



Proves d'accés a la Universitat per a més grans de 25 anys

Maig 2010

Llengua estrangera

Sèrie 2

Fase general

Idioma escollit

(marqueu-lo amb una X)

Alemany ☐

Anglès ☐



Francès ☐

Italià ☐



Portuguès ☐



Suma
de notes
parcials

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

Total

Qualificació

Etiqueta identificadora de l'alumne/a



UAB

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FIRE RISKS ON AIRPLANES

Battery fires in personal electronic devices can be scary. But if a battery catches fire on a plane, the risks are much greater.

With more people traveling with portable electronics, more and more fires are occurring on airplanes. There have been 22 battery fires on passenger planes since 1999, and more than half of these fires have been in the last three years. In October, 2009, U.S. government agencies issued special advisories to airlines about portable credit card readers.

Like most hand-held consumer electronic devices, credit card readers depend on rechargeable lithium batteries, which the government considers hazardous.

While no fires from credit card readers have been reported, the list of spontaneous combustion events on airplanes with other devices is becoming longer. Currently problems with batteries occur on passenger planes at a rate of one every four months. One possible reason for this increase is a problem in the manufacturing process. Companies asked American customers to return over 400,000 electronic devices for inspection or exchange in the first nine months of 2009. Batteries are also becoming more powerful, so that even very small ones can produce a lot of heat.

“Most air passengers and flight crews are likely unaware of the fire risks posed by rechargeable lithium batteries,” the government wrote in 2008 in recommending a more aggressive approach to educating the public.

Adapted from a text by Christine NEGRONI. *The New York Times* (October 26, 2009)

Després de llegir el text, contesteu les preguntes seguint les instruccions que es donen en cada cas. Cada pregunta val un punt. En les preguntes d'opció múltiple, es descomptaran 0,33 punts per error; en la resta, es descomptaran 0,05 punts per cada falta d'ortografia, de morfologia, de lèxic o de sintaxi. Si una falta es repeteix, només es descomptarà una vegada.

Después de leer el texto, responde a las preguntas siguiendo las instrucciones que se dan en cada caso. Todas las preguntas valen un punto. En las preguntas de opción múltiple, se descontarán 0,33 puntos por error; en el resto, se descontarán 0,05 puntos por cada falta de ortografía, de morfología, de léxico o de sintaxis. Si una falta se repite, sólo se descontará una vez.

Choose the correct answer (1-8).

1. The article states that fires on airplanes
 - a) are extremely rare.
 - b) occur every day.
 - c) are becoming more and more frequent.
 - d) are not a cause for concern.
2. A serious problem with a rechargeable lithium battery occurs on a passenger airplane in the U.S.
 - a) twice a month.
 - b) once every four months.
 - c) once every nine months.
 - d) 22 times a year.
3. The cause of many fires on airplanes can be related to
 - a) the use of credit card readers.
 - b) the presence of rechargeable lithium batteries.
 - c) poor security at airports.
 - d) liquids carried by passengers.
4. The article states that battery fires occur more often than before because
 - a) people are using batteries incorrectly.
 - b) electronic devices are expensive but batteries are cheap.
 - c) sometimes manufacturers produce defective batteries.
 - d) the government regulates battery production.

5. The U.S. government believes that
 - a) passengers already know enough about the risk of battery fires.
 - b) credit cards are dangerous.
 - c) airlines should prohibit portable electronic devices in passenger cabins.
 - d) people generally do not know the dangers associated with lithium batteries.
6. Which of the following statements is **true** according to the article?
 - a) Small batteries can produce a lot of heat if they explode.
 - b) Rechargeable batteries present no risk on airplanes.
 - c) Products with rechargeable batteries are not allowed on airplanes flying in the U.S.
 - d) The U.S. government has prohibited use of credit card readers on airplanes.
7. Which of the following can replace the word *while* in the clause “*While* no fires from credit card readers have been reported”? Make sure that your choice retains the same meaning as the original sentence.
 - a) nevertheless
 - b) like
 - c) although
 - d) unless
8. Which of the following is the best paraphrase for the expression *are likely unaware of* in the sentence “Most air passengers and flight crews *are likely unaware of* the fire risks posed by rechargeable lithium batteries”? Make sure that your choice retains the same meaning as the original sentence.
 - a) cannot know about
 - b) must not know about
 - c) probably do not know about
 - d) are not supposed to know about

Please answer the following questions in English. (Please do not copy text but rather answer in your own words; your answer should be between forty and sixty words in length.)

9. Why has the U.S. government issued an advisory to airlines about portable credit card readers?
10. Briefly describe why battery fires on airplanes are increasing. Please include at least two reasons specifically mentioned in the text.

Etiqueta identificadora de l'alumne/a

Etiqueta del corrector/a

