up and we begin to arrange the service (heat meals, prepare drinks, bread ...)



## 4. During the flight

Constant cabin and toilets check;

Tidy up the galley;

We take care of the pilots;

Constant care and assistance of passengers;

We eat and rest a little bit when possible.



## 5. Cabin crew prepare for landing!

20 minutes before landing, the crew gets ready by wearing the full uniform and the high heels again, powder and lipstick for a quick refresher.

Cabin and galley check, and then we land!

We disarm the doors and the passengers disembark. Security search and we get off the aircraft and do the debriefing.



## 6. What happens now?

<b>DAILY FLIGHT</b>	<b>MINIMUM REST</b>	<b>LONG STAY</b>
<p>You go home and sleep!!!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-long hours</li><li>-early mornings, late nights</li><li>-strict safety regulations must be followed all the time</li></ul>	<p>You spend one night out and fly back to base the following day.</p>	<p>You spend from two to seven night out and you can visit new places, beaches, museums, shops, you can eat local food, meet a lot of people, experience different cultures.</p>



