

**Владимирский государственный университет**

**READ FOR PLEASURE**  
**(Novel “Airport” by Arthur Hailey)**

**Практикум по внеаудиторному чтению**

**Владимир 2023**

Министерство науки и высшего образования Российской Федерации  
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«Владимирский государственный университет  
имени Александра Григорьевича и Николая Григорьевича Столетовых»

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*Электронное издание*



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## ПРЕДИСЛОВИЕ

Чтение оригинальной литературы – неотъемлемая часть процесса подготовки как специалиста в области лингвистики, так и любого, кто хочет изучить иностранный язык во всех его проявлениях, понять менталитет людей, которые являются носителями этого языка. Именно через литературу происходит знакомство с историей, культурой, традициями страны изучаемого языка. Обсуждая поведение литературных героев и описываемые события, обмениваясь мнениями с однокурсниками, студенты получают возможность развивать свое аналитическое мышление. Чтение аутентичной литературы позволяет включать в свой арсенал новые грамматические структуры, разговорные клише, идиомы, и в целом расширять и обогащать свой словарный запас.

Роман «Аэропорт» – один из образцов современной англоязычной литературы. Автор книги – Артур Хейли (британо-канадский писатель) – ставит перед читателем острые нравственные вопросы, слог романа отличается поразительной детализацией происходящего и реализмом. Действие начинается с неспешного повествования о деталях работы аэропорта и постепенно закручивается в тугую спираль событий, в которую вовлечены многочисленные персонажи книги, среди них и работники аэропорта, и члены их семей, и пассажиры, и жители близлежащего городка.

Практикум включает в себя упражнения по каждой из глав романа, который Артур Хейли делит на три части (11 глав – в 1-й части; 13 глав – во 2-й части; 18 глав – в 3-й части).

Задания практикума направлены на понимание содержания читаемого, умение выстроить собственное высказывание, сформулировать основную мысль выделенного фрагмента.

Автор благодарит рецензентов С. И. Дорошенко, доктора педагогических наук и Е. Н. Романову, кандидата педагогических наук за ценные рекомендации по работе над практикумом.

**Arthur Frederick Hailey**, (5 April 1920 – 24 November 2004)

Arthur Frederick Hailey was born on 5th April 1920, to George and Elsie Hailey. He was born in Luton, Bedfordshire, in England. He was an only child, with his father being a factory worker.

He loved to read as a youngster and began writing himself at an early age. His mother encouraged him to learn typing and shorthand so that he could be an office worker rather than a factory worker. In 1934, Arthur Hailey started his career as an office worker. He left in 1939 to join the Royal Air Force, where he served as a pilot during World War II. In 1947, unhappy with the Labor government of the day, Hailey migrated to Canada. He worked in various industries over the next few years, including real estate, sales, and advertising.

Arthur Hailey had continued with his writing through the years, and he began his professional writing career in 1955 when the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation purchased a script from him called, **Flight into Danger**. It proved to be the hit of the season. It went on to be adapted into a movie in 1957 called, **Zero Hour**. Due to his initial success, Hailey became a much sought-after writer for television. He released his first novel in 1959, **The Final Diagnosis**. The story met with great success, and he followed this with his second novel in 1962, **In High Places**, which became a best seller in Canada.

In 1965, Hailey released **Hotel**, which spent 48 weeks on the New York Times bestseller list. It was the eighth best-selling book of the year, and Hailey modelled his future books on the same format.

Arthur Hailey moved to California, and in 1968, released his fourth book, **Airport**, which catapulted him to international fame. The book held the number one position on the New York Times best-seller list for 30 weeks. It was adapted as a movie and released in 1970 to resounding success, being the second highest grossing movie for the year.

Due to his overwhelming success, Hailey moved to the Bahamas on the advice of his tax attorney, to avoid being charged heavy taxes in the U.S. Hailey loved the Bahamas and lived there for the rest of his life.

Arthur Hailey released two more best-selling books, **The Moneychangers** in 1975, and **Overload** in 1979, before announcing his retirement.

He had quadruple heart bypass surgery, and afterwards wrote another novel, which had significant success. He continued to write, but only as a hobby. Between 1959 and 1997, Hailey wrote ten novels, most of which became highly successful movies or television series. His books have sold over 170 million copies in 38 languages.

Each of his novels has a different industrial or commercial setting and includes, in addition to dramatic human conflict, carefully researched information about the way that particular environments and systems function and how these affect society and its inhabitants.

Critics often dismissed Hailey's success as the result of a formulaic style in which he centered a crisis on an ordinary character, then inflated the suspense by hopping among multiple related plotlines. However, he was so popular with readers that his books were guaranteed to become best-sellers.

He would spend about one year researching a subject, followed by six months reviewing his notes and, finally, about 18 months writing the book. That aggressive research — tracking rebel guerrillas in the Peruvian jungle at age 67 for **The Evening News** (1990), or reading 27 books on the hotel industry for “Hotel” — gave his novels a realism that appealed to readers, even as some critics complained that he used it to mask a lack of literary talent.



## PART ONE

### Chapter 1

1. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why was runway three zero out of use?
2. What were the consequences of the loss of runway three zero (including flights and fright)?
3. Why were the fledgling turkeys given priority over everything else traveling?
4. Where did the snowstorm come to Illinois from?
5. What were Danny Farrow's duties?
6. What was the reason of something like a conflict between Danny Farrow and the senior foreman from the Maintenance Snow Center?
7. Who of the workers were involved in the activities of the Maintenance Snow Center?
8. How did it happen that Aereo-Mexican 707 got in the morass of mud?
9. What compromise did the Airport and Meadowood administrations come to?
10. Who was the source of anxiety to Mel?
11. What was Mel responsible for as the Airport manager?
12. What were Tanya Livigston's duties at Lincoln airport?
13. What did Tanya write in her message to Mel?
14. Why was there little cordiality between Mel and Vernon?
15. Why did Mel find Demerest's report a nuisance?

2. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. United's Flight 111 was several hours behind the schedule because of the food snafu.

2. Forecasters failed to notice the birth of the snowstorm.
3. The UAL food truck, which was supposed to have lost its way, had left fifteen minutes ago.
4. Danny Farrow liked running the Snow Control Desk.
5. The snowstorm showed that it was necessary to construct additional runways and taxiways.
6. Noise abatement procedures were dangerous for the airplanes.
7. The weather was too bad for a public meeting at Meadowood.
8. Mel was going to inspect the blocked runway himself.
9. Mel had an authority over Air Traffic Control.
- 10 Mel was married to Mel's younger sister, Sarah.

**3. *Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations***

неразбериха (ам. сл.); грузовой склад; главный вестибюль (зал); погрузчик; регламент; сообразительность (смекалка); собраться с духом (с силами); искажение информации; снижение уровня шума; безапелляционно; брошенный автомобиль; не мешкать (пошевеливаться); диктатура; уловить смысл (вы понимаете, о чем я); устранение неполадок; сердечность; ответный удар (мечь); быть в курсе событий

**4. *Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. "We're losing the parking lots. I need six more pay-loaders and a banjo team at Y-seventy-four."
2. "We'll get 'em from Santa Claus. He ought to be around in this lot."
3. "That United flight finally took off, didn't it? Without food."
4. «We explain. But nobody's interested. They just want the airplanes to stop coming over. Some of 'em say that problems or not, pilots are

still supposed to use noise abatement procedures, but tonight they aren't doing it.»

**5. *Whom or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... combined appearance of a football scrimmage and Christmas Eve at Macy's"
2. "... lean, rangy, and a powerhouse of disciplined energy"
3. "... blizzard winds, freezing temperatures, and a ten-inch snowfall in twenty-four hours"
4. "... a battery of telephones, Tel Auto- graphs, and radios. Surrounding them were maps, charts, and bulletin boards"
5. "... bald pate showed sweat globules..."

**6. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "Maintenance snow crews were nearing exhaustion."
2. "Tempers wore thin at times like this, with good reason."
3. "For the time being, the parking lots would have to be abandoned, and later there would be plenty of beefs about that."
4. "Complaints were a stock-in-trade of an airport manager's job."
5. "... were planning legal harassment of the airport"
6. "We're short-staffed and everybody is under the gun."
7. "Well, in this job most of us have combat fatigue at one time or another... Sometimes it shows up in the mind, sometimes in the gut."
8. "As airport general manager, Mel's was closest to an over-all assignment, but there were areas where he knew better than to intrude."
9. "If we abolished capitals there'd be scads less trouble."
10. "Someone higher up raised hob about that."

7. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).*

Air freight warehouses-of all airlines-were stacked to their palletized limits with shipments, their usual high speed transit impeded by the storm. Freight supervisors were nervously watching perishables-hothouse flowers from Wyoming for New England; a ton of Pennsylvania cheese for Anchorage , Alaska ; frozen peas for Iceland ; live lobsters-trans-shipped from the east for a polar route flight-destination Europe . The lobsters were for tomorrow's menus in Edinburgh and Paris where they would be billed as "fresh local seafood," and American tourists would order them unknowingly. Storm or not, contracts decreed that air freight perishables must arrive at destination fresh, and swiftly.

Causing special anxiety in American Airlines Freight was a shipment of several thousand turkey poults, hatched in incubators only hours earlier. The precise hatching-shipping schedule-like a complex order of battle-was set up weeks ago, before the turkey eggs were laid. It called for delivery of the live birds on the West Coast within forty-eight hours of birth, the limit of the tiny creatures' existence without their first food or water. Normally, the arrangement provided a near-hundred percent survival. Significant also-if the poults were fed en route, they would stink, and so would the airplane conveying them, for days afterward. Already the poults' schedule was out of joint by several hours. But an airplane had been diverted from passenger to freight service, and tonight the fledgling turkeys would have priority over everything else traveling, human VIPs included.

In the main passenger terminal, chaos predominated. Terminal waiting areas were jammed with thousands of passengers from delayed or canceled flights. Baggage, in piles, was everywhere. The vast main concourse had the combined appearance of a football scrimmage and Christmas Eve at Macy's.

## Chapter 2

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why did Mel stay at the airport having no specific duties that night?
2. What offended Mel in Roberta's behavior? How did Mel explain her behavior?
3. How did the concourse look like when Mel got there?
4. What pantomime was being played at the United counter?
5. Why was it good, in Mel's opinion, that passengers were not aware of the airport functioning mechanism?
6. What did Mel come to the Trans-America wing for?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. Mel managed not to lose communication with his growing up daughters.
2. Mel decided to go to the cocktail party and then come back to the airport.
3. The United ticket agent checked in a well-dressed businessman for the flight as he had a spare seat.
4. All airlines, but for the United, checked in passengers strictly according to the wait lists.

### III. *Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations*

полуэтаж; задуматься; высокое положение в обществе;  
снисходительность, сдерживать раздражение; стенограмма;  
оркестровая партитура; наглость; режим ожидания;

**IV. *Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. « She said, if you phoned to tell you, you have to be downtown to meet her, and for once try not to be late."
2. "You'll change your tone of voice, young lady, and show a little more respect. Furthermore, we'll end this conversation when I'm good and ready."
3. "Miss Curzon said for homework we have to write down all the good things we think will happen next month."
4. "You've the effrontery to tell me I must go to Kansas City to get to New Orleans. You people are rewriting geography! You're mad with power!"
5. "We can route you directly, sir, but we don't know when. Because of the weather, the longer way will be faster and the fare is the same. "

**V. *Whom or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... silent, with stenographers' desks cleared and typewriters covered, the lights ... on."
2. "depressingly similar"
3. "always breathless as if ... life were excitingly on the run and she must forever keep pace or be left behind"
4. "... long, blond hair and a yellow scarf"
5. "an attractive brunette in her twenties"

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "... the airport also offered an escape from the incessant wrangling between himself and Cindy"
2. "snotty moods"
3. "Behind the counters, ticket agents and supervisors, their normal numbers swelled by colleagues from earlier shifts retained on overtime, had schedules and passage coupons spread out like orchestral scores."

4. "Libby had a verbal shorthand of her own, which sometimes seemed more expressive than conventional words."
5. "a would-be passenger"
6. "a 100,000-Mile Club tag"

**VII. *Decipher Tanya's message; write down the message in full.***

The note read: *M thought shd warn u-airlines snow committee (on vern demerest's urging . . . why does your bro-in-law dislike you?) filing critical report becous runways & taxiways snow clearance (v. d. says) lousy, inefficient . . . report blames airport (meaning u) for main hunk of flight delays . . . also claims stuck 707 wouldn't have if taxiway plowed sooner, better. . . so now all airlines being penalized, etc, etc, you get the drift, . . . and where are you in one? (drift, i mean) . . . climb out & buy me coffee soon.*

**VIII. *Read the following fragments from the chapter and give their content in your own words (in writing).***

**1.**

Pausing, he surveyed the thronged concourse below, which seemed to have become even busier within the past half-hour. In waiting areas, every available seat was occupied. Newsstands and information booths were ringed by crowds, among them many military uniforms. In front of all airline passenger counters were line-ups, some extending around corners out of sight. Behind the counters, ticket agents and supervisors, their normal numbers swelled by colleagues from earlier shifts retained on overtime, had schedules and passage coupons spread out like orchestral scores. Delays and reroutings, which the storm had caused, were taxing both scheduling and human patience. Immediately below Met, at Braniff ticketing, a youngish man with long, blond hair and a yellow scarf was proclaiming loudly, "You've the

effrontery to tell me I must go to Kansas City to get to New Orleans.

You people are rewriting geography! You're mad with power!"

The ticket agent facing him, an attractive brunette in her twenties, brushed a band over her eyes before answering with professional patience, "We can route you directly, sir, but we don't know when. Because of the weather, the longer way will be faster and the fare is the same. "Behind the yellow-scarfed man, more passengers with other problems pressed forward urgently.

## 2.

Mel observed that a group of new arrivals-presumably from downtown-was entering the terminal. They were beating off snow from their clothing as they came in, and judging from their appearance, it seemed that the weather outside must be worsening. The newcomers were quickly absorbed in the general crowds. Few among the eighty thousand or so air travelers who thronged the terminal daily ever glanced up at the executive mezzanine, and fewer still were aware of Mel tonight, high above them, looking down. Most people who thought about airports did so in terms of airlines and airplanes. It was doubtful if many were even aware that executive offices existed or that an administrative machine-unseen, but complex and employing hundreds-was constantly at work, keeping the airport functioning. Perhaps it was as well, Mel thought, as he rode the elevator down again. If people became better informed, in time they would also learn the airport's weaknesses and dangers, and afterward fly in and out with less assurance than before.



## Chapter 3

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. What was the name of the Trans-America ticket agent?
2. What was the reason of the conflict between the Trans-America ticket agent and one of the passengers?
3. Why was Tanya so condescending to the Trans-America agent? What warning did she make to the ticket agent?
4. Why did reservation clerks hate their work in case of emergency?
5. What advantages did the voucher handed to Patsy by Tanya give?
6. Why did Tanya moderate her pace when going with Mel to the coffee shop?
7. What prevented Mel from making a progress in his affair with Tanya?
8. What was one of the reasons for Mel enjoying Tanya's company?
9. What were Mel and Tanya speaking about at the table of the coffee shop?
10. How did Mel Bakersfeld get acquainted with Tanya Livingston?
11. How did Tanya know the content of Vernon Demerest's report?
12. Why was Trans-America Flight Two so widely advertised?
13. What did the president of Trans-America say about Vernon Demerest?
14. What did Tanya tell Mel about her married life?
15. What was Joe Patroni's position at Trans World Airlines?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. Tanya and the Trans-America ticket agent were of the same age.
2. The passengers being in the dining room cannot be aware of the fact, that the flight announcements are not made there.
3. Most reservation clerks were glad to have the assignment telephoning news of delay or cancellation to a flight load of passengers destined for New York.

4. Resignation among airline staffs was a usual thing after the emergencies.
5. Mel accepted Tanya's invitation to go to her place and have dinner.
6. Mel visited Tanya's apartment more than once.
7. There was a tendency for the bright boys to head for air fright.
8. Tanya made some contribution to Mel's successful presentation.
9. Vernon Demerest was meeting with one of the stewardesses in the coffee bar.
10. Tanya was going to promote to the position of the District Transportation Manager.
11. Tanya regretted about her former husband desertion.
12. In good weather it took Patroni twenty five minutes to get to the airport from home.
13. What was the physical condition of the driver when the United food truck was found?
14. After attending the coffee shop, Mel was going to join his wife in the downtown.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

прядь волос; сдерживать слезы; хам (грубиян); справиться с эмоциями; спотыкаться; дальновидный; песочница; скопление людей; надменный (самоуверенный); дезертирство; специалист по устранению неполадок; закадычный друг; сидеть сложа руки (ничего не делать); набрать полный рот; безбилетный пассажир

**IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "Well ... he had a ticket on Flight 72, and that was canceled because of weather. We got him a seat on 114, and he missed it. He said he was in the dining room and didn't hear the flight called."

2. «I know what happened after that. You broke down, which was a perfectly natural thing to do. You were sent in here to finish your cry, and now you have, you're going home in a taxi."
3. "The special's off, and if we get many more people in here tonight, there won't be much else either."
4. «I'm not president of the Airport Operators Council any more. I don't get to Washington as much, or other places either."
5. "Well, they've got trucks, cranes, God knows what out there now. The runway and taxiway are blocked off completely, but they stiff haven't shifted the damn airplane. The latest word is that TWA has sent for Joe Patroni."
6. "If anyone can get that airplane moved tonight, it'll be Joe. But meanwhile I don't want anybody sitting on his hands until he gets here. Make it clear to everyone that we need runway three zero usable, and urgently."
7. "Mrs. Livingston, the D.T.M.'s looking for you. ... This one's a stowaway-on Flight 80 from Los Angeles."

**V. *Whom or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... telltale strands of gray among the short-cropped, flamboyant red"
2. "eyes-a bright, clear blue-had a quality of directness ... head was tilted, and an overhead light reflected red highlights from ... hair. A slim figure, yet with a fullness, which the trim airline uniform heightened ...".
3. "... bedlam of voices punctuated by the clatter of dishes"
4. "A tall, broad-shouldered, striking figure, he towered above others around him ... dressed informally in a Harris tweed jacket and impeccably creased slacks"

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "Constant politeness, even when you were trained for it, was a strain which took a heavy toll".

2. "Tanya's invitation seemed too enticing to pass up."
3. "a florid-faced man"
4. "When freight does get to be top dog-as will happen in the next ten years or so-a lot of our present airport ideas will be obsolete."
5. "I'm adept to reading upside down."
6. "... there aren't many takers-eligible ones-for used bride with baby."
7. "I've been telling 'em," Danny confirmed. "I'll do it some more."
8. "... this one's a dilly"

**VII. *Decipher Tanya's message; write down the message in full.***

"mr. b spch great. all'v us earthside slaves cheering u 4 admitting airport policymakers asleep at drawing boards. somebody needed 2 say it. mind suggestion? wd all be more alive if fewer fax, more abt people.... passenger, once inside belly (airplane or whale, remember jonah?) thinks only of self, not system much. i'll bet orville/wilbur felt same way once off ground. wright?"

**VIII. *Read the following fragments from the chapter and give their content in your own words (in writing).***

**1.**

Downtown in reservation departments, she was aware, personal pressures would be even greater than at the airport. Since the storm began, reservation clerks would have made thousands of calls advising passengers of delays and rearrangements. It was a job the clerks all hated because people whom they called were invariably bad-tempered and frequently abusive. Airline delays seemed to arouse a latent savagery in those affected by them. Men talked insultingly to women telephonists, and even people who at other times were courteous and mild-mannered, turned snarly and disagreeable. New York-bound

flights were worst of all. Reservation clerks had been known to refuse the assignment of telephoning news of delay or cancellation to a flight load of passengers destined for New York , preferring to risk their jobs rather than face the torrent of invective they knew awaited them. Tanya had often speculated on what it was about New York which infected those headed there with a kind of medicine-dance fervor to arrive.

But, for whatever reasons, she knew there would be resignations among airline staffs-in Reservations and elsewhere-when the present emergency was over. There always were. A few nervous breakdowns could be counted on, too, usually among the younger girls, more sensitive to passengers' rudeness and ill humor. Constant politeness, even when you were trained for it, was a strain which took a heavy toll. She was glad, though, that Patsy Smith would not be among the casualties.

## 2.

Airways and traffic control for one, but that's another whole story. The really big thing, which most airport planning hasn't caught on to yet, is that we're moving toward the day-fast-when air freight business wlll be bigger than passenger traffic. The same thing's been true with every form of transportation, starting with the birch bark canoe. To begin with, people are carried, plus a little freight; but before long, there's more freight than people. In airline business we're already closer to that than is generally known. When freight does get to be top dog-as will happen in the next ten years or so-a lot of our present airport ideas will be obsolete. If you want a sign of the way things are moving, watch some of the young men who are going into airline management now. Not long ago, hardly anybody wanted to work in air freight departments; it was backroom stuff; passenger business had the glamour. Not any more! Now the bright boys are heading for air freight. They know that's where the future and the big promotions lie.

## Chapter 4

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. What was Patroni's nationality?
2. What was Patroni's position at the beginning of his working life?
3. How did people explain Patroni's promotion?
4. What occasion, demonstrating Patroni's lack of diplomacy, did airline men reminisce?
5. What Patroni's actions showed that he assessed the case with the mired 707 as an acute crisis?
6. What turned roads into obstacle courses for the traffic that night?
7. Why did Patroni have to get out of his car and join those walking forward along the road?
8. What happened on the road?
9. What warning did the policeman make to Patroni?
10. What did Patroni advise to do with the overturned tractor-trailer?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. Patroni sold his garage to its former owner and took a job as an airline mechanic.
2. Joe Patroni was promoted to senior supervisor after having been listened to by the president of his company.
3. Marie used to be pursued passionately by captains and first offices before her marriage.
4. Patroni threw his cigar away when the policeman asked him to do this.
5. Patroni could go back and get to the airport by another road.
6. Patroni called to the airline's maintenance department to learn the news about the situation at the airport.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

дорожная пробка (не “traffic jam”); первоклассный; прямолинейный; тушить пожар; не уступать кому-то в чем-то (удерживать позиции); опасный; зимняя резина; сцепление; дворники; стеклообогреватель; сверхмощный; буксир; складной нож; бег трусцой

**IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "I'm telling you they won't clear that lot in a hurry. We'll all be stuck here for hours."
2. "All I did was touch the goddam brakes"
3. "If you'll give us a hand to lift, madam, we'd be glad to oblige."
4. "Listen, son, you'll never move that rig with one tow truck. It'll be like hitching a tomtit to a brick."

**V. Whom or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. “The cocky, stocky Italian-American”
2. “... most popular and beautiful hostess”
3. “... that hunk of junk”

**VI. How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.**

1. “a few opportunists were braving the snow and collecting cases”
2. “Whyn't you cops get this thing moved?”
3. “The situation had already assumed a proficient, get-on-with-it pattern-a trademark of any proceeding in which the energetic TWA maintenance chief became involved”

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

Another thing about Joe Patroni was that he never panicked in emergencies. Instead, he quickly assessed each situation, deciding what priority the emergency rated, and whether or not he should complete other tasks before coping with it. In the case of the mired 707, instinct told him it was a moderate– to-acute crisis, which meant there was time to finish what he was doing, or have dinner, but not both. Accordingly, he abandoned dinner. Soon after, Marie raced to the kitchen in her robe and threw sandwiches together for Joe to eat during his twenty-five-mile drive to the airport. He nibbled on a sandwich now.

Being recalled to the airport after performing a full day's work was not a new experience, but tonight the weather was worse than any other occasion he remembered. Accumulated effects of the three-day storm were everywhere, making driving exacting and hazardous. Huge snow piles lined the streets and, in the darkness, more snow was falling. Both on and off freeways, traffic was moving at a crawl, or not at all. Even with mud-snow tires, which Patroni's Buick Wildcat had, traction was poor. Windshield wipers and defrosters were barely coping with gusting snow outside and steam within, while headlight beams illuminated only short distances ahead. Stalled vehicles, some abandoned by their drivers, turned roads into obstacle courses. It was obvious that only those with good reason would be out on such a night.

