BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Take Away English 随身英语 Making flying better for the environment 让飞行更环保



Vocabulary: aviation 词汇: 航空

Flying has shrunk the world! It's now possible to travel around the globe quickly and easily. Jumping on a plane and **jetting off** on holiday or a business trip is the norm for many of us, and with the rise of **budget airlines**, the number of people **taking to the skies** is increasing. But while air travel is costing us less, the cost to the environment is going up.

Climate change is something we're all aware of now, and aviation companies know that some of the blame for this is being pointed at them. Last year commercial airlines were forecasted to use about 97bn gallons of jet fuel. But while we could think twice about taking a flight in the first place, particularly a short-haul trip that could be made by train, technology might be the answer to reducing emissions and minimising the environmental damage.

Recent developments have focussed on reducing the amount of fuel **airliners** burn. Making flying green and **sustainable** was the hot topic at the recent Dubai Air Show. There was talk of advances in **engine** technology, making them more efficient, and possibly using **biofuel** to power aircraft. Alejandro Rios Galvan, a bioenergy expert and professor at Khalifa University in Abu Dhabi, told the BBC that "these have the capacity to reduce the **carbon footprint** anywhere between 50-80% when you compare them to fossil (fuels)." And Phil Curnock, chief engineer of the civil future programme at Rolls-Royce, also suggested that **electric hybrid engines** could play a part for smaller aircraft, covering shorter distances. He says "it offers the possibility of a **carbon-neutral** flight for a limited range."

Being carbon neutral is the ultimate goal for the aviation industry, and one British airline, Easyjet, has recently said it would become the world's first major net zero carbon airline by offsetting carbon emissions.

Of course, aircraft **manufacturers** are constantly looking at ways to make their planes more fuel efficient. Boeing's Dreamliner, for example, is already in operation and uses 25 per cent less fuel per passenger compared with aircraft of a similar size. Other improvements include better aircraft **aerodynamics**, changes to ways aircraft **taxi** on runways, and the use of lighter materials.

But if we can't kick the flying habit, it seems these are the developments we need to make in order to ensure air travel is as green as possible. But aviation experts agree it's going to take time. We're left with short-term action such as taxing flights, regulation or protest – or being **grounded** and not flying at all.

词汇表

jet off	乘飞机旅行		
budget airline			
take to the skies	飞上蓝天		
climate change	气候变化		
aviation companies	航空公司		
commercial airline	商业航空公司		
jet fuel	航空煤油		
think twice	仔细考虑		
short-haul	短途的		
emission	排放		
airliner	大型客机		
sustainable	可持续的		
engine	发送机		
biofuel	生物燃料		
carbon footprint	碳足迹		
electric hybrid engines	混合动力发动机		
carbon neutral	碳平衡的		
manufacturer	制造商		
aerodynamics	空气动力学		
taxi	(飞机) 在地面滑行		
grounded	(人) 不出门的,(飞机)停飞的		

测验与练习

I. 阅读课文并回答问题。				
I. How much fuel were commercial airlines forecasted to use in 2019?				
2. What might be an alternative to taking a short-haul flight?				
3. How could biofuel help reduce emissions from aircraft?				
4. True or false? Using taxis to take people to the aircraft could help reduce carbon emissions.				
5. Who manufactures the Dreamliner aircraft?				
2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。				
I. Rob's always on holiday. He must be paid too much!				
jet off	jetted off	jetting off	jetting	
2. Vehicle need to be cut if we are to reduce pollution in our cities.				
carbon footprint	emissions	sustainable	aerodynamics	
3. My brother is very he knows he needs to study hard if he's to get a good qualification and a good job.				
sustainable	grounded	aerodynamic	think twice	
4. She won the bike race because her bike was fast on the road and very stable when she rode off-road.				
aerodynamic	hybrid	biofuel	short-haul	
5. I saw a beautiful coat I wanted to buy, but my friend said I should as it might be cheaper in the sales!				

think two

think twice

thinks twice

twice think

答案

- 1. 阅读课文并回答问题。
- 1. How much fuel were commercial airlines forecasted to use in 2019?

Last year commercial airlines were forecasted to use about 97bn gallons of jet fuel.

2. What might be an alternative to taking a short-haul flight?

Alternatives include taking a train or just not travelling at all.

3. How could biofuel help reduce emissions from aircraft?

Using biofuel in aircraft makes engines more efficient, reducing carbon emissions.

4. True or false? Using taxis to take people to the aircraft could help reduce carbon emissions.

False. Changing the ways aircraft taxi on runways is one idea for reducing carbon emissions, but not using taxis!

5. Who manufactures the Dreamliner aircraft?

Boeing manufactures the Dreamliner 787 aircraft.

- 2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。
- 1. Rob's always **jetting off** on holiday. He must be paid too much!
- 2. Vehicle **emissions** need to be cut if we are to reduce pollution in our cities.
- 3. My brother is very **grounded** he knows he needs to study hard if he's to get a good qualification and a good job.
- 4. She won the bike race because her **hybrid** bike was fast on the road and very stable when she rode off-road.
- 5. I saw a beautiful coat I wanted to buy, but my friend said I should **think twice** as it might be cheaper in the sales!