**VIII. *Give the story of Patroni's professional career.***



## Chapter 5

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Where was the parking place of Mel's official airport car?
2. How did the pilots call the holding area for arriving aircrafts? Why did the call it like that?
3. What did airport men call "ramp lice"?
4. What were honey wagons used for?
5. What happened to the items dropped accidentally in aircraft toilets?
6. How much time did it take Mel to get to the Aereo-Mexican 707?
7. What was Ingram's position at Aereo-Mexican company?
8. How were the passengers of the stuck airplane disembarked?
9. What did Ingram decide to do after the failed attempt to get the airplane out of mud?
10. How many people did Ingram have at his disposal?
11. What instructions did Patroni give to Ingram's people in his message?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. There were eight aircraft concourses, grouped around the terminal.
2. Airport men used "cherry pickers" to load the baggage.
3. It was dangerous for Mel to move around the airfield.
4. The pilots of the stalled Boeing-707 made one attempt to get the airplane moving.
5. Ingram supposed that their job with the Boeing-707 will take the whole night.
6. In addition to the runway blockage and the inconvenience of takeoffs over Meadowood there were many other problems.
7. Ground crews under Ingram's management consisted of Mexicans.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

парковочная площадка (самолетов); хулиган (забияка); неослабевающее давление; автогидроподъёмник (амер.); зубной протез; посадочный трап; мистический (внушающий суеверный страх); предчувствие; намек; кабина пилота;

**IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "I'm turning now. Go ahead, Pan Am, you great big bully."
2. "Thanks, honey. You can fix your lipstick while you wait."
3. "When he gets here, we'll be glad to see him. Though I'm damned if I know what Patroni'll do. We've tried about everything to get this bastard out."
4. "Let's go to my car ... We'll get on the radio and find out what's happening."
5. "I talked with TWA about Joe Patroni. They've heard from him, but he's held up in traffic. He'll be another hour, at least."

**V. Whom or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. "... slapped swiftly back and forth, though barely maintaining sufficient clear space for forward vision"
2. "... huddled into a parka, his face blue with cold"
3. "... spearhead and prime mover of the airport snow-fighting system"

**VI. How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.**

1. "Roger" (among the military)
2. "The controller was edgy ... despite the routine, studied calmness."

3. "in half an hour at most"
4. "Snow Desk to mobile one. Wilco...."
5. "TWA is rounding up some extra ground crew to help."

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

The elevator, which Mel Bakersfeld had taken after leaving Tanya, deposited him in the terminal basement. His official airport car-mustard yellow, and radio-equipped-was in a privileged parking stall close by.

Mel drove out, meeting the storm where the building exit joined an aircraft parking ramp outside. As he left the shelter of the terminal, wind and whirling snow slammed savagely against the car's windshield. The wiper blades slapped swiftly back and forth, though barely maintaining sufficient clear space for forward vision. Through a fractionally opened window, a blast of icy air and snow rushed in. Mel closed the window hastily. The transition from the terminal's warm snugness to the harshness of the night outside was startling.

Immediately ahead were airplanes parked at gate positions on the ramp. Through breaks in the snow, as the wind whipped and eddied around concourse buildings, Mel could see into the lighted interiors of several aircraft, which had passengers already seated. Obviously, several flights were ready to leave. These would be awaiting word from the tower to start engines, their continued delay a result of the blockage of runway three zero. Farther out on the airfield and runways, he could make out blur-red shapes and navigation lights of other airplanes-recent arrivals, with engines running. These were in a holding area, which pilots called the penalty box, and would move in as gate positions became vacant. Undoubtedly, the same thing was happening in the other seven aircraft concourses grouped around the terminal.

## Chapter 6

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why did the initiated call the place of stewardesses' living "stewardess nests"?
2. Which of the aviation people got into the category of high-caliber people?
3. What have you known about Gwen's origin and life in the US?
4. How were Vernon and Gwen planning to spend the layover in Italy?
5. What traits of his wife did Demerest value? What conveniences did he find in his marriage?
6. What were the reasons for Demerest to write the Airlines Snow Committee report?
7. Why did Demerest consider the flight to Rome to be an easy one for him? What were his duties during the flight?
8. How many international flights were to be made to become a full-fledged pilot?
9. Why did pilots want the tests checking their abilities to be serious, exacting sessions?
10. Why was Captain Harris so patient with Demerest? How was he going to take revenge on Demerest for humiliation?
11. What habit did Gwen develop with Vernon?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. Stewardess Row was the place where only Trans-America stewardesses lived.
2. In Rome Trans-America airplane was going to stay for three days.
3. Sarah guessed that her husband was cheating on her.

4. The Airlines Snow Committee report written by Demerest concerned Trans-America Company.
5. The check flight on the Golden Argosy was arranged for promoting Anson Harris to the position of a senior pilot.
6. Check flights were aimed at assessing the pilots' abilities and flying habits.
7. Demerest asked Captain Harris to arrive at the pre-flight briefing earlier in order to give him instructions.
8. Two or three girls working at the same air companies could share the same apartment.

### **III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

затмевать (заслонять); жажда жизни; легкая добыча; хвостовая часть (самолета); остановка в пути (пересадка); вязание крючком; главная опора (поддержка) в жизни, донжуанство (флирт); язвительный, козёл отпущения; калека; напевать (себе под нос); неблагоприятный (отрицательный); снисходительный; безупречный (2 вар.); уличить кого-то (в чем-то плохом); сомнительного качества;

### **IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "It'll be a bad night for driving ... I like my crew to be punctual, so I suggest you allow plenty of time to get to the airport."
2. "Thank God, ... his wife had gone through his manuals only yesterday, inserting the very latest amendments. But he had better check his mail slot in the dispatch office."
3. "I won't report on your wearing a non-reg shirt here. As long as you change it before you come on my flight."
4. "The foxy bastard will remember; he'll make sure he does."

**V. Whom or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. “a broth of sharp, enlightened personalities with a zest for life”
2. “... beautiful and intelligent ...alive, responsive ...”
3. “a vivacious, attractive, English-born brunette”
4. “halcyon, ideal prospect”
5. “a warm night instead of snow, the view above the bay in starlight, soft music from mandolins, Chianti with dinner”
6. “... officious, arrogant, condescending, and tough”
7. “... a graying, grizzled veteran”
8. “... ill fitting, their material of dubious quality.”
9. “... voice - with its flawless English accent ... sounded mellow and exciting.”

**VI. How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.**

1. “The word "layover" had long ago been adopted officially by airlines and was used deadpan.”
2. “In an earlier age, Sarah might have busied herself with needlepoint or knitting during her liege's absence.”
3. “a four-striper captain”
4. “... adverse report, which, if serious enough, could lead to an even tougher session with the airline's chief pilot, with the testee's job in jeopardy.”
5. “Subsequently they vowed to one another that when Demerest's own time came they would give him the meanest, toughest check ride he had ever had.”
6. “Captain Demerest, fresh from his stint with the Airlines Snow Committee, had encountered Harris in the Cloud Captain's Coffee Shop.”

## ***VII. Retell the following fragment from the chapter.***

Tonight, though Captain Demerest was in command of Flight Two-The Golden Argosy-he would do little of the work which the flight entailed. The reason was that he was flying as a line check captain—Another four-striper captain-Anson Harris, almost as senior as Demerest himself-had been assigned to the flight and would occupy the command pilot's left seat. Demerest would use the right seat-normally the first officer's position-from where he would observe and report on Captain Harris's performance.

The check flight arrangement had come up because Captain Harris had elected to transfer from Trans America domestic operations to international. However, before flying as a full-fledged international captain, he was required to make two flights over an overseas route with a regular line captain who also held instructor's qualifications. Vernon Demerest did.

After Captain Harris's two flights, of which tonight's would be the second, he would be given a final check by a senior supervisory captain before being accepted for international command.

Such checks-as well as regular six-monthly check flights, which all pilots of all airlines were required to undergo-entailed an aerial scrutiny of ability and flying habits. The checks took place on ordinary scheduled flights, and the only indication a passenger might have that one was in progress would be the presence of two four-striper captains on the flight deck up front.

Despite the fact that captains checked each other, the tests, both regular and special, were usually serious, exacting sessions. The pilots wanted them that way. Too much was at stake-public safety and high professional standards-for any mutual back-scratching, or for weaknesses to be overlooked. A captain being checked was aware that he must measure up to required standards in all respects. Failure to do so would mean an automatic adverse report, which, if serious enough, could lead to an even tougher session with the airline's chief pilot, with the testee's job in jeopardy.

Yet, while performance standards were not relaxed, senior captains, undergoing flight checks, were treated by their colleagues with meticulous courtesy. Except by Vernon Demerest.

Demerest treated any pilot he was assigned to test, junior or senior to himself, in precisely the same way like an errant schoolboy summoned to the headmaster's presence. Moreover, in the headmaster's role, Demerest was officious, arrogant, condescending, and tough. He made no secret of his conviction that no one else's ability as a pilot was superior to his own. Colleagues who received this brand of treatment raged inwardly, but had no choice but to sit and take it. Subsequently they vowed to one another that when Demerest's own time came they would give him the meanest, toughest check ride he had ever had. They invariably did, with a single consistent result-Vernon Demerest turned in a flawless performance, which could not be faulted.

**VIII.** Speak on Vernon Demerest's character.



## Chapter 7

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. What reminder was nagging for Mel?
2. Why did Mel trust his instinct for trouble?
3. How did runway three zero differ from other airport runways?
4. Why was it so important to clear runways in non-stop mode?
5. What system of lights did the convoy leader use?
6. What part of the Conga Line did they call “tail-end Charlie”? Why was it given that name?
7. What was “entourage” in the scheme of the Conga Line?
8. What was the main reason for Mel to inspect the snow clearance?
9. Why was the Conga Line stopped for a short while?
10. Why did Mel change his car for the Snowblast?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. Mel’s Navy F-9-F-5 had good floating characteristics.
2. At the moment, on the airfield three runways were in use.
3. Because of its high price only one Snowblast was included in the Conga Line.
4. Sand mixed with salt was used to melt ice on aeronautical areas.
5. The Line was moving at its usual speed of forty miles an hour.
6. Having inspected the operation of the Conga Line Mel came to the conclusion that not everything was going well.

### **III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

назойливое напоминание; воздушный бой; повредить связки; снегоочиститель (сгребающий снег); снегоочиститель (собирающий и отбрасывающий снег); воздуходувная машина; бункер (контейнер / хранилище); антураж; до-заправщик; бухгалтер, занимающийся расчетом зарплаты

### **IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "It was a pity, that runway snow teams were not more on public view. The sight was spectacular and stirring."
2. ". . . on one seven, left, approaching intersection with runway two five. Request clearance over intersection."
3. "Better hurry, Mr. B. It's only a short stop."
4. "Oh, well, ... it makes a change from working an adding machine, and the longer this keeps up, the more extra pay there'll be when it's over."
5. "Maybe all of us in aviation management ... should stand at the distant end of a runway once in a while, and feel the wind on our faces. It could help to separate detail from fundamentals It might even ventilate our brains as well."

### **V. Whom or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. "a cheerful young Negro"
2. "... held his main control wheel lightly, like a helmsman."
3. "A multitude of dials and levers, glowing in the darkness, were arranged for fingertip control. Circular, high-speed windshield wipers-as on a ship-provided ports of clear vision through encrusted snow."

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "But maybe he should watch a few minutes longer from a ringside perch."
2. "A Snowblast ... was the Cadillac of snow clearance."
3. "Glancing to the rear, Mel could see the assistant foreman sprinting back toward his tail-end-Charlie car."
4. "A few years ago, in a storm like this, an airport would have closed completely. Now it didn't, mainly because ground facilities-in this one area-had caught up with progress in the air."
5. "I don't have to do this; you know that, Mr. Bakersfeld, I volunteer. But I kinda like it out here. It's sort of ..." He hesitated. "I dunno."

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter. Speak on the process of cleaning the airfield (briefly and using the technical terms)***

A convoy leader was the head. He was a senior foreman from airport maintenance and drove an airport car-bright yellow, like all other equipment in the Line. The leader set the Conga Line pace, which was usually fast. He had two radios and remained permanently in touch with the Snow Desk and Air Traffic Control. By a system of lights, he could signal drivers following - green for "speed up," amber for "maintain pace," red for "slow down," and flashing red for "stop." He was required to carry in his head a detailed map of the airport, and must know precisely where he was, even on the darkest night, as now.

Behind the convoy leader, its driver, like an orchestra's first violinist, was the number one plow-tonight a mammoth Oshkosh with a big main blade ahead, and a wing blade to the side. To the rear of number one plow, and on its right, was number two. The first plow heaved the snow aside; the second accepted the load from the first and, adding more, heaved both lots farther.

Then came a Snowblast, in echelon with the plows, six hundred

roaring horsepower strong. A Snowblast cost sixty thousand dollars and was the Cadillac of snow clearance. With mighty blowers it engulfed the snow which both plows piled, and hurled it in a herculean arc beyond the runway's edge.

In a second echelon, farther to the right, were two more plows, a second Snowblast.

After the plows and Snowblasts came the graders - five in line abreast, with plow blades down to clear any mounds the front plows missed. The graders towed revolving brushes, each sixteen feet wide and independently diesel powered. The brushes scoured the runway surface like monstrous yard brooms.

Next were sanders. Where the eleven vehicles ahead had cleared, three hulking FWD trucks, with hoppers holding fourteen cubic yards apiece, spread sand out evenly.

The sand was special. Elsewhere around the airport, on roadways and areas, which the public used, salt was added to the sand as a means of melting ice. But never for aeronautical areas. Salt corroded metal, shortening its life, and airplanes were treated with more respect than cars.

Last in the Conga Line itself - "tail-end Charlie"- was an assistant foreman in a second car. His job was to insure that the line stayed intact and to chivvy stragglers. He was in radio touch with the convoy leader, often out of sight ahead in snow and darkness.

Finally came the entourage - a standby plow, in case one faltered in the Line; a service truck with a detail of mechanics; refueling tankers- diesel and gasoline; and – when summoned by radio at appointed times -a coffee and doughnut wagon.

### ***VIII. Tell when and under what circumstances was Mel injured.***

## Chapter 8

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why did Mel find it appropriate to define Lincoln Airport with the phrase “whited sepulcher”?
2. What facilities did Lincoln airport provide to travelers?
3. What situations made air traffic controllers hold their breath and pray?
4. What institutions controlled airport financing?
5. What were Mel’s suggestions on the development of the airport? What prevented the implementation of his proposals?
6. What proposal concerning the development of the airport won city approval without dissent? What was the reason of such unanimity?
7. What brought a change in the fate of Mel, who was considered to be the rising young genius in aviation management?
8. How much did it take the Conga Line to clear one runway?
9. How did Mel Bakersfeld get the right to make a speech to the national planning congress?
10. When was Mel invited to the White House?
11. What relationship developed between Mel and John F. Kennedy? What position did the President offer to Mel? How old was Mel at that time?
12. How did the assassination of Kennedy effect Mel’s career?
13. What did Mel think about his perspectives as far as his career was concerned?
14. Whom did Mel phone when he arrived at the terminal parking area? What was the talk about?
15. What was Cindy when she first met Mel in San Francisco? What was one of Cindy’s features, which appealed to Mel when they met?
16. Why did Cindy prefer not to mention her past as an actress?
17. Why was Cindy so persistent demanding Mel should be present at the party?
18. What Mel’s allegation did Cindy call “filthy”?

19. Why was Mel glad that he encountered no one he knew on his way to his office?

**II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.***

1. For the time being Lincoln International was the world's finest and most modern airport.
2. Each day eighty thousand passengers flew in Lincoln airport and eighty thousand travelers left.
3. In busy periods, aircrafts landed or took off every thirty seconds.
4. The airport administration had no problems in getting money for operational improvements.
5. Four years before the events, being described, Mel Bakersfeld was a national spokesman for ground logistics of aviation.
6. The crews of the Conga Line had a break for coffee when the runway was over.
7. President's offer to Mel filtered out from Mel himself.
8. Mel took the change in his life very hard.
9. Cindy tried to be very polite when speaking to Mel over the phone.
10. Cindy sacrificed her career and probable stardom because of Mel.
11. Mel preferred staying at home with children to attending Cindy's arrangements.
12. Mel's duties were always the reason of his staying at the airport overtime.
13. Cindy was a charitable person.
14. After the conversation with Cindy Mel's fury seethed and grew; its reason being Cindy's behavior.

### **III. *Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations***

подходящее определение; обновить (модернизировать); разногласие; решающее сражение; превратить в хлам (разбить полностью); обедневший; необоснованный (ошибочный); скудное (слабое) обеспечение; группа экспертов; выяснить чье-то мнение; занимающий должность; изнутри/извне; вранье («бред собачий»); ехидничать; грязное обвинение; быть на грани разрушения; доверенное лицо; затушить сигарету;

### **IV. *Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. "... we haven't brought two airplanes together at that intersection yet. But someday there'll be a second's inattention or misjudgment, and one of us will."
2. "... maybe Keith was right. Perhaps it would take another big disaster to arouse public awareness."
3. "Here's the end of the runway, Mr. Bakersfeld. You riding back with us, or what?"
4. "And the tower chief said to tell you that not being able to use runway three zero is still slowing traffic fifty percent. Also, he's getting more phone complaints from Meadowood every time there's a takeoff over there."
5. "We need that runway badly, and I'm not leaving until I know positively that Patroni is out there on the field, in charge."
6. "You should be here already. You knew perfectly well that tonight was important to me, and a week ago you made a definite promise."
7. "A week ago I didn't know we were going to have the biggest storm in six years. Right now we've a runway out of use, there's a question of airport safety."

**V. *Whom or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. “gleaming glass and chrome, the terminal was impressively spacious ... opulent service facilities”
2. “... five feet six of imperious energy in ... highest heels, clear blue eyes flashing, and ... blonde coiffed head tilted back in that damnably attractive way.”
3. “the slow-burn type”

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. “Less than a lustrum ago ... Civic politicians were given to pointing with pride and would huff and puff about "air leadership" and "a symbol of the jet age.”
2. "Okay, so we stay on our toes in the tower, and we cope with the hairy ones, and we haven't brought two airplanes together at that intersection yet.”
3. “... when it (bringing two airplanes together) happens, it'll be the Grand Canyon all over again.”
4. “... a multiplicity of such hairbreadth judgments which created an unceasing hazard.”
5. “As well as the airport's future, Mel's personal future was at stake. Whichever way airport policies veered, so would his own prestige advance or lessen in places where it counted most.”
6. “... while airplane designers wove the stuff of dreams into fabrics of reality, facilities on the ground remained, for the most part, products of shortsightedness or misguided haste.”
7. “... juggernaut speed of aviation's progress”
8. “It was, of course, a way of shelving, rather than resolving, differences which – Mel realized, even early on –were fundamental.”
9. “His marriage was on the rocks, or apparently about to go there; if and when it did, he would have failed his children, also.”



**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter. Speak on the content of Mel's speech to the national planning congress.***

It had been four years ago.

He thought, startled, was it really that long ago? - four years since the gray November afternoon when, dazedly, he had pulled the p.a. microphone across his desk toward him-the microphone, rarely used, which overrode all others in the terminal-and cutting in on a flight arrival bulletin, had announced to concourses which swiftly hushed, the shattering news which seconds earlier had flashed from Dallas.

His eyes, as he spoke then, had been on the photograph on the facing wall across his office, the photograph whose inscription read: *To my friend Mel Bakersfeld, concerned, as I am, with attenuating the surly bonds of earth-John F. Kennedy.*

The photograph still remained, as did many memories.

The memories began, for Mel, with a speech he had made in Washington, D.C. At the time, as well as airport general manager, he had been president of the Airport Operators Council - the youngest leader, ever, of that small but influential body linking major airports of the world. AOC head-quarters was in Washington, and Mel flew there frequently.

His speech was to a national planning congress.

Aviation, Mel Bakersfeld had pointed out, was the only truly successful international undertaking. It transcended ideological boundaries as well as the merely geographic. Because it was a means of intermingling diverse populations at ever-diminishing cost, it offered the most practical means to world understanding yet devised by man.

Even more significant was aerial commerce. Movement of freight by air, already mammoth in extent, was destined to be greater still. The new, giant jet airplanes, to be in service by the early 1970s, would be the fastest and cheapest cargo carriers in human history; within a decade, oceangoing ships might be dry-dock museum pieces, pushed out of business in the same way that passenger airplanes had clobbered the Queen Mary and Elizabeth. The effect could be a new, worldwide

argosy of trade, with prosperity for now impoverished nations. Technologically, Mel reminded his audience, the airborne segment of aviation offered these things, and more, within the lifetimes of today's middle-aged people.

Yet, he had continued, while airplane designers wove the stuff of dreams into fabrics of reality, facilities on the ground remained, for the most part, products of shortsightedness or misguided haste. Airports, runway systems, terminals, were geared to yesterday, with scant –if any–provision for tomorrow; what was lost sight of, or ignored, was the juggernaut speed of aviation's progress. Airports were set up piecemeal, as individually as city balls, and often with as small imagination. Usually, too much was spent on showplace terminals, too little on operating areas. Coordinated, high-level planning, either national or international, was non-existent.

At local levels, where politicians were apathetic about problems of ground access to airports, the situation was as bad, or worse.

"We have broken the sound barrier," Mel declared, "but not the ground barrier."

He listed specific areas for study and urged international planning–U.S. led and presidentially inspired – for aviation on the ground.

The speech was accorded a standing ovation and was widely reported. It produced approving nods from such diverse sources as The Times of London, Pravda, and The Wall Street Journal.

## Chapter 9

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. What was the function of ATC?
2. Why did they maintain the even temperature in the radar-room throughout the year? What environment was there inside the radar-room?
3. What did double blossom on the radar screen denote? What made the tower watch chief declare a category three emergency?
4. How did the controllers call plastic markers placed on the flatface scope? What did they mean?
5. How did Wayne Tevis move about the radar-room?
6. What problem was most of the radar room crew working at feverishly? What complicated the problem?
7. Why did Keith compare himself with the Air Force pilot?
8. How did it happen that a military flight was landing in the civil Lincoln Airport?
9. What was required for retaining a mental picture of a controller's sector?
10. Why didn't Keith leave his workplace just after he had been given a break?
11. Why did controllers try to conceal their problems with health?
12. What did the actions of ground emergency crews depend on?
13. How did Keith's wife, Natalie, try to support and cheer her husband?
14. What did Natalie try to achieve by putting the clipping about geneticists' experiments in Keith's lunch pail?
15. Why did Keith leave home for the airport earlier than usual?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. The radar – room was at the top of the control tower.

2. Letter-number codes couldn't replace "shrimp boats" completely because of the bugs.
3. Keith was amiable, relaxed good-natured.
4. In cases of emergency controllers could give instructions to the pilots in a high-pitched voice.
5. Because of radio failure the pilot of Air Force KC-135 was at a loss and didn't know what to do.
6. Keith was the best of all controllers and those who had problems asked him for help.
7. It was Wayne Tevis's idea to give Keith a break.
8. Keith was not sorry for being relieved before the end of the shift.
9. Keith had no wish to respond to Natalie and Mel's care for him.
10. Keith was in close relations with his brother.

### **III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

обходиться без (чего-либо); наблюдать украдкой; ни при каких условиях; посадка по приборам; эшелонировать самолёты перед заходом на посадку; держаться подальше от; перегруженный мозг; к лучшему; следить за; газетная вырезка; пасть духом (потерять надежду);

### **IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "Keith, old son, that Braniff flight is closing on Eastern. If you turn Braniff right, you can keep Eastern going on the same course."
2. "how the Air Force pilot, in difficulty and letting down through storm and crowded airspace, was feeling at this moment. Lonely, probably."
3. "Chuck, I've got a hot one. Can you take Delta seven three?"
4. "Why make an issue now? It wasn't worth it. Besides, a ten-minute break would steady him."

**V. *Whom or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... perpetual semidarkness under dim moon glow lights ... tightly packed equipment-radarscopes, controls, radio communications panels-lined all four walls."
2. "... a horizontal glass circle, the size of a bicycle tire, set into a tabletop console. Its surface was dark green, with brilliant green points of light showing all aircraft in the air within a forty-mile radius."
3. "... lean, spindly figure hunched forward in a gray steel chair. ... body was tense; ... legs, hooked underneath the chair, were as rigid as the chair itself. ... face strained and gaunt"
4. "... a lanky, drawling Texan ... a kindly man, despite his flamboyance"
5. "... mean and irascible at home, or flew into rages ... at work."
6. "... light brown hair ... small, pert face showed the freckles ... an impudent, pixyish quality ... as well as strength of will"
7. "... bleakness, remorse, and all-enveloping despair ... too drained, too weary"

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "Keith Bakersfeld, Mel's brother, was a third of the way through his eight-hour duty watch in the air traffic control radar room."
2. "Keith had been the best. Until a year ago, he was one whom colleagues turned to when pressures built to unreason."
3. "Let's take him off a while"
4. "The two requirements - contradictory in terms of human nature - were exhausting mentally and, in the long run, took a toll."

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter. Speak on the specificity of the air traffic controllers' job.***

Getting tensed-consciously and deliberately-was a part of the job. Controllers called it "sharpening to an edge," and in Keith's fifteen years in air traffic control, he had watched it happen regularly, to others and to himself. You did it, because you had to, when you took over a duty, as now. At other times it became a reflex action, such as when controllers drove to work together –in car pools, as some did. On leaving home, conversation would be relaxed and normal. At that point in the journey, a casual question like, "Are you going to the ball game Saturday?" would elicit an equally casual answer-"Sure am," or "No, I can't make it this week." Yet, nearing the job, conversation tautened, so that the same question-a quarter mile from the airport-might produce a terse "affirmative" or "negative," and nothing more. Coupled with tense mental sharpness was another requirement-a controlled, studied calmness at all times on duty. The two requirements-contradictory in terms of human nature-were exhausting mentally and, in the long run, took a toll. Many controllers developed stomach ulcers which they concealed through fear of losing their jobs. As part of the concealment, they paid for private medical advice instead of seeking free medical help to which their employment entitled them. At work, they hid bottles of Maalox-"for the relief of gastric hyperacidity"-in their lockers and, at intervals, sipped the white, sweetish fluid surreptitiously.

There were other effects. Some controllers-Keith Bakersfeld knew several-were mean and irascible at home, or flew into rages, as a reaction to pent-up emotions at work. Coupled with irregular hours of working and sleeping, which made it difficult to regulate a household, the effect was predictable. Among air traffic controllers, the list of broken homes was long, divorce rates high.

## Chapter 10

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. What people mostly composed the citizenry of Meadowood?
2. What feeling united those who had come to the meeting in the Meadowood Sunday school hall?
3. How did Floyd Zanetta characterize the airport management?
4. How did Zanetta offer to communicate with the airport management?
5. What characteristic did Zanetta give to Elliot Freemantle presenting him to the Meadowood residents?
6. Why did Freemantle try to look prosperous?
7. How did Freemantle get to the Meadowood community meeting?
8. How did Freemantle manage to win over those who were present at the meeting?
9. What new tack did Freemantle take after his blunt and brutal words addressed to the Meadowood residents?
10. What was the real state of affairs with the suits under the law of noise?
11. What was the only Freemantle's aim of taking up the case?
12. How did Freemantle explain his desire to begin the legal action at once?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. The meeting of Meadowood citizenry began later than planned because of the jet flights.
2. Not everybody who had come for the meeting could find a vacant seat in the Sunday school hall.
3. Freemantle treated Floyd Zanetta with deep respect.
4. Freemantle did not want to jolt his listeners but he did.
5. There were three newspaper reporters at the meeting.
6. Freemantle's recital of the cases was the product of years of study.

7. Elliott Freemantle was sure he would receive ten percent of the gross amount of any damages awarded.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

спальный район; мелкий производитель; типография; истец; поверхностное изучение; занимать высокое место; правовая помощь; посягательство на право собственности; выдавать судебные предписания; подать иск; баснословный гонорар; смелое предположение (трудноосуществимый план)

**IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "We have pleaded that our very sanity is in danger and that our wives, our children, and ourselves live on the edge of nervous breakdowns, which some among us have suffered already."
2. "Mr. Chairman, ... we've heard all this before. We all know it, and going over it again won't change anything ... What I want to know, and so do others, is what else can we do, and where do we go from here?"
3. "If you are expecting sympathy from me, you can leave right now, because there won't be any. You won't get it at this session, or others we may have later."
4. "This is more like it! - what we wanted to hear."

**V. Whom or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. "... uncomfortably crowded, stuffy and smoke-filled"
2. "a heavy-jowled, balding man ... a printing firm manager ... sixtyish ... prominent in community affairs"



3. "... a strong, intelligent face and shoulder-length brown hair which had fallen forward"
4. "... barber-styled, gray-streaked hair ... smoothness of his chin and cheeks ... the exclusive face lotion ... two-hundred dollar alligator shoes ... pebble-weave suit"
5. "... in an alpaca cardigan and hopsack slacks"

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "The timing, and the last remark, provided the only laughter, so far, of the evening."
2. "Get on with it!"
3. "As the clichés rolled on, Elliott Freemantle fidgeted."
4. "Meanwhile, he wished the old cluck of a chairman, Zanetta, would get the hell off his feet so that he, Freemantle, could take over."
5. "For Elliott Freemantle, the Meadowood situation seemed custom made."
6. "As usual on occasions like this, Elliott Freemantle had shrewdly judged the temper of the meeting and calculated his own approach."

**VII. *Translate the following fragments from the chapter:***

**1. *A printed retainer form, which was to be filled by each Meadowood property owner.***

*This memorandum of agreement between . . . . . hereinafter known as plaintiff/s and Freemantle and Sye, attorneys at law ... who will undertake plaintiffs legal representation in promotion of a claim for damages sustained due to aircraft use of the Lincoln International Airport facility . . . Plaintiff/s agrees to pay the said Freemantle and Sye one hundred dollars, in four installments of twenty-five dollars, the first installment now due and payable, the balance quarterly on*

*demand ... Further, if the suit is successful Freemantle and Sye will receive ten percent of the gross amount of any damages awarded. . .*

## ***2. Translating the following abstract, pay attention to the use of the Subjunctive Mood***

It had worked, as Elliott Freemantle had known it would. The rest, he realized, was merely routine. Within the next half hour a good many of the retainer blanks in his bag would be signed, while others would be taken home, talked over, and most likely mailed tomorrow. These people were not afraid of signing papers, or of legal procedures; they had become accustomed to both in purchasing their homes. Nor would a hundred dollars seem an excessive sum; a few might even be surprised that the figure was that low. Only a handful would bother doing the mental arithmetic, which Elliott Freemantle had done himself, and even if they objected to the size of the total amount, he could argue that the fee was justified by responsibility for the large numbers involved.

Besides, he would give them value for their money a good show, with fireworks, in court and elsewhere. He glanced at his watch; better get on. Now that his own involvement was assured, he wanted to cement the relationship by staging the first act of a drama. Like everything else so far, it was something he had already planned and it would gain attention-much more than this meeting-in tomorrow's newspapers. It would also confirm to these people that he meant what he said about not wasting any time.

The actors in the drama would be the residents of Meadowood, here assembled, and he hoped that everyone present was prepared to leave this hall and to stay out late.

The scene would be the airport.

The time: tonight.

## ***VIII. Speak on Elliott Freemantle (his appearance, character, fellow lawyers' opinion of Freemantle, employee morale, actions)***

## Chapter 11

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. How did Guerrero's family reduce from affluence to near poverty?
2. How did D.O. Guerrero get money for the ticket to Rome?
3. What was Guerrero's financial situation? Why was his exposure imminent?
4. Why were airlines less tough in investigating travelers' financial background?
5. How did Guerrero avoid a cursory credit investigation?
6. What was the reason for the clerk making out air tickets to misspell Guerrero's name?
7. Why did Guerrero make a decision to destroy Flight Two by blowing it up? What was his plan?
8. Why was Guerrero sure that his flight insurance could not be declared to be invalid?
9. How was Guerrero going to preclude the recovery of his airplane wreckage?
10. Who helped Guerrero to assemble the explosive device?
11. Where did Guerrero buy the dynamite for his bomb?
12. What was Guerrero's physical condition at the moment he was assembling his explosive apparatus?
13. What transport did Guerrero want to take to get to the airport?
14. Why was Guerrero's note for Inez so laconic?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. Guerrero was well into his forties.
2. Guerrero was in close and warm relations with his wife and children.
3. His plan was to be registered everywhere under the name "Buerrero".

4. Guerrero's plan was spontaneous.
5. Guerrero decided to trigger his explosive device from distance.
6. The airplane, which Guerrero was planning to explode, cost five million dollars.
7. The function of the wooden clothespin was to work as a switch and release the current from the battery.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

достаток; неплатежеспособность; влезать в долги; выселять; неплательщик (недобросовестный заемщик); несуществующая компания; диверсия; взрыватель; сердцебиение;

**IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

“It was all incredibly simple. It was so simple, in fact that most people, lacking a knowledge of explosives, would never believe that it would work. And yet it would—with shattering, devastating deadliness.”

**V. Whom or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. “... gaunt, spindly ... slightly stoop-shouldered, with a sallow face and protruding, narrow jaw ... deep-set eyes, pale thin lips, and a slight sandy mustache”
2. “... three cartridges of dynamite, a tiny blasting cap with wires attached, and a single cell transistor radio battery”
3. “... the thin, lumpy mattress ... the decrepit iron bedstead”
4. “... elaborate mechanisms, clocks, fuses, which ticked or hissed or spluttered”

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "... the rent of this apartment, wretched as it was, was three weeks overdue"
2. "Now, because of certain fraudulent statements, as well as being an undischarged bankrupt, exposure, which seemed imminent, would involve criminal prosecution and almost certainly a prison term."
3. "a defunct company"
4. "In all cases on record the motive had been exposed by post-crash investigation and, where conspirators remained alive, they were charged with murder. The flight insurance policies of those involved had been invalidated."
5. "It wasn't much of a note to mark the end of eighteen years of marriage."

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing)***

He taped the Ry-Krisp box containing the dynamite securely in place inside the attaché-case. Close to it he fastened the wooden clothespin and the battery. The battery would fire the charge. The clothespin was the switch, which, at the proper time, would release the current from the battery.

His hands were trembling. He could feel sweat, in rivulets, inside his shirt. With the blasting cap in place, one mistake, one slip, would blow himself, this room, and most of the budding, apart, here and now.

He held his breath as he connected a second wire from the blasting cap and dynamite to one side of the clothespin.

He waited, aware of his heart pounding, using a handkerchief to wipe moisture from his hands. His nerves, his senses, were on edge. Beneath him, as he sat on the bed, he could feel the thin, lumpy mattress. The decrepit iron bedstead screeched a protest as he moved.

He resumed working. With exquisite caution, he connected

another wire. Now, only the square inch of clear plastic was preventing the passage of an electric current and thereby an explosion.

The plastic, less than a sixteenth of an inch thick, had a small hole near its outer edge. D. O. Guerrero took the last item left on the bed-the string-and passed one end through the hole in the plastic, then tied it securely, being cautious not to move the plastic. The other end of the string he pushed through an inconspicuous hole, already drilled, which went through to the outside of the attach6 case, emerging under the carrying handle. Leaving the string fairly loose inside the case, on the outside he tied a second knot, large enough to prevent the string from slipping back. Finally-also on the outside-he made a finger-size loop, like a miniature hangman's noose, and cut off the surplus string.

And that was it.

### ***VIII. Speak on Guerrero' family matters and career.***

## PART TWO

### Chapter 1

#### **I.     *Answer the following questions.***

1. What made Joe Patroni angry when he came to the place of the accident?
2. What made the police lieutenant comply with Patroni's requirements?
3. What shocked Patroni when he analyzed his fighting with O'Hale?
4. Why didn't Patroni give up fighting just after the incident in the ring?
5. What was the reaction of the trailer driver to the actions of the state troopers?
6. What reminded J. Patroni of the need to hurry to the airport?
7. What equipment was used in removing the results of the accident?

#### **II.    *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.***

1. Joe Patroni was a TWA maintenance chief of Mexican Airlines.
2. The trailer blocked two traffic lanes.
3. The process of clearing the road was delayed by the arrival of a TV camera crew.
4. The state troopers enjoyed being filmed by the TV crew.
5. J. Patroni raced out, grabbed the TV camera and lights and smashed them all.
6. It was the state police lieutenant who was the first to ask Joe Patroni for help.
7. During World War II J. Patroni was a professional boxer.
8. J. Patroni got angry with Terry O'Hale, his opponent in boxing, as the latter had a reputation for meanness in the ring as well as out of it.
9. After the incident on the boxing ring J. Patroni went on fighting.

10. The trailer driver was greatly upset by the actions of the police directed by J. Patroni.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

прожектор, эвакуатор, патрульный (полицейский), рослый (дородный), преследовать, подлость, вывести кого-то из себя, оправдать (реабилитировать), спешка, снегоуборочная машина

**IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

- 1) “Wadda you care? Ain’t nothing to you I just lost a good job ..... May be I should try for a soft touch next time - like bein’ a lousy cop.”
- 2) “But the TV guys wanted a better shot. They’re from a local station. And it’s for the news tonight – all about the storm.”
- 3) “Who in hell changed the trucks? The way they are linked now, you couldn’t move a peck of coon dirt. All they’ll do is pull each other.”
- 4) “Get through your head that I’m in charge here. ... I’m the one who’s making decision.”
- 5) “My bosses ain’t gonna like this! That’s a near-new rig. You’re gonna tear it apart.”
- 6) “Keep close up behind the car. I’ve told them you’ll be following, and they’ve orders to get you to the airport fast.
- 7) “You greasy dago wop ... Whyn’t you fighting for the other side, you mother lovin’ Eyrie?”
- 8) “Maybe other people here have reasons for hightailing it out of here too, but mine’s enough for now.”
- 9) “Get all that crap out of here! You guys have had long enough.”
- 10) “We’ll pull and shove now, and worry about damage later.”



**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... like a dead, rolled-over dinosaur"
2. "... tall, broad-shouldered, and towering above the short, stocky figure of Patroni"
3. "... a white-hot, violent temper."
4. "... a redoubtable amateur boxer"
5. "... tough Bostonian with a reputation for meanness in the ring."
6. "... largely meaningless, but on screen would look impressive"

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

**a) *the following word combinations:***

the TWA maintenance; The European Theatre; a reputation for meanness in the ring; cold bleak misery of the night; pleasantries; a hint of authority; a lousy driver;

**b) *the following statements:***

- 1) As a result, the display of pyrotechnics was worthy of the fourth of July.
- 2) It was clear that the lieutenant had decided Patroni was more use as an ally than an antagonist?
- 3) But control of anger did not mean dismissing it entirely.
- 4) Something of the maintenance chief's contained anger, and a hint of authority, made the lieutenant hesitate.
- 5) The sound, once again, of a jet aircraft overhead was a reminder to Joe Patroni that his principal business this night lay elsewhere.

**VII. *Read and retell the following fragment from the chapter.***

A trait of character of Joe Patroni's was a white-hot, violent temper, fortunately the violent part was not easily set off, but once it was, all reason and logic deserted him. The exercise of control over his temper was

something he had tried to learn through his years of manhood. He had not always succeeded, though nowadays a single memory helped.

On one occasion he had failed to have control. The result, forever after, haunted him.

In the Army Air Forces of World War II, Joe Patroni had been a redoubtable amateur boxer. He fought as a middleweight and, at one point, came within sight of the Air Forces championship, within his division, of **the European Theatre**.

In a bout staged in England shortly before the Normandy invasion, he had been matched against a crew chief named Terry O'Hale, a tough, tough Bostonian with a reputation for meanness in the ring, as well as out of it. Joe Patroni, then a young Pfc (Private first class) aviation mechanic, knew O'Hale and disliked him. The dislike would not have mattered if O'Hale, as a calculated part of his ring technique, had not whispered constantly, "*You greasy **dago wop** ... Whyn't you fighting for the other side, you mother lovin' Eyrie? ... You cheer when they shoot our ships down, dago boy?*" and other pleasantries. Patroni had seen the gambit for what it was – an attempt to get him rattled – and ignored it until O'Hale landed two low blows near the groin in swift succession, which the referee, circling behind, did not observe.

The combination of insults, foul blows, and excruciating pain, produced the anger which Patroni's opponent had counted on. What he did not count on was that Joe Patroni would deliver an onslaught so swift < savage, and utterly without mercy that O'Hale went down before it and, after being counted out, was pronounced dead.

Patroni was exonerated. Although the referee had not observed the low blows, others at ringside had. Even without them, Patroni had done no more than was expected – fought to the limit of his skill and strength. Only he was aware that for the space of seconds he had been berserk, insane. Alone and later he faced the realization that even if he had known O'Hale was dying, he could not have stopped himself.

In the end, he avoided the cliché of abandoning fighting or "hanging up his gloves for good", as the usual fiction sequence went. He had gone on fighting, employing in the ring the whole of his physical resource, not holding back, yet testing his own control to avoid crossing the hairline

between reason and berserk savagery. He succeeded, and knew that he had, because there were tests of anger where reason struggled with the wild animal inside him – and reason won. Then, and only then, did Joe Patroni quit fighting for the remainder of his life.

**Note:**

dago wop – италяшка

groin – пах

## Chapter 2

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. What appealed Vernon in Gwen most of all?
2. What were Gwen and Vernon speaking about when she came back from the bathroom?
3. What was strictly forbidden by the regulations of all airlines?
4. Why was the inventory check of removable cabin equipment at the termination of the flight neglected by the appropriate services?
5. Why was it a relief for Vernon to know that Gwen was not a catholic?
6. Why did it bother Vernon that he would have to spend a lot of money for the abortion?
7. Why didn't Vernon reveal his thoughts about the abortion right after getting the news about Gwen's pregnancy?
8. When did Gwen's temper flare?
9. How did the airline pregnancy program work? What were its three points?
10. What were the reasons of the airline management to be so attentive to their pregnant stewardesses?
11. Who was to pay to the stewardess involved in the 3-PPP?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. Vernon saw two tightly packed shelves of bottles in Gwen's kitchen.
2. Vernon never lacked confidence with women.
3. Gwen treated Vernon to coffee.
4. Many home furnishings came to the stewardesses' apartments from airline sources.
5. Gwen shocked Vernon with the news about her pregnancy.

6. Trans-America airlines were always officially involved in the stewardesses' problems with abortion.
7. Three – Point Pregnancy Program demanded the stewardess to return to the original base.
8. Demerest knew all the details of 3-PPP as he was a union officer (a part of the ALPA).
9. Gwen's questions made Vernon embarrassed.
10. Vernon made a decision to raise the question about abortion during the trip in Rome or Naples.

### ***III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations***

припрятать, очаровывать, для видимости, «Будь я проклят», крошечный-крошечный, нахалка (бесстыдница), отпуск за свой счет, местонахождение, отдать (передать) на усыновление, приемные родители, выкидыш, штуковина, алименты

### ***IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. "We have some more slashed away in the bedroom. We've been saving them for a party."
2. "I know how to spell it"
3. "You don't have to be ashamed of asking? I'd ask too if things were the other way round."
4. "That's a rotten thing to say"
5. "Don't ever put me in bunches."
6. "I didn't mean to lump you with anybody, because you are an exception."
7. "The whole point about the program is that you are not alone, and there's all kinds of help."
8. "Two dozen, a dozen? Just give me an idea in round figures".

9. "How are we for time?"
10. "Thank you for being honest with me."

***V. Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "an impressive, serpentine complex of roads, interchanges, flyovers, and tunnels"
2. "high-cheekboned face tilted upward, rich black hair, deep dark eyes ... attractive silvery laugh"
3. "unusual for one who never lacked confidence with women"
4. "they've had a quiet upbringing, an average life"
5. "strong and sensitive hands accustomed to responsibility and control, yet capable of precision and gentleness"
6. "curled in the leather bucket seat"
7. "they looked weary, wet, and miserable"
8. "amiable and discreet"
9. "experienced in such situations"

***VI. How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

***a) the following word combinations:***

a reciprocal employee pass; to have a bun in the oven; to impede commonsense; thingummy; upper crust British private school; turn to "simmer"; 1) upper crust British private school; teensy-weency; rough brusqueness; to fly deadhead; unwanted fetuses; gullible country girls

***b) the following statements:***

1) What the personnel man tried to obtain was a promise, in writing, of enough money to cover medical and nursing home expenses and, if possible, some or all of the stewardess's lost wages. If they had to, they could get tough, using their considerable corporate influence to bring pressure on non-

cooperating individuals. 2) A qualified stewardess represented a big investment.

***VII. Paraphrase the following sentences simplifying their grammar and structure.***

1) Gwen had a way of making even a casual session like this seem an occasion.

2) Their discussion, he noted approvingly, was becoming increasingly matter-of-fact.

3) It was important to steer Gwen away from any emotional nonsense about this baby of hers.

4) All airline stewardesses, he was aware, discovered early in their career that a little husbandry in airplane galleys could relieve their cost of living at home.

5) Stewardesses learned to board their flights with personal hand baggage which was partially empty, using the space for surplus food – always of highest quality, since airlines purchased nothing but the best.

6) Demerest had no intention of getting stuck nor did he even want to get out of the car until the shelter of the enclosed Trans-America parking lot was reached.

7) Advice on the subject was frequently given unofficially to those who sought it – by stewardess supervisors who learned, through experience of others, how such arrangements could be made.

8) Vernon Demerest had been in stewardess nests where most items used in daily living seemed to have come from airline sources.

9) Outside the car, traffic density was increasing as they neared the airport, now less than a quarter mile away.

10) High above the entry, soaring and floodlighted, were the futuristic parabolic arches – acclaimed achievement of a world-wide design contest – symbolizing, so it was said, the noble dreams of aviation.

11) Later still, he would resist sleep, fighting for wakefulness, so he would not endure the torture of the dream again.

**VIII. Read and retell the following abstract from the chapter**

Most stewardesses were aware of what airlines would do for them if they became pregnant, providing the stewardess herself agreed to certain conditions. Within Trans-America the system was referred to familiarly as the “3-PPP”. Other airlines used differing names, and arrangements varied slightly, but the principle was the same.

.....  
Like Demerest, Gwen knew the reasoning of management which lay behind airline pregnancy programs. No airline liked loosing stewardesses for any reason. Their training was expensive; a qualified stewardess represented a big investment. Another thing: the right kind of girls, with good looks, style, and personality were hard to find.

The way the programs worked was practical and simple. If a stewardess became pregnant, and did not plan to be married, obviously she could return to her job when her pregnancy was over, and usually her airline would be delighted to have her back. So, the arrangement was, she received official leave of absence, with her job seniority protected. As to her personal welfare, airline personnel departments had special sections which, among other things, would help make medical or nursing home arrangements, either where a girl lived or at some distant point, whichever she preferred, The airline helped psychologically, too, by letting the girl know that someone cared about her, and was looking out for her interest. A loan of money could sometimes be arranged. Afterward, if a stewardess who had had her child was diffident about returning to her original base, she would be quietly transferred to a new one of her own choosing. In return for all this, the airline asked three assurances from the stewardess – hence the Three-Point Pregnancy Program.

First, the girl must keep the airline personnel department informed of her whereabouts at all times during her pregnancy.

Second, she must agree that her baby be surrendered for adoption immediately after birth. The girl would never know the baby’s adoptive parents; thus the child would pass out of her life entirely. However, the



airline guaranteed that proper adoption procedures would be followed, with the baby being placed in a good home.

Third - at the outset of the three-point program the stewardess must inform the airline of the name of the child's father. When she had done so, a representative from personnel – experienced in such situations – promptly sought out the father with the objective of obtaining financial support for the girl. What the personnel man tried to obtain was a promise, in writing, of enough money to cover medical and nursing home expenses and, if possible, some or all of the stewardess's lost wages. Airlines preferred such arrangements to be amiable and discreet. If they had to, though, they could get tough, using their considerable corporate influence to bring pressure on non-cooperating individuals.

It was seldom necessary to be tough where the father of a stewardess's baby was a flying crew member – a captain, or first or second officer. In such cases, gentle company suasion, plus the father's wish to keep the whole thing quiet, were usually enough. As to keeping quiet, the company obliged. Temporary support payments could be made in any reasonable way, or, if preferred, the airline made regular deductions from the employee's pay checks. Just as considerately, to avoid awkward questions at home, such deductions appeared under the heading: "personal misc."

All money received by these means was paid, in its entirety, to the pregnant stewardess. The airline deducted nothing for its own costs.

## Chapter 3

### I. *Answer the following questions*

1. What family trait did Mel and Keith have in common?
2. How many control centers were there across the continental United States?
3. How did Keith know that his capsules would work properly?
4. What made Keith recall the lines from Keats John's poem?
5. What were the instructor's actions when his trainee was in charge?
6. Why did Keith agree to be an instructing controller? What extra pay did he get?
7. How was the control over air traffic dispatchers exercised?
8. What happened on board the Flight Minneapolis - St. Paul?
9. What was Natalie's attitude to Keith's occupation?
10. What happened on Thursday, June the twenty fourth?
11. What were the Redferns going to Baltimore for?
12. Why didn't Keith quit his job?
13. Why was Irving Redfern's reaction to Keith's instruction not immediate?
14. What happened to the plane National Guard N-33 and its pilot?
15. Who and why did the investigation board declared guilty for the tragedy?
16. Why was Keith exonerated after the accident? Did he try to accept some share of blame?
17. What was Perry Yount's and George Wallace's fate after the tragedy?
18. What was Keith's psychological state after the tragic event? What tortured him?
19. When did Keith consider suicide?

**II. Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.**

1. Keith felt that he wouldn't be able to finish his air control duty for that night.
2. The tragedy, which Keith could not forget happened more than two years ago.
3. The control area was compared to an eyrie.
4. Keith's job to maintain contact with aircraft and to issue radio instructions.
5. The instructing controller was not responsible for his trainee.
6. The process of taking over in the control room was registered in the sector log sheet.
7. Keith was in his forties.
8. Air traffic controllers could retire at the age of sixty.
9. The profession of an air traffic controller was highly paid and promising.
10. Natalie offered Keith to give up his job.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

Прибрежные штаты; всепроникающий; пристройка; острота ума (сообразительность); находчивость (сметливость); язва желудка; недуг (заболевание); отвергать или не одобрять что-либо; стать чьей-то ответственностью; умоляющий; оправдать; стараться изо всех сил; рыцарский жест; обличительная речь; «козел отпущения».

**IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "I'm running two positions this shift – this and the next one."
2. "I've got George to keep an eye on me."

3. "... a man couldn't just quit his job irresponsibly, on a whim, even if he wanted to. Especially when the man had a family to support, children to educate. Especially when the job you possessed, the skills you so patiently acquired, had fitted you for nothing else."

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "The sun was warm, but not oppressive. A gentle breeze from the Blue Ridge Mountains carried the scent of honeysuckle."
2. "... a cluster of low, modern buildings with a parking lot-and was surrounded on three sides by rolling farmland."
3. "... dimly lighted to allow proper viewing of the several dozen radar screens, arranged in tiers and rows under overhanging canopies"
4. "... was not only high pressure, but also monastic-the last condition added to by the total absence of women."
5. "... had already shown himself an alert, quick mind, plus the ability not to become rattled under tension."
6. "...green meadows, trees, and wild flowers. The heat was greater now. All around was a drowsy hum of insects."
7. "... was coordinating emergency procedures calmly, level voiced, so that from his tone no bystander listening would be aware that an emergency existed."
8. "... a careful, thorough man."
9. "His face was ashen; he seemed unable to speak."

**VI. *What do the following word combinations and sentences mean in the context of the chapter?***

**a) word combinations:**

utter desolation; benevolence of air and sun; to operate on "visual flight rules"; CAVU; the Operations Wing; a sacrificial goat; as if committed to a

treadmill; to quit on a whim; to slice off; to damage mortally; to suffer a relapse; to remain intact;

**b) sentences:**

- 1) "... he had made a pact with himself ..."
- 2) "It was strange about the coincidence of figures; that his room number tonight, allocated by chance, should have in it a "24."
- 3) "The date was seared – with self-reproach and anguish – in his memory"
- 4) "..., he had served an enlistment in the U.S."
- 4) "I've got George to keep an eye on me."
- 5) "We're a man short."
- 6) "Official flight surgeons' files bulged with medical evidence."
- 7) Keith's attempted intervention was not referred to in the board's final report.

**VII. *Translate the following passage into Russian paying attention to the use of Subjunctive Mood***

An airline pilot, receiving the Washington Center message, would have flung his aircraft in a steep right turn. He would have caught the urgency to Keith's voice, would have acted, without waiting to trim, or knowledge, or – until later – question. An airline pilot would have ignored all minor consequences except the overriding urgency of escaping the nearby peril which the route center message unmistakably implied. Behind him, in the passenger cabin, scalding coffee might have spilled, meals scattered, even minor injuries resulted. Later there would have been complaints, apologies, denunciations, perhaps a Civil Aeronautics Board inquiry. But – with ordinary luck – there could have been survival. Quick action could have insured it for the Redfern family, too.

**VIII. *Paraphrase the following sentences simplifying their grammar and structure.***

1. Somewhere inside the brain's intricacies – of blood vessels, sinew, stored thought, and emotion – was a tiny switch, a self-defense mechanism like a thermal cutout in an electric motor, which worked when the motor was running too hot and needed to be saved from burning itself out.
2. When a trainee was at the scope himself, and got into difficulties, he had to be given the chance to show resourcefulness and sort the situation out unaided.
3. Being trapped that way – which was what it amounted to, Keith recognized – was a disillusion which came with other disillusion.
4. It was then it happened: the nightmarish sound which those who heard it wished that they had not, yet afterward would not be able to erase from memory.
5. The fact that Perry Yount was doing double duty – which, had he been less cooperative, he could have refused – was ruled not relevant.

**IX. *Retell the following passage from the chapter.***

As Keith Bakersfeld left the control room, the supervisor was studying the scope, his hand lightly on George Wallace's shoulder.

The washroom Keith had gone to was on an upper level; a frosted-glass window admitted some of the brightness of the day outside. When Keith had finished, and freshened himself with a wash, he went to the window and opened it. He wondered if the weather was still as superb as when he had arrived earlier. It was.

From the rear of the building into which the window was set, he could see – beyond a service area – green meadows, trees and wild flowers. The heart was greater now. All around was a drowsy hum of insects.

Keith stood looking out, aware of a reluctance to leave the cheerful sunlight and return to the control room's gloom. It occurred to him that lately he had had similar feelings at other times – too many times, perhaps; and he

thought – if he was honest, it was not the gloom he minded so much, but the mental pressures. There was a time when the tensions and pressures of his job, unrelenting as they were, had never bothered him. Nowadays they did, and on occasions he had to force himself, consciously, to meet them.

.....  
Keith wondered sometimes – as he was wondering now – how many more years he could force his occasionally weary mind to go on. He had been a controller for a decade and a half. He was thirty-eight.

The depressing thing was – in this business you could be mentally drained, an old man, at age forty-five or fifty, yet honorable retirement was another ten or fifteen years away. For many air traffic controllers, those final years proved an all-too-grueling trail, those end they failed to reach.

Keith knew – as most controllers did – that strains on the human systems of those employed in air traffic control had long been recognized. Official flight surgeons’ files bulged with medical evidence. Case histories, directly attributable to controllers’ work, included hypertension, heart attacks, gastric ulcers, tachycardia, psychiatric breakdowns, plus a host of lesser ailments. Eminent, independent medics, in scholarly research studies, had confirmed such findings. In the words of one: “A controller will spend nervous, sleepless hours every night wondering how in the name of heaven he kept all those planes from running into each other. He managed not to cause a disaster today, but will he have the same luck tomorrow? After a while, something inside him – physical, mental, oftentimes both – inevitably breaks down.”

Armed with this knowledge, and more, the Federal Aviation Agency had urged Congress to allow air traffic controllers to retire at age fifty, or after twenty years of service. The twenty years, doctors declared, were equal to forty in most other jobs. The FAA warned legislators: public safety was involved; controllers, after more than twenty years of service, were potentially unsafe. Congress, Keith remembered, had ignored the warning and refused to act.

Subsequently, a Presidential Commission also turned thumbs down on early retirement for controllers, and the FAA – then a presidential agency – had been told to cease and desist in its argument. Now, officially, it had.

Privately, however – as Keith and others knew – Washington FAA officials were as convinced as ever; they predicted that the question would arise again; though only after an air disaster, or a series, involving worn-out controllers, followed by press and public furor.

Keith's thoughts switched back to the countryside. It was glorious today; the fields inviting, even when viewed from a washroom window. He wished he could go out there and sleep in the sun. Well, he couldn't, and that was that. He supposed he had better get back to the control room. He would – in just a moment more.

**X. *Speak on the following topics***

1. Keith's character
2. What happened to the people having to do with the fateful day:
  - a) Keith Bakersfeld
  - b) Perry Yount
  - c) George Wallace
  - d) Henry Neel



## Chapter 4

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. In what way were stowaways punished in ancient time?
2. How was discovered that Ada Quonsett was a stowaway?
3. How did Ada Quonsett manage to get home in San Diego not paying for the back flight from New York?
4. What two choices does the agent in charge have if he suspects a stowaway on board the plane? Which of them is chosen more often and why?
5. Why were stowaways never prosecuted by the airlines?
6. What was Tanya's aim of questioning Ada Quonsett?
7. How did Ada Quonsett get on board the plane in case she had no boarding pass?
8. How did DTM call Ada Quonsett (3 names)?
9. Why did Ada Quonsett avoid non-stop flights?
10. What were Tanya's instructions to Peter Coakley?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. Tanya and Mel departed in the central lobby of the main terminal after Mel had received a message.
2. The little old lady from San Diego was nervous when speaking to Tanya.
3. Airlines tried to keep the cases with stowaways in secret.
4. Ada Quonsett liked Trans-America best as it served good meals during the flight.
5. Ada Quonsett always used one and the same method to get aboard the flights.
6. The District Transformation Manager was a calm, good-natured boss.
7. Ada Quonsett resigned herself to the fact that she won't get to New York.

**III. Find the English equivalents to the following words and word combinations.**

безбилетник; уменьшить штрафные санкции; покойный муж; автобус дальнего следования; невероятная вещь; жесткая критика (ам.); согласиться на что-то (смириться с чем-то); «морочить голову», избавиться от кого-то

**IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "He would find time to stop by first."
2. "Airlines worked hard to keep the subject under wraps."
3. "Greyhound people are very strict."
4. "The little old seemed unabashed."
5. "I have to tell a little white lie."
6. "Mrs. Quonsett looked faintly resentful."
7. "Was her leg being gently pulled?"
8. "I suppose, a company charge."
9. "We're better off to get her out of our hair."
10. "She's got a barrellful of tricks."
11. "Well, I do sometimes get a little scolding."

**V. Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. "... this one's a dilly"
2. "... plied the eastern Mediterranean"
3. "... sat comfortably relaxed, hands folded daintily in her lap..."
4. "... worked hard to keep the whole subject under wraps"
5. "... red hair ... with the beginning of gray"
6. "... was a teacher of geometry"
7. "... honest-to-goodness fare-paying"
8. "... he was very mean"

9. "... was grinning sheepishly"

**VI. *What do the following word combinations and sentences mean in the context of the chapter?***

**1. Word combinations:**

flight manifest; to tell a little white lie; to pull one's leg; endless needlings; barrelful of tricks; plausible excuses.

**2. Sentences:**

1. "Tanya hoped ... he would find time to stop by first."
2. "Airlines worked hard to keep the whole subject under wraps."
3. "Use some goddam capitals for once, so I can read it."
4. "I'm passing on to you what I've been getting from New York. Like the cabin boy kicking the ship's cat."
5. "I don't bear any grudge."

**VII. *Read the following fragments from the chapter and give their content in your own words (in writing).***

**1**

There had been stowaways, Tanya recalled reading somewhere, as long ago as 700 B.C., on ships of the Phoenicians which plied the eastern Mediterranean. At that time, the penalty for those who were caught was excruciating death-disembowelment of adult stowaways, while children were burned alive on sacrificial stones.

Since then, penalties had abated, but stowaways had not.

Tanya wondered if anyone, outside a limited circle of airline employees, realized how much of a stowaway epidemic there had been since jet airplanes increased the tempo and pressures of passenger aviation. Probably not. Airlines worked hard to keep the whole subject under wraps, fearing that if the facts became known, their contingent

of nonpaying riders would be greater still. But there were people who realized how simple it all could be, including the little old lady from San Diego.

Her name was Mrs. Ada Ouonsett. Tanya had checked this fact from a Social Security card, and Mrs. Quonsett would undoubtedly have reached New York undetected if she had not made one mistake. This was confiding her status to her seat companion, who told a stewardess. The stewardess reported to the captain, who radioed ahead, and a ticket agent and security guard were waiting to remove the little old lady at Lincoln International. She had been brought to Tanya, part of whose job as passenger relations agent was to deal with such stowaways as the airline was lucky enough to catch.

## 2

The incredible thing, Tanya realized, was that it was all so obviously true. As airlines were aware, it happened frequently. A would-be stowaway merely boarded an airplane—there were plenty of ways it could be done—and sat quietly, waiting for departure. As long as the stowaway stayed away from the first class compartment, where passengers could be identified easily, and unless the flight was full, detection was unlikely. It was true that stewardesses would count heads, and their tally might disagree with the gate agent's manifest. At that point a stowaway would be suspected, but the agent in charge would be faced with two choices. Either he could let the airplane go, recording on the manifest that the head and ticket counts did not agree, or a recheck could be made of the tickets of everyone aboard.

A recheck, if decided on, would take most of half an hour; meanwhile, the cost of holding a six-million-dollar jet airplane on the ground would soar. Schedules, both at origin and down the line, would be disrupted. Passengers with connections to make, or appointments, would grow angrily impatient, while the captain, conscious of his punctuality record, would fume at the agent. The agent would~ reason that he might have made a mistake anyway; moreover, unless he could show good reason for a delay, he would get a roasting later on from his

District Transportation Manager. In the end, even if a stowaway was found, the loss in dollars and goodwill would far exceed the cost of providing a free ride for a single individual.

So what happened was that the airline did the only sensible thing- it closed the doors, and sent the airplane on its way.

That was usually the end of it. Once in flight, stewardesses were too busy to do a ticket check, and passengers would certainly not submit to the delay and annoyance of one at journey's end. Therefore the stowaway walked off, unquestioned and unhindered.

***VIII. Describe all the way (step by step) passed by Ada Quonsett up to Lincoln Airport.***

## Chapter 5

### I. *Answer the following questions?*

1. What was Mel thinking about staying in his office, in the mezzanine administrative suite?
2. What did the telephone conversation of Mel and Cindy end with?
3. What was the main idea of the igloo system the American airlines functionaries were dreaming of?
4. Why did Mel believe that the fantastic dreams of implementing the igloo system would come true?
5. What was Egan Jeffers and what outraged him? How can you characterize Egan Jeffers' speech? Give the examples.
6. What was the essence of Mel's fight with his brother-in-law?
7. What was the membership of the Board of the Airport Commissioners?
8. Why was Vernon Demerest against insurance booths and machines on the premises of the airport? What were his arguments?
9. What did Vernon Demerest want to achieve at the meeting of the Board of airport Commissioners. Why did he fail his mission?
10. What alternative to the vending machine insurance did Vernon Demerest propose? How did he justify his proposal?
11. How did Mel substantiate his point of view, which was opposite to that of Vernon's.
12. What measures did Mel propose to take for preventing crimes on board the plane?
13. What was a sore point with the airline pilots?
14. What did Mel regret about after the clash with Vernon?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. Mel's conversation with Cindy was going to be a pleasant one.
2. Most of Mel's telephone talk with Cindy was composed of Mel's excuses.
3. Mel supposed that Cindy could to arrive at the airport.
4. Egan Jeffers operated a rotating electric shoe polisher.
5. Everybody who worked on the public areas of the airport knew Mel Bakersfeld by sight.
6. Tanya supported Vernon's views concerning insurance booths at airports.
7. Where sabotage was exposed, insurance fee was paid by court decision.
8. Mel agreed with Vernon that flight safety was at a high level.
9. At Lincoln International, the airport appropriated half the commissions on insurance sales.
10. There were no insurance-inspired bombings in the history of the American aviation.
11. Mel found Vernon's arguments weak.
12. Mel made an effort at conciliation with Vernon.

**III. Find the English equivalents to the following Russian words and word combinations.**

рабочее состояние, смутное беспокойство; благотворительная тусовка; собраться с духом; зал ожидания; прокат автомобилей; знать свое дело (быть начеку), проводить кампанию; пережиток; «золотое дно»; наживаться на чем-то; диверсия; аннулировать; исказить факты, тупой (бестолковый), неуместное замечание; противоречить кому-то ли чему-то), личное оружие; больной вопрос; примирение; взвесить последствия

**IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "A bunch of demonstrators underfoot was all he needed."
2. "... knowing you were lying, gave me the chance to do some thinking."
3. "You get down here, Bakersfeld. You hear me. You got troubles."

4. "Why is it you guys always want to stifle a little honest sales promotion."
5. "Captain, we're hearing a whole lot of your opinions. Do you have any facts to back up all this?"
6. "Captain Demerest, that last remark is uncalled for, out of order, and you will please withdraw it."
7. "It's easy for people like you-ground-bound, desk-tied, with penguins' minds."
8. "I wouldn't have mentioned the insurance bit, if I'd known it would send you so far away from me."

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "a hornet's nest all its own"
2. "usual didactic self ... exacted obedience"
3. "her (Libby's) questions were always intriguingly different ... she had an instinct for essentials"
4. "he could make the most outrageous statements and somehow get away with it"
5. "... was rumored to be a mistress of the mayor"
6. "... smartly attired in Trans-America uniform, his four gold stripes of rank bright under the overhead lights"
7. "... had a knack for making differences amenable, at the same time saving face for those on both sides"

**VI. *Explain the meaning of the following word combinations and sentences within the context of the chapter.***

**a) Word combinations:**

"galley compartment"; "sky lounge"; "pocket panic list"; "blanket accident policy for travel"; "to let his point sink home"



**b) Sentences:**

1. “Already plans were afoot for “people-pods” – based on American Airline-type “igloos”
2. “... he could make the most outrageous statements and somehow get away with it.”
3. “Take my mind off automobiles – and people who call me about them.”
4. “Egan Jeffers has been beefing.”
5. “I’ll tell my people to yank the damn thing. Is there any fat rush?”
6. “She was doing a slow burn about the “greedy airport managements” remark.”
7. “Mel paused, to let his point sink home, before continuing.”
8. “There was no one else within hearing now.”
9. “Mel flushed. His brother-in-law had caught him out.”

**VII. *Translate the following passages into Russian***

1. It was true, of course, that where sabotage was exposed, any insurance policies, which had been taken out by those involved were automatically invalidated. In short: sabotage didn't pay, and normal, informed people were aware of this, They also knew that even after an air disaster from which there were no survivors, providing wreckage was located, it was possible to tell whether an explosion had occurred and, usually, by what means.

2. “It can be argued, of course, that if airport insurance had not been available, the disasters we are talking about might never had happened at all. In other words, these were crimes of impulse, triggered by the ease with which airport insurance can be bought. Similarly, it can be contended that even if the crimes were contemplated in advance, they might not have been carried through had flight insurance been less readily available.”

**VIII. Give your opinion of Vernon Demerest's arguments against having insurance vending machines and counters in the airports; arguments being given in the following fragment from the chapter.**

Airport insurance vending, Demerest began, was a ridiculous, archaic hangover from flying's early days. The very presence of insurance booths and machines, their prominence in airport concourses, were insults to commercial aviation, which had a finer safety record, in relation to miles traveled, than any other form of transportation.

In the railway station or bus depot, or on boarding an ocean liner, or driving traveler have special insurance policies, against death and mutilation, thrust beneath his nose with subtle sales pressure? Of course not!

Then why aviation?

Demerest answered his own question. The reason? He declared, was that insurance companies knew a rich bonanza when they saw it, "and never mind the consequences."

Commercial aviation was still sufficiently new so that many people thought of travelling by air as hazardous, despite the provable fact that an individual was safer in a commercial airliner than in his own home. This inherent mistrust of flying was magnified on the exceedingly rare occasions when an airline accident occurred. The impact was dramatic, and obscured the fact that far more deaths and injuries occurred in other, more accepted ways.

The truth about the safety of flying, Demerest pointed out, was attested by insurance companies themselves. Airline pilots, whose exposure to air travel was far greater than that of passengers, could buy standard life insurance at regular rates and, through their own group plans, at even lower rates than the general populace.

Yet other insurance companies, abetted by greedy airport managements, and with the docile acquiescence of airlines, continued to batten on the fears and gullibility of air travelers.

**IX. Render the content of the conversation between Vernon and Mel after the meeting.**

## Chapter 6

### **I. Answer the following questions**

1. Why did Cindy have the intention to leave the charity party? What two alternatives of her further action was she weighing?
2. What did Cindy think about the chances to salvage her marriage to Mel?
3. Why did Cindy feel offended at the charity party?
4. What goals did Mel and Cindy pursue when actively participating in Washington public life?
5. What career prospects did Cindy have before the marriage?
6. What do you know about Derek Eden from the chapter?
7. What Cindy's intentions caused Mel's angry reaction? What were Mel's arguments?
8. What did you learn about Lionel (family he came from, character, profession, private life)?
9. What prevented Cindy from divorcing Mel?

### **II. Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.**

1. The reason of Mel and Cindy having bad relations was their mental separation.
2. Cindy was introduced to Derek Eden at the party.
3. Cindy blamed Mel in her fiasco at the charity party.
4. Mel did not suspect that Cindy had a lover somewhere.
5. Mel often stayed long hours at the airport to avoid quarrels with Cindy.
6. Cindy was once a famous actress.
7. Cindy wanted to be presented at the Passavant Cotillon.
8. Cindy was in love with Lionel.
9. Lionel was eager to get married to Cindy, and have children.
10. Cindy decided to have a love affair with Derek Eden rather than go to the airport.

11. Cindy and Derek left the party together.

**III. Find the English equivalents to the following Russian words and word combinations.**

столпотворение, дружески поболтать, выяснение отношений, легко отмахнуться от чего-то, обозреватель светской хроники, камень преткновения, черная работа по дому, вечеринка, взаимопонимание, розовые мечты, сообразительность (острота ума), высмеивать кого-то, эпизодическая роль, сезон балов.

**IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "No drink, Mrs. Bakersfeld? Can I get you one?"
2. "I wondered if we might skip the dinner and go somewhere quieter."
3. "I won't leave here with you. But if you're waiting in your car, outside, I'll come through the main doors in fifteen minutes."
4. "Better make it twenty minutes. I'll need to make a couple of phone calls."
5. "Taxi, ma'am?"

**V. Who or what do the following descriptions refer to**

- 1) "... had an easy, confident manner and air of mild dissipation"
- 2) "... volunteered, worked hard, served on the meanest committees"
- 3) "an anachronistic perpetuation of a snobbery and class structure"
- 4) "... kind, generous, considerate..."
- 5) "dowager-like"

**VI. Explain the meaning of the following word combinations and sentences within the context of the chapter.**

- 1) In the city's life Mel, Mel rated.
- 2) Not to have been divorced, at least once, was somewhat square.
- 3) Faced with Mel's indifference, her fiery temper got the better of her;
- 4) She would never have made the grade to stardom
- 5) Cindy dreaded a major upheaval in her life
- 6) Cindy's own marriage was shaky
- 7) Derek Eden was marveling at his own good fortune

**VII. Translate the following fragment into Russian, pay attention to the use of the Subjunctive Mood.**

On the telephone with Mel she had insisted she would go to the airport and confront him. But if she went, Cindy realized, it would mean a showdown – almost certainly irreversible and final – between them both. Commonsense told her that sooner or later the showdown must come, so better to have it now and done with; and there were other related matters which had to be resolved. Yet fifteen years of marriage were not to be shrugged off lightly like a disposable plastic raincoat. No matter how many deficiencies and disagreements there were - and Cindy could think of plenty – when two people lived together that long, there were connecting strands between them which it would be painful to sever. Even now, Cindy believed, their marriage could be salvaged if both of them tried hard enough. The point was: did they want to? Cindy was convinced she did – if Mel would meet some of her conditions, though in the past he had refused to, and she doubted very much if he would ever change as much as she would like. Yet without some changes, continuing to live together as they were would be intolerable.

**VIII. Speak on Cindy's personality basing on the content of the chapter.**

## Chapter 7

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why were airlines ready to suffer losses for repairing planes?
2. What did you learn about the commissary supply of American planes?
3. How did economy class passengers manage to get free liquor?
4. What newspapers did not go aboard many American airlines?
5. What was the least efficient part of air travel and why?
6. What was the function of uniformed representatives at airport post offices?
7. What was Fred Phirmphoot's job and why was it so important?
8. Why did most of aircrafts need extra fuel that night?
9. How was the airline crew preparing for the flight to Rome?
10. What was the reason of the delay of Flight Two's departure?
11. Why did Demerest invite Gwen to get coffee in the terminal?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. A Boeing 707-320B Intercontinental Jetliner was a four-engine plane.
2. Commissary supplies included food and liquor.
3. Fred Phirmphoot was a mathematician by education.
4. Airlines allowed an average weight for passengers a hundred and seventy pounds all over the world.
5. There were no strict limits for gross weights at takeoff.
6. Vernon Demerest approved Harris's orders and actions.
7. Vernon Demerest inserted a couple of amendments in the flight manuals.

### III. *Find the English equivalents to the following Russian words and word combinations.*

Находиться в процессе, скрупулезно (кропотливо), преодолеть разрыв, первоклассный мастер, крутая команда, предотвратить осложнения, изобретательность, портативная рация, сверхъестественный инстинкт, диспетчер (2 вар.), толстяк, поддерживать связь

#### **IV. *Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. “I guess your manuals are okay, Anson. I’ve changed my mind; I won’t inspect them.”
2. “As soon as your fuel load permits, I’d recommend an altitude of thirty three thousand feet.”
3. “We should be able to reach thirty-three thousand around Detroit.”
4. “Apparently, a lot of passengers are on their way, but have been held up – I guess because of snow.”
5. “Go ahead. One of the other girls can bring mine (coffee), and there’s plenty of time.”

#### **V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. “the lion’s den”
2. “... a bustling, jam-packed, noisy conglomeration of people, desks, telephones, teletypes.”
3. “an amateur abstract painter ... reputed to dabble – at weekends with LSD”
4. “He was lean and angular, with a hollow cheeked, mournful face, and always looked as if he needed a good meal.
5. “... a pale young man, scholarly behind rimless glasses”
6. “His fingers crossed, and touching wood,” he “replied that, barring complications on the air test, the aircraft would be available on time.”

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. “You guys down here’d never know it, but the moon’s still there”
2. “In case of delay, friendships didn’t count”
3. “If you ain’t hep, that airplane chick’ll teeter or totter, maybe the twain...”
4. “It don’t pay off in marmalade”
5. “Roger-dodger”

**VII. *Read the following fragments and give their content in your own words (in English).***

1. An airline flight from any major terminal is, in fact, like a river joining the sea. Before it reaches the sea, a river is fed by tributaries, originating far back in time and distance, each tributary joined along its length by others, either greater or smaller. At length, at the river’s mouth, the river itself is the sum of everything, which flowed into it. Translated into aviation terms, the river at the sea is an airliner at its moment of takeoff.

The aircraft for Flight Two was a Boeing 707-320B. Intercontinental Jetliner, registered number N-731-TA. It was powered by four Pratt & Whitney turbofan jet engines, providing a cruising speed of six hundred and five miles per hour. The aircraft’s range, at maximum weight, was six thousand miles, or the straight line distance from Iceland to Hong Kong. It carried a hundred and ninety-nine passengers and twenty-five thousand U.S. gallons of fuel – enough to fill a good-size swimming pool. The aircraft’s cost to Trans-America Airlines was six and a half million dollars.

2. Fright was now going aboard Flight Two in a steady stream. So was mail. Tonight there were nine thousand pounds of mail in colored nylon bags, some for Italian cities – Milan, Palermo, Vatican City, Pisa, Naples, Rome; others on ward transmission to faraway places, whose names read like pages from Marco Polo... Zanzibar, Khartoum, Mombassa, Jerusalem, Athens, Rhodes, Calcutta ...



The heavier-than-usual mail load was a bonus for Trans-America. A flight of British overseas Airways Corporation scheduled to leave shortly before Trans-America Flight Two, had just announced a three-hour delay. The post-office ramp supervisor, who kept constant watch on schedules and delays, promptly ordered a switch of mail from the BOAC airliner to Trans-America. The British airline would be unhappy because carriage of mail was highly profitable, and competition for post office business keen. All airlines kept uniformed representatives at airport post offices, their job to keep an eye on the flow of mail and insure that their own airline got a "fair share" – or more – of the outgoing volume. Post office supervisors sometimes had favourites among the airline men, and saw to it that business came their way. But in case of delay, friendships didn't count. At such moments there was an inflexible rule: the mail went the faster route.

**IX. *Retell the following passage from the chapter.***

The company weather forecaster joined the other four. He was a pale young man, scholarly behind rimless glasses, who looked as if he rarely ventured out into the weather personally.

Demercst inquired, "What have the computers given us tonight, John? Something better than here, I hope."

More and more, airline weather forecasts and flight plans were being spewed out by computers. Trans America and other airlines still maintained a personal element, with individuals liaising between computers and flight crews, but predictions were that the human weathermen would disappear soon.

The forecaster shook his head as he spread out several facsimile weather charts. "Nothing better until you're over mid-Atlantic, I'm afraid. We have some improved weather coming in here soon, but since you're going east you'll catch up with what's already left us. The storm we're in now extends all the way from here to Newfoundland, and beyond." He used a pencil point to trace the storm's wide swathe. "Along your route, incidentally, Detroit Metropolitan and Toronto airports are both below limits and have closed down."

The dispatcher scanned a teletype slip, which a clerk had handed him. He interjected, "Add Ottawa; they're closing right now.»

«Beyond mid-Atlantic," the weatherman said, "everything looks good. There are scattered disturbances across southern Europe, as you can see, but at your altitudes they shouldn't bother you. Rome is clear and sunny, and should stay that way for several days." Captain Demerest leaned over the southern Europe map. "How about Naples?"

The weatherman looked puzzled. "Your flight doesn't go there."

"No, but I'm interested."

"It's in the same high pressure system as Rome. The weather will be good."

Demerest grinned.

The young forecaster launched into a dissertation concerning temperatures, and high and low pressure areas, and winds aloft. For the portion of the flight, which would be over Canada he recommended a more northerly course than usual to avoid strong headwinds, which would be encountered farther south. The pilots listened attentively. Whether by computer or human calculation, choosing the best altitudes and route was like a game of chess in which intellect could triumph over nature. All pilots were trained in such matters; so were company weather forecasters, more attuned to individual airline needs than their counterparts in the U. S. Weather Bureau.

"As soon as your fuel load permits," the Trans America forecaster said, "I'd recommend an altitude of thirty-three thousand feet."

The second officer checked his graphs; before N731-TA could climb that high, they would have to burn off some of their initially heavy fuel load.

After a few moments the second officer reported, "We should be able to reach thirty-three thousand around Detroit."

Anson Harris nodded. His gold ballpoint pen was racing as he filled in a flight plan, which, in a few minutes' time, he would file with air traffic control. ATC would then tell him whether or not the altitudes he sought were available and, if not, what others he might have. Vernon Demerest, who normally would have prepared his own flight plan, glanced over the form when Captain Harris finished, then signed it.

## Chapter 8

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why was Guerrero so nervous on his way to the airport?
2. What stupidest omission did Guerrero possibly make?
3. What incident happened on the bus en route to the airport?
4. What would Guerrero do if he were caught at the airport?
5. How did Inez come to the conclusion that her husband was in trouble?
6. Why did Inez not phone to the airport from the lunch counter?
7. What rule did the information bureau employee refer to speaking to Inez?
8. How did Inez arrange her trip to the airport?
9. What can you say about taxi driver's personality? (How was he going to get a profit from the trip to the airport?)

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. The driver of the bus en rout was sure that they would be late for the flight.
2. Guerrero found it a good idea to buy flight insurance at the last minute.
3. Guerrero was about to strike the Italian boy and attracted attention of the travelers.
4. Inez Guerrero looked older than she really was.
5. Inez never wore her mother's ring; she kept it in one of the bedroom drawers.
6. Inez was a faithful wife and never intended to abdicate from her husband.

### **III. *Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations***

Маршрутка, передвигаться мелкими шагами (очень медленно), исказить, неизбежный, изнеможение, нанести большой урон, точная копия, в рассрочку, брать на себя обязательства, ничтожная заработная плата, отречься, таксист (2 варианта), задолженность по арендной плате, ехать порожняком (сленг), с выключенным счетчиком, старая карга.

### **IV. *Who of the characters do these words and thoughts belong to?***

1. "The traffic ahead looks as if it's loosenin' up some. We might just make it."
2. "No baggage for a trip to Rome, sir? You really are travelling light."
3. "... our Flight Two, the Golden Argosy. It departs at ten o'clock local time, except that tonight the flight has been delayed one hour, due to weather conditions."
4. "Sama you people think ya can get them kinda rides for peanuts."
5. "I was wondering how much it would cost for a taxi to the airport."

### **V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... agitated, tense, anxious ... could feel rivulets of perspiration ..."
2. "...though never beautiful, had been a pleasant-appealing, well-preserved ..."
3. "It was gold with a single diamond in a platinum setting"
4. "... had a mean, flabby face, and needed a shave."
5. "...was crawling tediously along the snowbound, still-plugged Kennedy Expressway."

**VI. Find a cultural replacement of the following statements given in the slang version of English.**

1. “Yeah, waddya want?”
2. “How much dough ya got?”
3. Sama you people think ya can get them kinda rides for peanuts. ‘S long drag out there.”
4. “Why you wanna go? Whyn’t yer get th’ bus?”
5. “‘S th’ best offer you’ll get. You wanna take it or not?”
6. “Okay, lessgo.”
7. “I said so, didn’t I, so lemme do the drivin.”

**VII. Read the following passage from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).**

D.O. Guerrero had a double seat section, three rows back from the driver, to himself. The all-important attaché-case was held securely on his lap. He eased forward, as he had done several time already, straining to peer ahead into the darkness beyond the bus; all he could see, through the twin arcs cleared by the big, slapping windshield wipers, was what appeared to be an endless string of vehicle lights, disappearing into the falling snow. Despite his sweating, his pale, thin lips were dry; he moistened them with his tongue.

For Guerrero, “just making it” to the airport in time for Flight Two would simply not do. He needed an extra ten or fifteen minutes, at least, to buy flight insurance. He cursed himself for not having gone out to the airport sooner, and bought the flight insurance he needed in plenty of time. In his original plan, purchasing the insurance at the last minute, and thus minimizing any chance of inquiry, seemed a good idea. What he had not foreseen was the kind of night this had turned out to be – though he ought to have foreseen it, remembering the time of year. It was just that kind of thing – overlooking some significant, variable factor – which had dogged D.O. Guerrero through his business enterprises, and time after time brought grandiose schemes to naught. The trouble was, he realized, whenever he

made plans, he convinced himself that everything would go exactly as he hoped ; therefore he failed to allow for the unexpected. More to the point, he thought bitterly, he never seemed able to learn from past experience.

He supposed that when he got to the airport – assuming Flight Two had not already left – he could go to the Trans-America flight counter and announce himself as being present. Then he would insist on being allowed time to buy flight insurance before the flight took off. But it would involve the one thing he desperately wanted to avoid: drawing attention to himself, in the same way that he had drawn attention already – and for the stupidest omission he could possibly have made.

He had failed to bring any baggage, other than the small, slim attaché-case in which he was carrying the dynamic bomb.

**VIII. *What have you learnt about Inez Guerrero from the chapter?  
Answer the question in the form of a detailed story.***

## Chapter 9

### **I. *Answer the following questions***

1. Where was the meeting of Meadowood community held?
2. Why did Freemantle insist on the participants of the meeting went to the airport?
3. Why was Freemantle so enthusiastic about the problems of the Meadowood community?
4. Why did Freemantle hope there would be a confrontation with the airport's management?
5. What was Freemantle's plan of action at the airport?
6. How long and why was Freemantle going to keep the situation lively?

### **II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.***

1. Freemantle failed to persuade most of the meeting participants to go to Lincoln Airport.
2. There were two representatives of the press at the meeting.
3. Freemantle decided to speak for a few minutes longer as he wanted all circulating legal forms to be signed.
4. Each legal retainer agreement assumed that every member of the family had to pay a hundred dollars.
5. Freemantle stuffed signed retainer forms into his briefcase.

### **III. *Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations***

Уговаривать, гонорар, устроить демонстрацию, коллекционный сбор, ничем неограниченные методы, создавать помехи, система громкой связи, соглашение между клиентом и адвокатом, театральность.

**IV. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... impeccable as ever in his elegant Blue Spruce suit and gleaming alligator shoes; not a single barber-styled hair was out of place ..."
2. "... like a jet-age Moses ..."
3. "... virtually ignored since Elliott Freemantle eclipsed him in attention ..."
4. "... were likely to be unspectacular and possibly unprofitable."

**V. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "Don't hand me any bilge water about it being too late, or not wanting to go."
2. "... some out-of-the-way, unpeopled courtroom" 3.
3. "... the airport is extremely busy tonight. But we can't help that."
4. "Lawyer Freemantle raised his hands like a jet-age Moses, and mixquoted: "For I have promises to keep, with much ado before I sleep."
5. "... quite a few judges nowadays were wise to Lawyer Freemantle's attention-creating tactics, and curtailed them sternly."

**VI. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

Freemantle himself was stuffing signed retainer forms into his briefcase. A quick count showed that he had underestimated earlier - there



were over a hundred and sixty forms, or more than sixteen thousand dollars' worth of collectible fees. In addition, many who had come forward to shake his hand within the past few minutes assured him they would mail their own forms, along with checks, in the morning. Lawyer Freemantle glowed.

He had no real plan as to what would happen at the airport, any more than he had arrived tonight with a fixed idea about how to take over the meeting. Elliott Freemantle disliked fix ideas. He preferred to improvise, to get situations rolling, then direct them this way or that, to his own advantage. His freewheeling methods had worked once already this evening; he saw no reason why they should not do so again.

The main thing was to keep these Meadowood homeowners convinced that they had a dynamic leader who would eventually produce results. Furthermore, they must remain convinced until the four quarterly payments, which the legal retainer agreements called for, were made. After that, when Elliott had his money in the bank, the opinions were less important.

**VII. *Speak on Freemantle's personality basing on the content of the chapter.***

## Chapter 10

### I. *Answer the following questions*

1. How long did it take Joe Patroni to get from home to the airport?
2. What message did Patroni receive from Mel Bakersfeld?
3. What tickets did Mel Bakersfeld promise to give Patroni in case he lost the bet?
4. What had done before the first and second attempts to get the Aereo-Mexican out of mud?
5. What variant of getting the airplane out did Patroni consider a worthwhile chance?
6. How was the trench digging work of Ingram's crew arranged?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. Patrol car delivered Joe Patroni to the mired Aereo-Mexican jet.
2. Ingram was The Trans-American maintenance foreman.
3. Joe Patroni and Ingram were good friends.
4. Two first attempts to blast the airplane free were a failure.
5. Ingram blamed the Aero-Mexican pilots in failing the attempt to get the plane out of mud.
6. Patroni supposed that he would come home before midnight.

### III. *Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations*

Преодолеть расстояние, снегопад, мера пожарной безопасности, шасси, сплошное невезение, грубый просчет, напугать до смерти, кабина экипажа (2 варианта), онемевшие руки, пронзительный рев.

**IV. *Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. “We have a message from the airport manager’s office. Do you read?”
2. “We gotta dig deeper and wide in front of the gear.”
3. “They’re aboard. The goddam captain and first officer.”

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. “... stocky figure...”
2. “... huddled into a parka, shielding his face as best he could from the biting wind and snow.”
3. “... loomed ... like an immense ghostly albatross.”

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. “Okay, son, push that needle round the dial.
2. “Now I got me an incentive.”
3. “Gimme the poop.”
4. “abortive attempt”
5. “... they didn’t have the guts...”

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

Patroni looked at him sharply. “They been giving you trouble?”

“It wasn’t that they gave me,” Ingram said sourly, “it’s what the they wouldn’t. When I got here, I wanted ‘em to pull full power, the way you just said. If they’d done it the first time. I reckon she’d have come out; but they didn’t have the guts, which is why we got in deeper. The captain’s made one big screwup tonight, and knows it. Now he’s scared stiff of standing the ship on its nose.”

Joe Patroni grinned. “If I were him, I might feel the same way.” He had chewed his cigar to shreds; he threw it into the snow and reached inside his parka for another. “I’ll talk to the captain later. Is the interphone rigged?”

“Yeah.”

“Call the flight deck, then. Tell ‘em we’re working, and I’ll be up there soon.”

“Right.” As he moved closer to the aircraft, Ingram called to the twenty or so assembled ground crewmen, “Okay, you guys; let’s get digging!”

Joe Patroni seized a shovel himself and, within minutes, the group was shifting mud, earth, and snow.

When he had used the fuselage interphone to speak to the pilots in their cockpit high above, Ingram – with the aid of a mechanic - began groping through icy mud, with cold numbed hands, to lay the first of the timbers in front of the aircraft’s wheels.

Across the airfield occasionally, as the snow gusted and limits of visibility changed, the lights of aircraft taking off and landing could be seen, and the whine-pitched roar of jet engines was carried on the wind to the ears of the men working. But close alongside, runway three zero remained silent and deserted.

## Chapter 11

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why didn't Vernon Demerest allow himself to relax mentally during the flights?
2. What argument did Vernon put forward in favour of his point of view concerning the abortion?
3. Why couldn't Vernon find out anything about his adopted daughter?
4. What were Vernon's plans concerning Gwen after the abortion had been over?
5. What were real reasons for Vernon to part with Gwen?
6. What were Lieutenant Ordway and Mel Bakersfeld speaking about?
7. Who informed Lieutenant Ordway that Meadowood people were on the way to the airport?
8. How did Mel Bakersfeld react to the news about the forthcoming protest meeting?
9. How did airport parking lots turn into dumping grounds?
10. What did Vernon think about when he saw a nervous-looking man in the line to the insurance booth?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.*

1. In the Coffee Shop Vernon ordered tea for him and Gwen.
2. Gwen made up her mind to have an abortion at the end of their talk in the Coffee Shop.
3. Vernon did not want to advertise his relations with Gwen around the family.
4. Mel Bakesfeld asked Ned Ordway not to respond to provocations of Meadowood people, if they were.

5. The airport administration found ex-owners of the abandoned cars by the engine serial numbers.
6. The ban on the sale of insurance policies could result in higher landing fees.

### **III. *Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations***

Быть начеку, перевирать (передергивать) слова, выпутаться из (какой-то ситуации), любовный роман, суть новостного сюжета, мученик, развалюха (старый автомобиль), металлолом и вторсырье, свалка, номерной знак автомобиля, обращать в свою веру, злоупотребление, посадочный сбор

### **IV. *Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. "We scarcely said a word coming into the terminal."
2. "A fetus at this stage is not a human being; nor is it a person, not yet."
3. "Hell! Of all the nights to choose! As if we don't have enough trouble already."
4. "Airlines never seem to learn that when the coffee is in, all you have is a wide-awake drunk."
5. "... we are in great shape for your Meadowood visitors."
6. "There isn't an airport anywhere that could have coped better than we have with this storm."
7. "Okay, you have your opinion, I have mine. I happen to think you've done an incompetent job."
8. "Tomorrow I'll have to waste time explaining how ignorant – in some areas – you really are."

**V. *Who do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... complexion was the milk and the roses kind..."
2. "... was not the kind to make a fuss."
3. "... a tall, striking figure who looked like an African emperor."
4. "... in Trans-American uniform, his bearing confident as usual..."
5. "... a nervous-looking man – spindly and stoop-shouldered, and with a small, sandy mustache."

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "He would probably down a dozen more cups between here and Rome."
2. "They had managed to snare a booth near the rear of the coffee shop..."
3. "I was wondering when you'd get around to it."
4. "I am being womanly."
5. "I'm pretty lucky you're the way you are."
6. "The FAA (Federal Aviation Agency) goes underground when they hear of something like this. They never come out until the all clear's sounded."
7. "Got under your skin a little, eh?"

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

Behind the insurance counters two young girls – one of them the big-breasted blonde – were rapidly writing policies for applicants, while another half dozen people waited in line. Most of those waiting were holding cash in their hands – representing more quick profits for the insurance companies, Demerest reflected dourly – and he had no doubt

the automatic vending machines in various locations in the terminal were just as busy.

He wondered if any of his own Flight Two passengers-to-be were among those in line. He was tempted to inquire and, if so, do some proselytizing of his own, but he decided not. Vernon Demerest had tried the same thing once before – urging people at an insurance counter not to buy airport flight insurance, and telling them why; and afterward there had been complaints, resulting in a sharply worded reprimand to him from Trans-America management. Though airlines did not like airport insurance vending any more than aircrews did, the airlines were subject to differing pressures which forced them to stay neutral. For one thing, airport managements claimed they needed the insurance companies' revenue; if they didn't get it from that source, they pointed out, maybe the airlines would have to make up the difference in higher landing fees. For another, airlines were not eager to offend passengers, who might resent not being able to buy insurance in a way they had become used to. Therefore the pilots alone had taken the initiative – along with the abuse.

**VIII. *Render the content of the conversation between Mel and Vernon.***



## Chapter 12

### I. *Answer the following questions*

1. What groups does the author divide all people who hear an airport departure announcement?
2. Where was Flight Information Control located?
3. What was the content of a typical flight announcement?
4. What is it “the airline agent’s nightmare” and what is its reason?
5. What did Mel regret about after his conversation with Vernon Demerest?
6. What did the desk sergeant report to Ordway?
7. Who was Ada Quonsett speaking of when sitting with Peter Coakley?
8. What was the main idea of Ada Quonsett’ plan?
9. Why did Ada Quonsett decide to get aboard the flight to Rome?
10. How did Mrs. Quonsett convince young Coakly of her feeling bad?
11. What was the problem with the passenger from Kansas City?  
How did Tanya Livingston settle the trouble?
12. What measures could be taken against the fraud with worn –out luggage?
13. Why was Bunnie Vorobioff a remarkable success as a vendor of airport flight insurance?
14. Why did Bunnie react so agreeably to D.O. Guerrero’s request?
15. Where did Guerrero get the information about the cost of for airport-purchase insurance for an overseas flight?
16. What were the ways of payment for the insurance policy?
17. What struck Bunnie most of all in Guerrero’s appearance?
18. What standing instruction did Bunnie’s insurance company employers have?
19. Why didn’t Bunnie report a keyed-up passenger, who evidently Guerrero was?

**II. Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.**

1. Mel seethed when he remembered Vernon who asserted that people like Mel were with penguins' minds.
2. Flight Information Control was located in a separate building on the premises of the airport.
3. Mrs. Quonsett compared Peter Coakley with Prince Albert.
4. Ada Quonsett has never been to Rome.
5. Ada Quonsett's daughter lived in Los Angeles.
6. The ladies' room was empty when Ada Quonsett came in there.
7. How did Ada Quonsett manage to get rid of Coakly and the secretary-type woman."
8. Bunnie Vorobioff came from Hungary.
9. Bunnie paid attention to Guerrero's strange behavior.
10. Bunnie didn't hesitate making a decision not to report the nervous passenger.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

Музыкальный автомат, фиаско, дежурный сержант, скамья с кожаной обивкой, исподтишка, старушенция, страж, причинять неудобство, знать тонкости, колючая проволока, человек, изменивший свои убеждения (неофит), санитар в больнице, подрабатывать официанткой, по данным соображениям, конкурс продавцов, стандартное страхование жизни, аннулировать страховку, оплошность.

**IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "... passengers holding confirmed reservations please proceed to gate forty-seven, the Blue Concourse "D"."

2. “Do you want me to get help? A doctor?”
3. “You’ll wait here for me? You won’t go away?”
4. “Will you be all right until I get back?”
5. “Hey, buddy, we’re waiting too.”
6. “Please ... my flight has been called – the one to Rome. I need insurance.”

**V. *Who do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. “... saw himself as a superior being, and resented it when others didn’t.”
2. “Such a dear person, so very wise, and handsome.”
3. “a harmless garrulous old dame...”
4. “... a youngish secretary-type woman in a beige suit...”
5. “She’s wearing a long mauve coat and a small white hat with yellow flowers.”
6. “... sexy smile, which she had learned to use like an instant warming oven.”
7. “... his hand was shaking so much that he had trouble bringing match and cigarette together.”

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. “Mel honestly believed that most of their quarrel was of Vernon’s making.”
2. “While she talked, Ada Quonsett’s mind was ticking like a fine Swiss watch.?”
3. “downtown check-ins”
4. “There was some muttered grumbling in the line of people waiting.”
5. “To cover up, he lit a cigarette...”

6. “Questions had a way of leading to involvement, and involvement – to other people’s problems – was something to be avoided when one had problems of one’s own.

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

Guerrero had come directly from the bus to the insurance counter, where he was now fifth in line. Two people at the head of the line were being dealt with by a pair of girl clerks who were working with maddening slowness. One of the clerks – a heavy-chested blonde in a low-cut blouse – was having a prolonged conversation with her present customer, a middle-aged woman. The clerk was apparently suggesting that the woman take out a larger policy than had been asked for; the woman was being indecisive. Obviously, it would take at least twenty minutes for Guerrero to reach the head of the line, but by then Flight Two would probably be gone. Yet he had to buy insurance; He had to be aboard.

The p.a. announcement had said that the flight was being boarded at gate forty-seven. Guerrero should be at the gate now. He felt himself trembling. His hands were clammy on the attaché-case handle. He checked his watch again, for the twentieth time, comparing it with the terminal clock. Six minutes had gone by since the announcement of Flight Two. The final call ... the airplane doors closing ... could come at any moment. He would have to do something.

D. O. Guerrero pushed his way roughly to the head of the line. He was passed caring about being noticed. A man protested, “Hey, buddy, we’re waiting too.” Guerrero ignored him. He addressed the big-breasted blonde. “Please ... my flight has been called – the one to Rome. I need insurance. I can’t wait.”

The man who had spoken before interjected, “Then go without. Another time, get here sooner.”

**VIII. *Tell the story of Bunnie Vorobioff relying on the following passage from the text.***

She had come to the United States, not from Hungary as D.O. Guerrero had supposed, but from Glauchau in the southern portion of East Germany, via the Berlin Wall. Bunnie (who was then Gretchen Vorobioff, the homely flat-chested daughter of a minor Communist official and a Young Communist herself) crossed the wall at night with two male companions. The young men were caught by searchlights, shot and killed; their bodies hung for twenty-four hours on barbed wire, in public view. Bunnie avoided the searchlights and small arms fire and survived, survival being a quality, which seemed to come to her naturally.

Later on arrival as a U.S. immigrant at age twenty-one, she had embraced American free enterprise and its goodies with enthusiasm of a religious covert. She worked hard as a hospital aide, in which she had some training, and moonlighted as a waitress. Into the remaining time she somehow crammed a Berlitz course in English, and also managed to get to bed – occasionally to sleep, more often with interns from the hospital. The interns repaid Gretchen's sexual favors by introducing her to silicon breast injections, which started casually and ended by being a joyous group experiment to see how big her breasts would get. Fortunately, before they could become more than gargantuan, she exercised another new - found freedom by quitting her hospital job for one with more money. Somewhere along the way she was taken to Washington, D.C., and toured the White House, the Capitol, and the Playboy Club. After the last, Gretchen further Americanized herself by adopting the name Bunnie.

Now, a year and a half later, Bunnie Vorobioff was totally assimilated. She was in an ARTHUR Murray dancing class, the Blue Cross and Columbia Record Club, had a charge account at Carson Pirie Scott, subscribed to Reader's Digest and TV Guide, was buying the World Book Encyclopedia on time, owed a wig and a Volkswagen, collected trading stamps, and was on pills.

Bunnie also liked contests of all kinds, especially those, which held a hope of tangible reward. Along these lines a reason she enjoyed her present job more than any other she had had so far, was that periodically her insurance company employers held sales contests for its staff with merchandise prizes.

## Chapter 13

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. What was U.S. Customs Inspector Harry Standish going to do at gate forty-seven?
2. How did Customs officers react to the insults from passengers?
3. What did Standish's conversation with Mrs. Mossman finish with?
4. How does an investigative officer check out the statement of a passenger suspected in smuggling?
5. When did Mrs. Mossman's hauteur disappear?
6. Why did Standish have a sense of claustrophobia when travelling tourist?
7. What was Standish's attitude to his niece?
8. How did Ada Quonsett manage to get aboard Flight Two?
9. What attracted Harry Standish's attention to the last passenger of Flight Two?
10. Why didn't Standish stop the man, who seemed suspicious to him?
11. Why did Guerrero want to know the result of his explosion?
12. Where was Ada Quonsett hiding when the stewardess was making the head count?
13. Why did Ada Quonsett choose the middle place in the three-seat section?
14. Why did Harry Standish doubt if he should inform the Rome Customs about the suspected passenger?
15. What example proved that there was little cooperation between Customs departments internationally.
16. Who was the first person whom Standish reported his doubts?
17. Whom did Tanya Livingston find in the DTM office?
18. What instructions did Tanya give Peter Coakley in order to find escaped Ada Quonsetts?

19. What arguments did Demerest make in favour of the urgent take-off?
20. What dilemma did the ramp supervisor face?

**II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.***

1. Standish's sister lived with her family in Washington, D.C.
2. Standish's place of work was at Customs inspection station number eleven.
3. How did Standish get it that Mrs. Mossman's clothes had been bought during her trip in Europe.
4. Customs men were aware that most returning travelers did a little smuggling.
5. Harry Standish had a special passport which gave him the right to move anywhere within the airport.
6. Standish found his niece at the gate.
7. Whom did Standish see at gate forty-seven when he was leaving?
8. A stewardess directed Guerrero to the seat by a window.
9. The gate agent paid attention to the difference of names in Guerrero's ticket and passport.
10. The stewardess on duty at the aircraft doorway refused to take the wallet of Mrs. Quonsett's imaginary son.
11. Mrs. Quonsett tried to be inconspicuous on board the plane.
12. Standish wanted to tell Trans-America Airlines of his doubts and leave a decision to them.
13. Tanya Livingston decided to pass Standish's information about the suspect to the District Transportation Manager (DTM).
14. Tanya accepted the news, that the little old lady had eluded, calmly.
15. Pilots receive clearance to start all engines at a time.

### **III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

Предстоящий отъезд, пройти таможенный досмотр, качество изготовления, высокий штраф, заманить в ловушку, высокомерие, короткий путь, поймать на месте преступления, пристегнуться, запрос (обращение пассажира с вопросом), смотреть украдкой, избежать разоблачения, приятное путешествие, оценить критически, быть запротоколированным, делиться добычей, носильщик в аэропорту, ищейка, получить нагоняй, быть начеку, перехитрить, разрешение на запуск двигателей, техническая (канцелярская) ошибка

### **IV. Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "I suppose you are suggesting I should lie, when I've already told you the truth."
2. "I merely asked you if you wished to amend your statement about these items – the dresses, the sweaters, and the fur coat."
3. "I thought you weren't going to make it."
4. "Excuse ... my son just boarded ... blond hair, no hat, camel-hair coat ... forgot his wallet ... all his money."
5. "Didn't I warn you she had a barrelful of tricks?"
6. "What in hell's the holdup? ... What the devil's happening?"
7. "I've just ordered a ticket recheck, captain. There's one more passenger in the tourist section than there ought to be."

### **V. Who (what) do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. "... a pleasant self-possessed girl of eighteen"
2. "... well-dressed American woman"
3. "... small, demure, and frail ... dressed primly in black in an old-fashioned style...moving with surprising spryness ..."



4. "... her lips moving silently, and looking as if she wished everyone would keep still..."
5. "...with a sallow face and scrawny neck, who looked as if a hearty meal might do him good."
6. "a habitually curious soul"

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "Cutting, stitching – even the way a zipper was put in – were like familiar handwriting, and equally distinctive."
2. "What people never seemed to learn was that there had to be a cut-off point somewhere, after that, cooperation was too late."
3. "It was a giveaway that whatever was inside the case was something they wanted to conceal."
4. "The feel of it was reassuring."
5. "Mrs. Quonsett had left her plans flexible."
6. "The pre-takeoff head count by a stewardess"
7. "Talking first with her opposite number in TWA."
8. "The tourist passenger count won't tally. We've made it twice; we still can't agree with the manifest and tickets."
9. "But if the difference in tallies turned out to be a clerical error – as it might – the DTM would roast him alive."

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

The feeling of confidence, which returned to D.O. Guerrero at the insurance counter, had remained. As he approached gate forty-seven, observing that he was still in time for Flight Two, he had a conviction that most of his difficulties were over; from now on, he assured himself,

everything would work out as he had foreseen. In keeping with this belief, there was no problem at the gate. As he had planned from the beginning, at this point he drew attention to the minor discrepancy between the name “Buerrero” on his ticket and “Guerrero” on his passport. Barely glancing at the passport, the gate agent corrected both the ticket and his passenger list, then apologized, “Sorry, sir; sometimes our reservation machines get careless.” Now, Guerrero noted with satisfaction, his name was recorded properly; later, when Flight Two was reported missing, there would be no doubt about his own identification.

“Have a pleasant flight, sir.” The gate agent returned his ticket folder and motioned toward the tourist section walkway.

As D.O. Guerrero went aboard, still holding his attaché case carefully, the starboard engines were already running.

His numbered seat – by a window in a three-seat section – had been allocated when he checked in downtown. A stewardess directed him to it. Another male passenger, already in the aisle seat, stood up partially as Guerrero squeezed by. The center seat, between them, was unoccupied.

D.O. Guerrero balanced his case cautiously on his knees as he strapped himself in. His seat was midway in the tourist section, on the left side. Elsewhere in the cabin, other passengers were still settling down, arranging hand baggage and clothing; a few people were blocking the center aisle. One of the stewardesses, her lips moving silently, and looking as if she wished everyone would keep still, was making a count of heads.

Relaxing for the first time since leaving the South Side apartment, D.O. Guerrero leaned back in his seat and closed his eyes. His hands, steadier than at any other time this evening, were firmly on the attaché case. Without opening his eyes, his fingers groped under the handle and located the all-important loop of string. The feel of it was reassuring. He would sit precisely like this, he decided, when in approximately four hours from now he would pull the string, releasing the electrical current, which would fire the massive charge of dynamite within the case. When the moment came, he wondered, how much would he have time to know? In answer, he reasoned: there would be an instant ... one fleeting particle of a second only ... when he would savor triumphantly, the knowledge of success.

Then, mercifully, no more...

Now that he was aboard and ready, he wished the flight would go. But when he opened his eyes, the same stewardess was still counting.

### ***VIII. Retell the following passage from the text.***

There were two stewardesses, at the moment, in the tourist cabin. The little old lady from San Diego, Mrs. Ada Quonsett, had been observing them both, intermittently, peering through the slightly opened door of a toilet where she was hiding.

The pre-takeoff head count by a stewardess, now being made, was something which Mrs. Quonsett knew about; she was also aware that this was the moment when anyone who was aboard illegally was closest to exposure. But if a stowaway could survive the count, chances were that she (or he) would not be detected until much later, if at all.

Fortunately, the stewardess now making the head count was not the one whom Mrs. Quonsett encountered when she came aboard.

Mrs. Quonsett had had a few anxious moments outside while she cautiously watched the red-headed passenger agent bitch, whom she had been distressed to find on duty at gate forty-seven. Fortunately, the woman had left just before the flight finished loading, and getting past the male gate agent proved easy.

After that, Mrs. Quonsett repeated her story about the wallet to the stewardess on duty at the aircraft doorway. The stewardess, who was trying to cope with queries from several other people milling in the entranceway, declined to accept the wallet when she learned there was “a lot of money in it” – a reaction Mrs. Quonsett had counted on. Also as expected, the little old lady was told she could take the wallet to her son herself, if she was quick.

The tall blonde man, who, all unknowingly, had been a “son” to Mrs. Quonsett, was getting into a seat near the front of the cabin. Mrs. Quonsett moved in his direction, but only briefly. She was watching covertly, waiting

for the attention of the stewardess near the door to be diverted. Almost at once it was.

Mrs. Quonsett had left her plans flexible. There was a seat close by, which she could have occupied; however a sudden movement by several passengers at once left a clear path to one of the aircraft toilets. A movement or two later, through the partially opened toilet door, she saw the original stewardess go forward out of sight and another stewardess begin the head count, starting at the front.

When the second stewardess – still counting – neared the back of the airplane, Mrs. Quonsett emerged from the toilet and walked quickly past with a muttered, “Excuse me”. She heard the stewardess cluck her tongue impatiently. Mrs. Quonsett sensed that she had now been included in the count – but that was all.

A few rows forward, on the left side, there was an unoccupied seat in the middle of a section of three. In her experience as an aerial stowaway, the little old lady from San Diego had learned to seek such seats because most passengers disliked them; therefore they were the last to be chosen from seat selection boards and, where an airplane was less than full, were usually left empty.

Once in the seat, Mrs. Quonsett kept her head down trying to be as inconspicuous as possible. She had no illusion that she could avoid discovery indefinitely. At Rome there would be Immigration and Customs formalities, making it impossible for her to walk away unimpeded, as she was accustomed to doing after her illegal flights to New York; but, with luck, she would have the thrill of reaching Italy, plus an agreeable journey back. Meanwhile, on this flight, there would be a good meal, a movie, and, later, perhaps a pleasant conversation with her two seat companions.

## PART THREE

### Chapter 1

#### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why did Gwen Meighen experience a sense of relief when the aircraft began moving?
2. What was Gwen engaged in while the other four stewardesses busied themselves with housekeeping chores?
3. What announcements did Gwen consider more essential than the official welcome?
4. What were Gwen's duties during the flight?
5. What was Gwen thinking of at the time when the airplane did not move and was about to take off?
6. Why was it necessary for the pilots to obey controller's orders implicitly?
7. How did Demerest evaluate Harris's work?
8. Why was Keith glad to see his brother in a radar watch?
9. Who inculcated in both Bakersfeld brothers love for aviation?
10. What advice did Mel give to his brother?
11. Why did Keith regret about his frankness?
12. Why didn't Ned Ordway take Inez Guerrero to the police station? Where did she put her?
13. What troubled Mel deeply?
14. How was it discovered that Ada Quonsett was on board Flight Two?
15. What instructions did the District Transportation Manager give to his subordinates as far the stowaway was concerned? What was his reaction to Tanya's information about the man with the attaché-case?

**II. Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements.**

1. The company instructed that a senior stewardess should welcome the passengers at the beginning of the flight.
2. The reduction in power did not involve risk to aircraft safety and human life.
3. Before taking off Gwen made the announcement about power reduction.
4. Keith had close rapport with his brother-in-law.
5. Keith's appearance had deteriorated over recent months.
6. Bakersfeld brothers' father died of illness when the boys were in their teens.
7. It was a relief for Keith to confess to his brother.
8. Mel was glad to leave Keith when the tower watch chief had interrupted their conversation.
9. The Golden Argosy was planning to make a non-schedule for fuel at Newfoundland.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

Дух товарищества, мелочи жизни (на земле), снижение уровня шума, сбросить газ, пройти на цыпочках, наплевать, штатный сотрудник, обрекать на смерть, бортовой журнал/запись в журнале, встретиться лицом к лицу, летать только по приборам, протянуть руку (помощи), исповедальня, катарсис (очищение), изгнание греха, признание, раскаяние, искупление, слоняться без дела, искра надежды, с запозданием (запоздало), первоклассный специалист по устранению последствий аварий, с недоверием, неуловимый, битва умов, грузчик

#### **IV. *Who of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. "So hang on tight, folks! Good luck to us all, and please start praying."
2. "I plan to ignore noise abatement procedures tonight."
3. "Trans-America Two, cleared for takeoff. Go, man, go!"
4. "Can we talk – about whatever the trouble is? We've always been honest with each other."
5. "Leave it alone, Mel. Please!"
6. "The Meadowood people are starting to come in, but they haven't been a problem and they haven't asked for you yet."
7. "The old lady said something about her son. I think it was, leaving his wallet. She even showed it to me. It had money in it, she said, which was why I didn't take it."
8. "She'd already figured that. It's one of her regular gags."
9. "She fooled you. ... She sure fooled me."

#### **V. *Whom do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "Energetically alive ... his feelings - the abrasive manner, his conceit – were masculine and interesting."
2. "... the gaunt, strained face with deep hollows beneath the eyes."
3. "... stick and goggles aviator, stunt flier, crop duster, night mail carrier. And parachute jumper."
4. "... possessed the sound sense and stability... considerate and thoughtful, even in small ways"
5. "... was crying, and apparently wandering aimlessly in the main terminal."
6. "... a hard-working, hard-driving executive in his late forties, who had come up the hard way, beginning as a ramp baggage handler."

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. “An airline in a terminal was like a dependent relative, subject to the whims and succor of its family.”
2. “Later, there might be trouble about that log entry, but it was the kind of trouble Demerest enjoyed and would meet head on.”
3. “Trans-America on the roll.”
4. “Demerest noted, for his report later, that at no point during takeoff could he have faulted Anson Harris’s performance in the slightest degree.”
5. “Take five, buddy-boy. ... I’ll spell you. Your big brother dropped in.”
6. “... Wild Blue had inculcated in both boys an acceptance of aviation as their way of life, which persisted into adulthood.
7. “He reasoned: if he could finally learn what bedeviled Keith, between them they might come to grips with it.”
8. “It was also a reminder to Mel, perhaps unintended, that as airport general manager his writ did not run here.”
9. “Is there a fueling stop?”

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in English).***

“Won’t you tell me? You have to tell someone; sooner or later you have to.” Mel’s voice was pleading, urgent. “You can’t live with this thing – whatever it is - inside you forever. Who better to tell than me? I’d understand.”

It seemed to Keith that his brother’s voice, even the sight of Mel, was coming to him through a tunnel, from the distant end, far away. At the farther end of the tunnel. Too, were all the other people – Natalie, Brien, Theo, Perry Yount, Keith’s friends – with whom he had lost communication long since. Now, of them all, was alone was reaching out, striving to bridge the gap



between them ... but the tunnel was long, their apartness – after all the length of time that Keith had been alone – too great.

And yet ...

As if someone else were speaking, Keith asked, “You mean tell you here? Now?”

Mel urged, “Why not?”

Why not indeed? Something within Keith stirred; a sense of wanting to unburden, even though in the end it could change nothing ... Or could it? Wasn't that what the Confessional was all about; a catharsis, an exorcism of sin through acknowledgment and contrition? The difference, of course, was that the Confessional gave forgiveness and expiation, and for Keith there could be no expiation – ever. At least ... he hadn't thought so. Now he wondered what Mel might say.

Somewhere in Keith's mind a door, which had been closed, inched open.

“I suppose there's no reason,” he said slowly, “why I shouldn't tell you. It won't take long.”

Mel remained silent. Instinct told him that if wrong words were spoken they could shatter Keith's mood, could cut off the confidence, which seemed about to be given, which Mel had waited so long and anxiously to hear. He reasoned: if he could finally learn what bedeviled Keith, between them they might come to grips with it. Judging by his brother's appearance tonight, it had better be soon.

“You've read the testimony,” Keith said. His voice was a monotone. “You just said so. You know most of what happened that day.”

Mel nodded.

“What you don't know, or anybody knows except me; what didn't come out at the inquiry, what I've thought about over and over ...” Keith hesitated; it seemed as if he might not continue.

### ***VIII. Give the content of the conversation between Mel and Keith?***

## Chapter 2

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why did Derek Eden choose that smallish hotel for his assignation with Cindy?
2. Did Cindy fall in love with Dereck Eden? Are love and passion the same thing?
3. What were the main Lionel's advantages (for Cindy) as a competitor to Mel?
4. What did Cindy blame Mell in when she arrived at the airport?
5. How did Mell behave during his talk to Cindy?
6. What was the difference in Mell's and Cindy's attitude to the relations between a wife and a husband?
7. Who was the first to make a divorce proposal?
8. What was the reason for Ned Ordway to come to Mell's office?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements*

1. Derek Eden was the owner of a luxury car.
2. Cindy would be proud of being seen publicly in Derek's company.
3. Cindy arrived at the airport with the firm decision to divorce her husband.
4. Cindy realized that her marriage to Mell had terminated.
5. Mell agreed to a divorce without hesitation.
6. When the decision about the divorce had been made, Cindy was close to tears.

### III. *Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations*

По пути (по дороге), домогаться кого-то, упоминать вскользь (мельком), отдалиться друг от друга (стать чужими друг другу), несбыточные надежды, система громкой связи, уставиться в пустоту, огрызаться на кого-то, отвертеться (увильнуть), распадающийся брак, сделать шаг вперед, взять на себя обязательства, войти гуськом (друг за другом), газетная сенсация, беспредметная болтовня

**IV. *Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. "We're getting close to the airport. Won't be long."
2. "Even when I do come, you insist on dragging me to some stupid stuffed-shirt affair like tonight's"
3. "If only you'd change! If you'd see things my way. It's always been what you want to do, or don't. If you'd only do what I want ..."
4. "... I've talked them into sending a delegation..."
5. "But I'll tell you we're not here to get cozy. We've some plan ..."

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... with the dissolute face, the casual air, the nondescript unpressed clothes..."
2. "... old fashioned, spartan, and with cigarette burns on the furniture, but clean."
3. "... a middle-aged woman, in drab clothes..."
4. "... positively glamorous, with a kind of radiance about her."
5. "... an alert, youngish man..."
6. "... expensively well-dressed, with precisely combed, gray-streaked hair..."

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. “Not only would he do nothing to advance them (Cindy’s social ambitions); he impeded them.”
2. “Cindy could feel the short fuse of her temper burning.”
3. “Lotsa traffic going out there besides us.”
4. “... squabbling like ill-bread children; dealing in pettiness;”
5. “He wondered if it was always this way when things were sour with two people who had lived together for a long time.”
6. “The adapting doesn’t have to be one-sided.”
7. “But maybe you have a point about my counting on something turning up, enough to keep me away from the social thing...”

**VII. *Read the following fragments from the chapter and give their content in your own words (in writing).***

**1.**

At the main terminal entrance Cindy paid off the cab and hurried inside to avoid wet snow which gusted under canopies and swirled along sidewalks. She threaded the crowds in the main concourse, moving around one sizable group, which seemed to intend some kind of demonstration because several people were helping assemble a portable public address system. A Negro police lieutenant, whom Cindy had met several times with Mel, was talking to two or three men from the group who appeared to be leaders. The policeman was shaking his head vigorously. Not really, curious – nothing about this place really interested her – Cindy moved on, heading for the airport administrative offices on the mezzanine.

Lights were on in all the offices, though most were unoccupied and there was none of the clatter of typewriters or hum of conversation, as during daytime working hours. At least some people, Cindy thought, had sense enough to go home at night.

The only person in sight was a middle-aged woman, in drab clothes in the anteroom to Mel's office. She was sitting on the settee, from where she seemed to be looking vacantly into space, and took no notice as Cindy came in. The woman's eyes were red as if she had been crying. Judging by her clothes and shoes, which were sodden, she had been outside in the storm.

Cindy gave the other woman only a mildly curious glance before going into Mel's office. The office was empty, and Cindy sat down in a chair to wait. After a few moments, she closed her eyes and resumed her pleasant thoughts about Derek Eden.

Mel hurried in – he was limping more than usual, Cindy noticed – about ten minutes later.

## 2.

What happened to them, Mel wondered, that they had come to this? – squabbling like ill-bread children; dealing in pettiness; exchanging vicious gibes; and in all of it, he himself no better than Cindy. Something happened when they quarreled which demeaned them both. He wondered if it was always this way when things were sour with two people who had lived together for a long time. Was it because they knew, and therefore could probe painfully, each other's weaknesses? He had once heard someone say that a disintegrating marriage brought out the worst in both partners. In his own and Cindy's case it was certainly true.

### ***VIII. Give the content of the conversation between Mel and Cindy?***

## Chapter 3

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. How did Selcal radio system differ from the ordinary ones?
2. What message did the pilots of Trans-America Two receive?
3. What order did Demerest give to Gwen?
4. Why did Demerest reject Gwen's proposal to check Ada Quonsett's ticket counterfoil?
5. What for did both pilots have one earpiece of their radio headsets?
6. What promise did Harris make his wife after their marriage?
7. Why did most alert pilots listen to other aircraft transmissions?
8. Why did Demerest start speaking with Harris about abortion?
9. What was Harris's point of view on the problem of abortions?
10. What were Demerest's arguments in favour of abortions?
11. What was the altitude of Flight Two?
12. What did Ada Quonsett find silly and childish in Guerrero's behavior soon after takeoff.
13. What systems replaced a navigator on the flight deck?
14. Why was it so important for Guerrero to estimate precisely the air route of Flight Two?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements*

1. The pilots received the message from Tanya Livingston with the description of the stowaway.
2. The pilots were angry with the fact of having a stowaway on board the plane.
3. Harris's wife used to be a stewardess.
4. Harris believed in god.
5. Demerest's and Harris's opinions about the abortion differed.

6. Pilots were served food after first class passengers.
7. Harris made Demerest change his mind of the abortions.
8. Guerrero paid for his Scotch with a \$10 bill.
9. It was *Chart Your Own Position* map, which helped Guerrero to make accurate calculations of their plane air route.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

Болван, корешок билета, играть по правилам, ход мыслей, смертная казнь, зародыш, зачатие, доношенный ребенок, безумные идеи, кровосмешение, умственно отсталый, односложный ответ, рюмка виски

**IV. Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "I've hardly been back in tourist yet."
2. "But if the old girl's made it this far, and since we are not turning back, why make her next eight hours miserable?"
3. "We abolished slavery because we respected individual human life."
4. "Let's get some hors d'oeuvres before the first class passengers wolf them all."
5. "... at the moment when his section of the orchestra was going "pom-tiddey-pom-pom", the cellos were sounding "ah-diddley-ah-dah."
6. "My late husband would have so enjoyed meeting you, though of course you are very much younger."

**V. Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. "... some ancient old duck..."

2. “But it was uncharacteristic of him to be doing so much thinking about something...”
3. “... amiable, middle aged ...”
4. “... the man with the little sandy mustache and scrawny neck... barely audible, mostly expressionless”
5. “an attractive brunette who spoke with an English accent”

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. “She shouldn’t be hard to spot.”
2. “And she looks like something out of Dickens.”
3. “I didn’t think you were much of a one for the old ladies.”
4. “I’ll take your word for it.”
5. “... people who think like you are on the losing side.”
6. “Mrs. Quonsett’s several attempts at conversation had been rebuffed by monosyllabic answers.”
7. “However, had there been an old-time air navigator aboard Flight Two, his charted position of the aircraft would have been remarkably similar to that which D.O. Guerrero had achieved by rough-and-ready reckoning.”

**VII. *Translate the following fragments from the chapter.***

“Well, if you go through it all – history, that is, – one thing stands out. Every bit of human progress has happened for a single, simple reason: the elevation of the status of the individual. Each time civilization has stumbled into another age that’s a little better, a bit more enlightened, than the one before it, it’s because people cared more about other people and respected them as individuals. When they haven’t cared, those have been the times of slipping backward. Even a short world history – if you read one – will prove it’s true.”



“I’ll take your word for it.”

“You don’t have to. There are plenty of examples. We abolished slavery because we respected individual human life. For the same reason we stopped hanging children, and around the same time we invented *habeas corpus*, and now we’ve created justice for all, or the closest we can come to it. More recently, most people who think and reason are against capital punishment, not so much because of those to be executed, but for what taking a human life – does to society, which is all of us.”

.....

Demerest ... protested to Anson Harris, ‘Capital punishment is a long way from abortion.’”

“Not really,” Harris said. “Not when you think about it. It all relates to respect for individual human life; to the way civilizations come, the way it’s going. The strange thing is, you hear people argue for abolition of capital punishment, then for legalized abortion in the same breath. What they don’t see is the anomaly of raising the value of human life on one hand, and lowering on the other.”

.....

As to what we are born into, that’s a chance we all take without knowing it; but once we have life, good or bad, we’re entitled to keep it, and not many, however bad it is, would give it up. The answer to poverty isn’t to kill unborn babies, but to improve society.” .... “As to economics, there are economic arguments for everything. It makes economic logic to kill mental deficient and mongoloids right after birth; to practice euthanasia on the terminally ill; to weed out old and useful people, the way they do in Africa, by leaving them in the jungle for hyenas to eat. But we don’t do it because we value human life and dignity.”

**VIII. Retell the following passage from the text.**

The shot of whisky had relaxed him. Although most of his earlier tension had disappeared on coming abroad, it had built up again soon after takeoff, particularly when the irritating old cat in the next seat had tried to start a

conversation. D.O. Guerrero wanted no conversation, either now or later; in fact, no communication with anyone else in his life. All that he wanted was to sit and dream – of three hundred thousand dollars, a larger sum than he had ever possessed at one time before, and which would be coming to Inez and the two children, he presumed, in a matter of days.

Right now he could have used another whisky, but had no money left to pay for it. After his unexpectedly large insurance purchase, there had been barely enough small change for the single drink; so he would have to do without.

As he had earlier, he closed his eyes. This time he was thinking of the effect on Inez and the children when they heard about the money. They ought to care about him for what he was doing, even though they wouldn't know the whole of it – that he was sacrificing himself, giving his own life for them. But, perhaps they might guess a little. If they did, he hoped they would be appreciative, although he wondered about that, knowing from experience that people could be surprisingly perverse in reactions to what was done on their behalf.

The strange thing was: in all his thoughts about Inez and the children, he couldn't quite visualize their faces. It seemed almost as though he were thinking about people he had never really known. He compromised by conjuring up visions of dollar signs, followed by threes and endless zeros. After a while he must have dropped off to sleep because, when he opened his eyes a quick glance at his watch showed that it was twenty minutes later, and a stewardess was leaning over from the aisle. The stewardess – an attractive brunette who spoke with an English accent – was asking, “Are you ready for dinner, sir? If so, perhaps you'd like me to take your case.”

## Chapter 4

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why was Freemantle so rude with Mel?
2. What measures did the airport administration take to solve the problem of noise?
3. Why did Mel decide to cut the meeting with Meadowood people short?
4. Why did Freemantle interrupt Floyd Zanetta?
5. What technique did Freemantle often use in his practice? What was his aim?
6. How did Mel manage to seize the initiative in his conversation with Freemantle?
7. What was the main idea of Mel's speech in front of the Meadowood residents?
8. What perspectives of the airport development did Mel see?
9. Why did Tomlinson want to speak to Mel Bakersfeld?
10. Why didn't Mel want his opinion of the legal retainer forms to be quoted in press?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements*

1. Mel parried Freemantle's unpleasant remarks sharply.
2. It was the first meeting of the airport administration with local residents.
3. By arranging the meeting at the airport, Freemantle wanted to gain publicly.
4. Mel saw the balding man with a heavy jowl for the first time.
5. Freemantle needed Zanetta's support in his conversation with Mel.
6. Cindy showed great interest in the discussion.
7. Mel offered Meadowood residents to get used to noise.

8. Mel was eager to be involved in the meeting with Meadowood people.

### **III. *Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations***

Противный (несносный), содействовать чему-либо, бессердечный, влечь за собой (последствия), откровенный разговор, наверстать (напр., упущенное), разглагольствование, дойти до сознания, подстрекать кого-то, «клянуть» на уловку, стойкий защитник, повестка дня, предварительный гонорар, целесообразность, осмотрительно, пустые отговорки, пронизательный, окрестность, полумера, глушитель, громадина, душевный покой, сумасшедший дом, театральность (в поведении), доверчивый.

### **IV. *Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. "Then your best, sir, is a miserable, weak effort!"
2. "... But if you've living directly underneath, knowing why airplanes are coming over doesn't make anyone feel better, storm or not."
3. "Are you seriously suggesting that as an alternative to what's happened tonight, the airport should close down?"
4. "Well, never mind, ... he had been successful just the same."
5. "It was a pity, that the remainder of the crowd from Meadowood, who were waiting downstairs, could not have heard him up here, dishing out the rough stuff – on their behalf – to Bakersfeld."
6. "I would remind you that the courts have upheld the rights of airports to operate, despite adjoining communities, as a matter of public convenience and necessity."
7. "I'm merely saying candidly – the way you asked me to – that I haven't any simple answers; nor will I make you promises that the airport cannot keep."

8. “You were magnificent, Mr. Freemantle. I’m going to tell everyone so.”
9. “I got the impression you weren’t too smitten with Freemantle.”

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. “... a heavy-jowled, balding man”
2. “... this kind of condition is bound to recur from time to time”
3. “...has quite a personality; hypnotic ... had ‘em spellbound, like he was Billy Graham.”

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. “to sharpen to downright loathing”
2. “... no one around here really gives a damn”
3. “The other members of the delegation, including Floyd Zanetta, gave approving nods.”
4. ‘It was disappointing that the airport general manager hadn’t blown a fuse, as Freemantle had been carefully goading him to do.’”
5. “... people who lost their tempers invariable came off worse in press reports”
6. “Of course, Freemantle realized, this whole proceeding was just an exercise in semantics.”
7. “... Elliott Freemantle’s policies were apt to back and fill as expediency demanded.”
8. “But he admitted to himself that he had been lulled by Bakersfeld’s earlier mild manner so that the sharp counterattack caught him unawares.”

9. “To go jump in the lunatic asylum now rather than wait until you and your behemoths drive them there?”
10. “It’s par for the course.”
11. “I’ll put it in, but don’t be surprised if the city desk kills it.”
12. “... ambulance chasing lawyers”
13. “As a result, a spate of legal actions – costly and time-consuming – was being launched, most of which were foredoomed to fail, and from which only the lawyers involved would emerge as beneficiaries.”
14. “I hear Freemantle’s bunch are cooking up something down below.”

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

While waiting for his last words to sink home, Elliott Freemantle deliberated. He supposed he had gone almost far enough. It was disappointing that the airport general manager hadn’t blown a fuse, as Freemantle had been carefully goading him to do. The technique was one which he had used before, frequently with success, and it was a good technique because people who lost their tempers invariably came off worse in press reports, which was what Freemantle was mainly concerned about. But Bakersfeld, though clearly annoyed, had been too small to fall for that ploy. Well, never mind, Elliott Freemantle thought; he had been successful just the same. He, too, had seen the reporters industriously getting his words down – words which (with the sneer and hectoring tone removed) would read well in print; even better, he believed, than his earlier speech at the Meadowood meeting.

Of course, Freemantle realized, his whole proceeding was just an exercise in semantics. Nothing would come of it. Even if the airport manager, Bakersfeld, could be persuaded to their point of view – a highly unlikely happening – there was little or nothing he could do about it. The airport was a fact of life and nothing could alter the reality of it being where and how it was. No, the value of being here at all night was partly in gaining public

attention, but principally (from Lawyer Freemantle's viewpoint) to convince the Meadowood populace that they had a stalwart champion, so that those legal retainer forms (as well as checks) would keep on flowing into the offices of Freemantle and Sye.

It was a pity, Freemantle thought, that the remainder of the crowd from Meadowood, who were waiting downstairs, could not have heard him up here, dishing out the rough stuff – on their behalf – to Bakersfeld. But they would read about it in tomorrow's papers; also, Elliott Freemantle was not at all convinced that what was happening here and now would be the last Meadowood item on tonight's airport agenda. He had always promised the TV crews, who were waiting down below because they couldn't make it in here with their equipment, a statement when this present session was over. He had hopes that by now – because he had suggested it – the TV cameras would be set up in the main terminal concourse, and even though that Negro police lieutenant had forbidden any demonstration there, Freemantle had an idea that the TV session, astutely managed, might well develop into one.

Elliott Freemantle's statement of a moment ago had concerned legal action – the action which, he had assured Meadowood residents earlier this evening, would be his principal activity on their behalf. "My business is law," he had told them. "Law and nothing else." It was not true, of course; but then, Elliott Freemantle's policies were apt to back and fill as expediencies demanded.

### ***VIII. Retell Mel's speech in front of the Meadowood delegation.***

## Chapter 5

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. What was Cindy thinking about most of the time that the Meadowood delegation had been in the office?
2. What did Tanya Livingston come to Mel's office for?
3. What can you say about Cindy's behavior in Mel's office after Tanya's arrival?
4. What investigation concerning the passenger with the attaché-case did Tanya make?
5. What was Mel's first reaction to Tanya's idea about the bomb in the attaché-case?
6. Why was Mel in strong doubts whether to take drastic actions involved by a bomb scare?
7. Why do you think Mel decided to dial the insurance vending booth?
8. What was the function of the lieutenant's beeper box?
9. On what occasions had Mel used the override switch before the night being described?
10. What did Tanya announce through Mel's mike?
11. Who was called by the name Mr. Lester Mainwaring?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements*

1. Both Mel and Cindy had many doubts about their divorce.
2. Cindy told Mel about her intention to get married to Lionel Urguhart.
3. Tanya was embarrassed when she saw Cindy in Mel's office.
4. Mel supposed that the man suspected of smuggling should be the problem of Rome Customs.
5. Inspector Standish came to the conclusion that the man with the attaché-case case was carrying a bomb.



6. Mel had the authority to receive the information about the travelers who had taken out insurance policies at the airport.
7. Mel's p.a. microphone overrode all others in the terminal.
8. Some facts told Mel that something serious had happened.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

подчинять; глаза скользнули по; сверхъестественно; быть взбудораженным (сильно взволнованным), сказать твердо; предчувствие; навскидку (без подготовки, без раздумий), смелое предположение, шуршание бумаг; замызганный; громко выкликать фамилию, устройство, подающее звуковой сигнал; постоянная штатная должность; обезумевшие родители; невозмутимый голос

**IV. Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "Oh, hell! Why are we fighting again?"
2. "I'm curious about one thing. How you were so sure who I am."
3. "I told you I'm not sure, and may be this is all silly. But I kept thinking about it, so I started checking."
4. "All right, Mr. Bakersfeld; if you say it's okay. But it will take a few minutes to get the policies together."
5. "I already have. When did you last see her?"
6. "We'll start by getting everybody here."
7. "My God! ... Oh dear God ... no!"

**V. Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. "... stiff in Trans-America uniform"
2. "irritable but firm instruction"
3. "extremely nervous"

4. “ridiculous and remote”
5. “ ... middle-aged, shabby dressed; ... looked wet and drizzle-tailed”

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. “It’s probably time we were disturbed.”
2. Momentarily, Tanya had lost her usual poise. Recovering it, she gave a small smile.”
3. “Tanya returned the inspection levelly.”
4. “I’m all agog about your friend’s problem ... that is, if there is one.”
5. “If that proved true after a fuss had been created, whoever began the fuss would have made a fool of himself.”
6. “If I have to, I’ll call your district manager and get authority. ... I’d like you to take my word that this is important.”
7. “Mel was going to try talking to her himself, but hadn’t gotten around to it.”
8. “There are still a million people down below, but you’d never pick anyone out. Should we page?”
9. “Mel thought, not much was getting through to the Guerrero woman, so it was unlikely that a p.a. announcement would do so now.”
10. “Undoubtedly he would brief his men about Inez Guerrero as they reported to the main entrance.”

**VII. *Read the following fragments from the chapter and give their content in your own words (in writing).***

**1.**

Mel was aware of Cindy appraising Tanya Livingston. He had not the slightest doubt that his wife was already forming some conclusion about Tanya and himself; Mel had long ago learned that Cindy’s instincts about men-women relationships were uncannily accurate. Besides, he was sure

that his own introduction of Tanya had betrayed something. Husbands and wives were too familiar with each other's nuances of speech for that not to happen. It would not even surprise him if Cindy guessed about his own and Tanya's rendezvous for later tonight, though perhaps, he reflected, that was carrying imagination too far.

Well, whatever Cindy knew or guessed, he supposed it didn't really matter. After all, she was the one who had asked for a divorce, so why should she object to someone else in Mel's life, however much or little Tanya meant, and he wasn't sure of that himself? But then, Mel reminded himself, that was a logical way of thinking. Women, including Cindy, and probably Tanya – were seldom logical.

2.

Mel's mind was speculating, assessing possibilities. To him, also, the idea, which Tanya had just raised, seemed ridiculous and remote. Yet ... in the past, occasionally, such things had happened. The question was: how could you decide if this was another time? The more he thought about it, the more he realized that the entire episode of the man with the attaché-case could so easily be innocent; in fact, probably was. If that proved true after a fuss had been created, whoever began the fuss would have made a fool of himself. It was human not to want to do that; yet, with the safety of an airplane and passengers involved, did making a fool of oneself matter? Obviously, not. On the other hand, there ought to be a stronger reason for the drastic actions, which a bomb scare would involve than merely a possibility, plus a hunch. Was there, Mel wondered, some way conceivably in which a stronger hint, even corroboration, might be found?

Offhand, he couldn't think of one.

But there was something he could check. It was a long shot, but all, that was needed was a phone call. He supposed that seeing Vernon Demerest tonight, with the reminder of the clash before the Board of Airport Commissioners, had made him think of it.

***VIII. Speak on the measures taken by Mel after having thought over the news about the man with the attaché-case***

## Chapter 6

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why was Patroni grateful that he worked in the maintenance bailiwick?
2. What was the objective of maintenance sessions?
3. What were the benefits of the common freemasonry of airline mechanics?
4. Why was there a delay in freeing the stuck plane?
5. What was Patroni's plan of getting the airliner out of mud and slush?
6. What was Patroni's physical state?
7. What was Ingram's position?
8. What arguments did the Aéreo-Mexican captain give when rejecting Patroni's request?
9. What instructions did Patroni give to Aéreo-Mexican pilots before leaving the cockpit?
10. Why did Patroni's plan fail?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements*

1. Joe Patroni participated in the maintenance sessions twice a week.
2. As far as the urgent matters are concerned, there was no delay in exchanging the information.
3. Sales and administration departments of competing airlines were in very close contacts.
4. Patroni had a small crew of Aéreo-Mexican at his disposal.
5. The last step in realizing Patroni's plan depended on the pilots of the Aéreo-Mexican.
6. Patrori sent Ingram to speak to the Aéreo-Mexican pilots about their participation in implementing the plan of getting the plane out of mud.

7. The Aéreo-Mexican captain was eager to give his seat to Patroni.
8. The Aéreo-Mexican foreman, Ingram, had tried to realize Patroni's idea earlier.
9. Aéreo-Mexican pilots were waiting for the moment Patroni would move the plane in one of the buses.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

сфера технического обслуживания, дирекция (администрация), капризные дети, компании регулярных авиаперевозок, однозначно (безусловно), отчитаться за, опростоволоситься, закадычный друг (кореш), осмотр (особенно визуальный), обстановка взаимопомощи, застрявший самолет, внести лепту, орудовать лопатой, рубашка с рукавами, капитан первого ранга, затруднительное положение, целиком и полностью, идти на попятную (струсить), уязвимый

**IV. Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "If you lean on that shovel any more, Jack, you'll freeze solid like Lot's wife."
2. "We have our job to do. You have yours."
3. "Nothing but a sky hook'll help her now"
4. "If I don't blast her out, maybe I'll blow her apart."

**V. Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. "inflatable rubber people"
2. "bathed by floodlights, creating a white oasis of snow-reflected light in the surrounding darkness"

3. "... snug and quiet. One of the communications radios was tuned to soft music of a commercial station."
4. "chunky ... like a bull-terrier..."
5. "... a heavy-set, swarthy man who resembled Antony Quinn ..."

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "Airline sales forces ... comprised ... people who connived against each other like fretful children."
2. "... the maintenance men were tough cookies"
3. "Rarely was any intelligence withheld."
4. "Inactivity came hard to him."
5. "I'll yak with the fly boys."
6. "He raged inwardly"
7. "There's a lotta half-frozen guys outside who've been bustling their guts"
8. "Suit yourself"
9. "All it needs is the guts to pull full power."
10. "We'll take it over."

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

There were times – tonight was one – when Joe Patroni was grateful that he worked in the maintenance bailiwick of aviation, and not in sales.

The thought occurred to him as he surveyed the busy activity of digging beneath, and around the mired Aéreo-Mexican jet, which continued to block runway three zero.

As Patroni saw it, airline sales forces – in which category he lumped all front office staff and executives – comprised inflatable rubber people who connived against each other like fretful children. On the other hand, Patroni

was convinced that those in engineering and maintenance departments behaved like mature adults. Maintenance men (Joe was apt to argue), even when employed by competing airlines, worked closely and harmoniously, sharing their information, experience, and even secrets for the common good.

As Joe Patroni sometimes confided privately to his friends, an example of this unofficial sharing was the pooling of information, which came to maintenance men regularly through conferences held by individual airlines.

Patroni's employers, like most major scheduled airlines, had daily telephone conferences – known as “briefings” – during which all regional headquarters, bases, and outfield stations were connected through a continent-wide closed – circuit hookup. Directed by a head office vice-president, the briefings were, in fact, critiques and information exchanges on the way the airline had operated during the past twenty-four hours. Senior people throughout the company's system talked freely and frankly with one another. Operations and sales departments each had their own daily briefing; so did maintenance – the latter, in Patroni's opinion, by far the most important.

During the maintenance sessions, in which Joe Patroni took part five days a week, stations reported one by one. Where delays in service – for mechanical reasons – had occurred the previous day, those in charge were required to account for them. Nobody bothered making excuses. As Patroni put it: “If you goofed it, you say so.” Accidents or failures of equipment, even minor, were reported; the objective, to pool knowledge and prevent recurrence. At next Monday's session, Patroni would report tonight's experience with the Aéreo-Mexican 707, and his success or failure, however it turned out. The daily discussions were strictly no-nonsense, largely because the maintenance men were tough cookies who knew they couldn't fool one another.

After each official conference – and usually unknown to senior managements – unofficial ones began. Patroni and others would exchange telephone calls with cronies in maintenance departments of competing airlines. They would compare notes about one another's daily conferences,

passing on what information seemed worthwhile. Rarely was any intelligence withheld.

With more urgent matters – especially those affecting safety – word was passed from airline to airline in the same way, but without the day’s delay. If Delta, for example, had a rotor blade failure on a DC-9 in flight, maintenance departments of Eastern, TWA, Continental and others using DC-9s, were told within hours; the information might help prevent similar failures on other aircraft. Later, photographs of the disassembled engine, and a technical report would follow. If they wished, foremen and mechanics from other airlines could widen their knowledge by dropping over for a look-see at the failed part, and any engine damage.

Those who, like Patroni, worked in this give-and-take milieu were fond of pointing out that if sales and administration departments of competing airlines had occasion to consult, their people seldom went to one another’s headquarters, but met on neutral ground. Maintenance men, in contrast, visited competitors’ premises with the assurance of a common freemasonry. At other times, if one maintenance department was in trouble, others helped as they were able.

### ***VIII. Render the content of the following talk between Patroni and the Aéreo-Mexican captain.***

In contrast to the cold and wind-blown snow outside, the pilots’ cockpit was snug and quiet. One of the communications radios was tuned to soft music of a commercial station. As Patroni entered, the Aéreo-Mexican first officer, in shirt-sleeves, snapped a switch and the music stopped.

“Don’t worry about doing that.” The chunky maintenance chief shook himself like a bull-terrier while snow cascaded from his clothing. “Nothing wrong with taking things easy. After all, we didn’t expect you to come down and shovel.”

Only the first officer and captain were in the cockpit. Patroni remembered hearing that the flight engineer had gone with the stewardesses and passengers to the terminal.



The captain, a heavy-set, swarthy man who resembled Anthony Quinn swiveled around in his port-side seat. He said swiftly, “We have our job to do. You have yours.” His English was precise.

“That’s right,” Patroni acknowledged. “Only trouble is, our job gets fouled up and added to. By other people.”

“If you are speaking of what has happened here,” the captain said, *Madre de Dios (Матерь божья!)* – you do not suppose that I placed this airplane in the mud on purpose.”

“No, I don’t.” Patroni discarded his cigar, which was maimed from chewing, put a new one in his mouth, and lit it. “But now it’s there, I want to make sure we get it out – this next time we try. If we don’t, the airplane’ll be in a whole lot deeper; so will all of us, including you.” He nodded toward the captain’s seat. “How’d you like me to sit there and drive it out?”

The captain flushed. Few people in any airline talked as casually to four-strippers as Joe Patroni.

“No, thank you,” the captain said coldly. He might have replied even more unpleasantly, except that at the moment he was suffering acute embarrassment for having got into his present predicament at all. Tomorrow in Mexico City, he suspected, he would face an unhappy, searing session with his airline’s chief pilot. He raged inwardly: *Jesucristo y por la amor de Dios! (О господу, ради всего святого!)*

“There’s a lotta half-frozen guys outside who’ve been busting their guts,” Patroni insisted. “Getting out now’s tricky. I’ve done it before. Maybe you should let me again.”

The Aéreo-Mexican captain bridled. “I know who you are, Mr. Patroni, and I am told that you are likely to help us move from this bad ground, where others have failed. So I have no doubt that you are licensed to taxi airplanes. But let me remind you there are two of us here who are licensed to fly them. It is what we are paid for. Therefore we shall remain at the controls.”

“Suit yourself.” Joe Patroni shrugged, then waved his cigar at the control pedestal. “Only thing is, when I give the word, open those throttles all the way. And I mean all the way, and don’t chicken out.”

As he left the cockpit, he ignored angry glares from both pilots.

## Chapter 7

### **I. *Answer the following questions.***

1. What was Inez Guerrero's health condition? What theory could be used to describe it?
2. What was the reason for Inez Guerrero being late for Flight Two departure?
3. What did Inez say to the uniformed agent trying to avoid a direct question?
4. Why did Ned Ordway take Inez to the airport general manager's office?
5. What did Ned Ordway decide to do with Inez? How did she perceive it?
6. Why did Ned Ordway give Inez some money?
7. What prevented Inez from leaving the airport right after departing from Ned Ordway?

### **II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements***

1. The Trans-America agent looked through the time-payment contract very attentively.
2. Being in the terminal with many people around her Inez felt alone.
3. After wandering about the terminal, Inez addressed one of the policemen.
4. Mel did not see Inez Guerrero when she was sitting in the anteroom to his office.
5. Ned Ordway gave Inez a banknote of five dollars.
6. Inez was greatly surprised to hear her name in the loudspeaker announcements.

### **III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

отговорка, приставать к кому-то, договор повременной оплаты, путаница, кишаций тараканами, выселять, оцепенение, покорно, рыться в сумочке, забиться в угол (загнать себя в угол)

### **IV. Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "My husband is on that flight which just left."
2. "I am sorry you have missed seeing your husband."
3. "... life moved on, and always had and would, no matter how many defeats it wrought, or dreary or empty as it might seem"
4. "... you will find a bus... what I have given you will be enough for the fare, with something over for wherever you have to go when you get to the city."

### **V. Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. "mean, cockroach-infested"
2. "... incoherent and upset ... harmless"
3. "hungry and thirsty ... on top of everything else."
4. "... the crowds around ... the noises, and loudspeaker announcements"

### **VI. How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.**

1. "Inez waited for ten anxious minutes ... before it dawned on her that the man had no intention of returning."

2. "... the defensive machinery of her mind took over, inducing a protective numbness, so that her sorrow persisted but its reasons, for a while, were mercifully blurred."
3. "... the sight of those two very ordinary things was reassuring."
4. "... now, with the coffee gone and the hot-dog eaten, awareness which earlier started to come back, was receding from her once more in a comfortable way."

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

For a moment or two Inez wondered hopefully if she had made a mistake in presuming that D.O. was leaving on the flight; the idea of his going to Rome at all still seemed fantastic. Then the agent said, yes, there was a D.O. Guerrero aboard Flight Two, and he, the agent, was sorry that Mrs. Guerrero had missed seeing her husband, but everything was in a mixup tonight because of the storm, and now if she would please excuse him ...

It was when the agent had gone and Inez realized that despite the press of people around her in the terminal, she was utterly alone, that she began to cry.

At first the tears came slowly; then, as she remembered all that had gone wrong, they streamed in great heaving sobs which shook her body. She cried for the past and the present; for the home she had had lost; for her children whom she could no longer keep with her; for D.O. who, despite his faults as a husband, and the failure to support his family, was at least familiar, but now had deserted her. She went for what she herself had been and had become; for the fact that she had no money, nowhere to go but to the mean, cockroach-infested rooms downtown, from which she would be evicted tomorrow, having nothing left – after the taxi ride and driver's theft – from the pathetically small amount with which she had hoped to stave off the landlord ...she was not even sure if she had enough small change to return downtown. She cried because her shoes still hurt her feet; for her clothes

which were shabby and sodden; for her weariness, and because she had a cold and a fever which she could feel getting worse. She cried for herself and all others for whom every hope was gone.

It was then, to avoid stares of people who were watching that she began walking aimlessly through the terminal, still weeping as she went. Somewhere near that time, too, the defensive machinery of her mind took over, inducing a protective numbness, so that her sorrow persisted but its reasons, for a while, were mercifully blurred.

## Chapter 8

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Who was the first to arrive at Mel's office?
2. Why did Bannie Vorobioff look excited?
3. What did Tanya Livingston do to get in touch with the agent, who had been working at gate forty-seven?
4. What was Royce Kettering's post at Lincoln International?
5. What was the position of Trans-America Two according to the tower chief's report?
6. Why didn't Bunnie Vorobioff want to confess that she remembered her client Guerrero quite well? When did she agree to answer Mel's questions?
7. What outraged the DTM in Bunnie's story?
8. What did Harry Standish regret about?
9. What was the name of the Trans-America DTM? What word did Harry Standish want him to get across to the people on board of Flight Two?
10. What was the position of Trans-America airplane when its crew got the information about D.O. Guerrero? Why did it take so long to perform that operation?
11. Why did Ordway offer to rule out Guerrero's distant cousin?
12. How did Ordway manage to get Inez Guerrero to talk?  
How would you call this talk?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements*

1. It took a long time to summon all needed people to the airport general manager's office.
2. The agent who had been in charge at gate forty-seven was the last to come to Mel's office.

3. It was up to the DTM to decide whether or not to warn the captain of Flight Two.
4. The news about runway three zero was the most important for Mel.
5. The DTM was sorry for having neglected Inspector Standish's message.
6. The DTM ordered to broadcast the disturbing information for everybody.
7. Bunnie Vorobioff proved to be a keen observer.
8. The DTM blamed the people who employed such agents as Bunnie.
9. Kettering approved of the content of the message being sent to the Flight Two crew and added some more instructions.
10. Lieutenant Ordway found Inez Guerrero, who was sitting in the corner near the food counter.
11. When Inez Guerrero got to Mel's office, the others who had been present earlier had been gone.

**III. *Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations***

Созывать, отправиться в путешествие, по совпадению, единоличный получатель экономических выгод, доходить до сознания, выйти на связь, с сожалением, презрительно, допрос, сбивчиво (запинаясь), острая необходимость, центр внимания, дальний родственник, низкий кредитный рейтинг, ощутимо (заметно), всхлипывать (хныкать), сдавленный голос

**IV. *Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. "Mel, what's all this about?"
2. "I called everyone here who's involved so far."
3. "Find out if Royce Kettering is still on the base. If so, get him here fast."

4. "I have the report you wanted on Trans-America Two. Takeoff was 11:13 local time."
5. "Shouldn't we send a description of Guerrero? Captain Demerest may want to have him identified without his knowing."
6. "I'm no expert, so I can't tell you; I guess you'd have to get it by some kind of trickery."
7. "We still don't know if the man's an ordinary eccentric, and all he's got in there are his pajamas."
8. "Suggest return or alternate landing at captain's discretion and have the dispatcher give them the latest weather."
9. "Lieutenant, we haven't got all night. That airplane is moving away from us at six hundred miles an hour. If we have to, let's get tough."
10. "If we all start shouting, it'll take a lot more time to get a great deal less."
11. "...if anyone going to Milan they wouldn't use our Rome flight. They'd fly Alitalia, which is direct and cheaper ..."

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... apparently in great stress"
2. "... paled and ... scared"
3. "... a savage, tough side of ... nature"
4. Gaunt and spindly; a pale, sallow face with protruding jaw; long scrawny neck; thin lips; a small sandy mustache; nervous hands with restless fingers."
5. "... a good judge of people, mostly on first sight..."
6. "a tall man with a seamed, weatherworn face and sharp blue eyes"



**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "... we haven't a lot to go on yet, but there's a possibility there could be a bomb aboard your Flight Two"
2. "As the import of what Mel was saying sank in, she paled and appeared scared."
3. "Whatever we decide, I want Operations in on this."
4. "Mel looked baffled."
5. "Ned Ordway took a pace forward."
6. "We are running out of time."
7. "A trigger finger can get mighty itchy."
8. "The question had been put so casually and without preamble..."

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in English).***

Addressing both the DTM and Ned Ordway, Mel summarized what was known or conjectured so far: report of Customs Inspector Standish concerning the passenger with the attaché-case, clasped in a way which Standish – an experienced observer - believed to be suspicious; Tanya's identification of the man with the case as one D.O. Guerrero, or perhaps Buerrero; the downtown agent's revelation that Guerrero checked in without any baggage other than the small case already mentioned; Guerrero's purchase at the airport of three hundred thousand dollars' worth of flight insurance, which he barely had enough money to pay for, so that he appeared to be setting out on a five-thousand mile journey, not only without so much as a change of clothing, but also without funds; and finally – perhaps coincidentally, perhaps not – Mrs. Inez Guerrero, sole beneficiary of her husband's flight insurance policy, had been wandering through the terminal, apparently in great distress.

While Mel was speaking, Customs Inspector Harry Standish, still in uniform, came in followed by Bunnie Vorobioff. Bunnie entered

uncertainly, glancing questioningly around her at the unfamiliar people and surroundings. As the import of what Mel was saying sank in, she paled and appeared scared.

The one non-arrival was the gate agent who had been in charge at gate forty-seven when Flight Two left. A staff supervisor whom Tanya had spoken to a few minutes ago informed her that the agent was now off duty and on his way home. She gave instructions for a message to be left, and for the agent to check in by telephone as soon as he arrived. Tanya doubted, if anything would be gained by bringing him back to the airport tonight; for one thing, she already knew that the agent did not remember Guerrero boarding. But someone else might want to question him by phone.

### ***VIII. Retell the conversation of Ned Ordway and Inez Guerrero***

## Chapter 9

### **I. *Answer the following questions.***

1. What food was served to the pilots of Flight Two?
2. What two different opinions of in-flight service did people?
3. What surprised Anson Harris greatly?
4. How did Demerest comment the message about Guerrero?
5. Why was the exchange of Harris and Toronto Air Route Center low key?
6. What were commercial pilots paid high salaries for?
7. How could passenger learn that the airplane had changed the heading of the plane?
8. Why was Gwen sure that the passenger occupying seat fourteen-A was just the person described in the message?
9. Why was it dangerous to try to seize Guerrero's case forcibly?
10. Why did Gwen have to bully someone more than twice her age?
11. When did Gwen experience a sudden icy fear?
12. Why did Vernon Demerest ask Gwen to get Ada Quonsett to the cockpit?
13. How did Mrs. Quonsett know that the plane was coming back to Lincoln?

### **II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements***

1. One of the stewardesses treated the pilots with the same dessert which the airline served its first class passengers.
2. It was Demerest, who had made the decision to turn back to Lincoln airport.

3. The ground controller of Toronto Air Route Center demanded the chief pilot of Flight Two should explain the reason for the maneuver before taking actions.
4. Gwen Meighen did not know why she had been summoned to the cockpit.
5. Nobody on board the plane noticed the maneuver as all the passengers were sleeping.
6. The only reason for the fast meal service on board the plane was the delayed takeoff.
7. Guerrero was not listening to the conversation of Gwen with Ada Quonsett.
8. After having been caught Ada Quonsett was in great stress.
9. Vernon Demerest promised Ada Quonsett a ticket to New York, and back, first class.
10. Ada Quonsett helped Gwen to get Guerrero's case by seizing the man's hands.

### ***III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations***

исподтишка (тайком), клапан перекрестной подачи топлива, восхитительное блюдо, обойдитесь без излишеств, есть с удовольствием, на усмотрение капитана, непререкаемый авторитет (старший начальник), курс (полета), поддерживать связь, мера предосторожности, неподчинение, самообладание, избавиться от чего-либо, хвостовая часть (самолета), чопорный внешний вид, предчувствие, поместить под стражу, подлокотник, благовидный предлог, общаться по-дружески (запросто), предчувствие, ахнуть (охнуть), придира (критикан), испортить (напортачить), броситься вперед

**IV. *Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. "What we need is an unlisted number."
2. "You're in the left seat. What are we waiting for?"
3. "... it's a sure thing one of us can't show up in the cabin, or we'll alert him."
4. "You may begin a left turn now to heading two seven zero. Stand by for an altitude change."
5. "In case you hadn't noticed, we happen to have a few passengers abroad."
6. "What I want you to do is go back and locate this man. See if there's any sign of the bag, and whether there's a good chance of getting it away from him."
7. "You've got quite a record, Mrs. Quonsett."
8. "If there's some misunderstanding, perhaps I can help ..."
9. «Miss Meighen was acting on my orders. I told her to do exactly what she did.»
10. "I get nervous sometimes, though not as much as I used to. When you get older there isn't a lot left to be frightened of."
11. "Miss, whatever she's done, do you have to be so rough?"
12. "Miss, can't you see the lady's upset? I don't care what she is. She's still an old lady."
13. "Grab the guy with the case! He's got a bomb!"

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "skinny young"
2. "dimly lighted"
3. "... serious, but not dismayed ... strength in no way lessening ... femininity"
4. "gentle ... perfect ... exactly executed"
5. "...mentally disturbed, desperate"
6. "...a pert young blonde"

7. "... had deep black hair, an attractive, high – cheek-boned face, and strong dark eyes"
8. "owlish ... with thick glasses"

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "Trans-America, like most airlines, worked hard at providing an excellent cuisine aloft."
2. "As the wording progressed, Demerest's features in the light's reflection, tautened."
3. "After that, I guess we play it by ear."
4. "Harris's swift reasoning had already ruled out landing at an alternative airport."
5. "... we've got a spot o'bother"
6. "When you kept tight rein on personal emotions, you were never absolutely sure."
7. "He's edgy now."
8. "She doesn't know we're on to her?"
9. "Gwen's voice, pitched louder than usual, was audible several seats away."
10. "No one – least of your family – will gain."

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

As Guerrero moved, Gwen Meighen moved too, remaining close behind him. Vernon Demerest, several yards away, was struggling fiercely aft, down the still crowded aisle.

The toilet door was closing as Gwen reached it. She thrust a foot inside and shoved. Her foot stopped the door from closing, but the door refused to move. Despairing, as pain shot through her foot, she could

feel Guerrero's weight against the other side.

In D. O. Guerrero's mind the last few minutes had been a jumbled blur. He had not fully comprehended everything that had occurred, nor had he heard all that Demerest said. But one thing penetrated. He realized that like ~— many of his other grand designs, this one, too, had failed. Somewhere—as always happened with whatever he attempted—he had bungled. All his life had been a failure. With bitterness, he knew his death would be a failure too.

His back was braced against the inside of the toilet door. He felt pressure on it, and knew that at any moment the pressure would increase so that he could no longer hold the door closed. Desperately he fumbled with the attaché case, reaching for the string beneath the handle, which would release the square of plastic, actuating the clothespin switch and detonating the dynamite inside. Even as he found the string and tugged, he wondered if the bomb h

e had made would be a failure also.

In his last split second of life and comprehension, D. O. Guerrero learned that it was not.

### ***VIII. Retell the following passage from the chapter.***

What happened next occurred so swiftly that even those closest to the scene were uncertain of the sequence of events.

Mrs. Quonsett, in her seat, turned to D. O. Guerrero on her left. She appealed to him, "Sir, please help me! Help me!" His features rigid, he ignored her.

Apparently overcome by grief and fear, she reached toward him, flinging her arms hysterically around his neck. "Please, please!"

Guerrero twisted his body away, trying to release himself. He failed. Instead, Ada Quonsett wound her arms around his neck more tightly. "Oh, help me!"

Red-faced and close to choking, D. O. Guerrero put up both hands to wrench her away. As if in supplication, Ada Quonsett eased her grasp

and seized his hands.

At the same instant, Gwen Meighen leaned forward toward the inside seat. She reached out and in a single even movement-almost without haste-she grasped the attaché case firmly and removed it from Guerrero's knees. A moment later the case was free and in the aisle. Between Guerrero and the case, Gwen and Ada Quonsett were a solid barrier.

The curtain across the doorway from the first class cabin swept open. Vernon Demerest, tall and impressive in uniform, hurried through.

His face showing relief, he held out his hand for the attaché case. "Nice going, Gwen. Let me have it."

With ordinary luck the incident-except for dealing with Guerrero later-would have ended there. That it did not was solely due to Marcus Rathbone.

Rathbone, until that moment, was an unknown, unconsidered passenger, occupying seat fourteen-D across the aisle. Although others were unaware of him, he was a self-important, pompous man, constantly aware of himself.

In the small Iowa town where he lived he was a minor merchant, known to his neighbors as a "knocker." Whatever others in his community did or proposed, Marcus Rathbone objected to. His objections, small and large, were legendary. They included the choice of books in the local library, a plan for a community antennae system, the needed disciplining of his son at school, and the color of paint for a civic building. Shortly before departing on his present trip he had organized the defeat of a proposed sign ordinance which would have beautified his town's main street. Despite his habitual "knocking," he had never been known to propose a constructive idea.

Another peculiarity was that Marcus Rathbone despised women, including his own wife. None of his objections had ever been on their behalf. Consequently, the humiliation of Mrs. Quonsett a moment earlier had not disturbed him, but Gwen Meighen's seizure of D. O. Guerrero's attaché case did.

To Marcus Rathbone this was officialdom in uniform –and a woman



at that-impinging on the rights of an ordinary traveler like himself. Indignantly, Rathbone rose from his seat, interposing himself between Gwen and Vernon Demerest.

At the same instant, D.O. Guerrero, flushed and mouthing incoherent words, scrambled free from his seat and the grasp of Ada Quonsett. As he reached the aisle, Marcus Rathbone seized the case from Gwen and –with a polite bow–held it out. Like a wild animal, with madness in his eyes, Guerrero grabbed it.

Vernon Demerest flung himself forward, but too late. He tried to reach Guerrero, but the narrowness of the aisle and the intervening figures–Gwen, Rathbone, the oboe player–defeated him. D. O. Guerrero had ducked around the others and was heading for the aircraft's rear. Other passengers, in seats, were scrambling to their feet. Demerest shouted desperately, "Stop that man! He has a bomb!"

The shout produced screams, and an exodus from seats, which had the effect of blocking the aisle still further. Only Gwen Meighen, scrambling, pushing, clawing her way aft, managed to stay close to Guerrero.

At the end of the cabin–like an animal still, but this time cornered–Guerrero turned. All that remained between him and the aircraft's tail were three rear toilets; light indicators showed that two were empty, one was occupied. His back to the toilets, Guerrero held the attache case forward in front of him, one hand on its carrying handle, the other on a loop of string now visible beneath the handle. In a strained voice, somewhere between a whisper and a snarl, he warned, "Stay where you are! Don't come closer!"

Above the heads of the others, Vernon Demerest shouted again. "Guerrero, listen to me! Do you hear me? Listen!"

## Chapter 10

### I. *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why was the explosion aboard Trans-America Flight Two so overwhelming?
2. Why was it necessary for the passengers to put on an oxygen mask as quickly as possible?
3. How was the effect of oxygen lack demonstrated to the pilots?
4. What was the passengers' reaction when oxygen housings opened and masks dropped down in front of them? Why did it happen so?
5. How did Vernon manage to get to the flight deck?
6. What were the advantages of the flight simulators?
7. How many simulator sessions did every pilot have during his career?
8. What fundamental rule were the pilots to follow in case of explosive decompression?
9. Why was it essential to lower the aircraft?
10. What two variants of descending the plane was at the disposal of Harris? Which of them did he choose and why?
11. What was the aim of Harris's banking before the dive?
12. How did Harris guess that the explosion had done damage to the tail?
13. Why was it dangerous for Flight Two to dump fuel in flight?
14. Why did the crew members reject the variant of landing in Detroit?
15. What airport offered the best chance of safety?
16. What did Cy Jordan say in his call from the rear?
17. Why did Guerrero's bomb fail to destroy the plane?

**II. Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements**

1. Gwen Meighen received the force of the explosion in her chest.
2. The only thing, which mattered Vernon Demerest, was to help the passengers put on oxygen masks.
3. The two remaining crew members were aware of what was going on in the passenger cabins.
4. Anson Harris was ready for the emergency situations being airborne.
5. It was up to Anson Harris to decide how to lower the plane.
6. The air temperature outside the aircraft was plus fifty degrees Centigrade.
7. It took five minutes to descend the aircraft.
8. At the altitude of ten thousand feet and low speed the plane was flying smoothly.
9. Cy Jordan described the rear part of the airliner as a shambles

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

государственные служащие, с перерывами, авантюра (рискованное предприятие), вираж, пригодный для дыхания, поддерживать жизнь, петарда, мучительная мысль, препятствие, от отчаяния, вибрация, вмятина, допустить просчет, уязвимое место, суть (смысл), первостепенный (наиважнейший), отключиться,

**IV. Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "Get on oxygen!"
2. "This is Trans-America Two. Explosive decompression. We are diving, diving."
3. "Ask for ten."

4. "All altitudes below you are clear. Report your intentions when ready. We are standing by."
5. "We have structural damage due to explosion, extent unknown."
6. "It's made a bloody great hole. I didn't stop to measure."
7. "Get back in tourist. Check on damage, report by interphone. Then do all you can for the people. ... And find out about Gwen."

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "engulfing cloud of dust"
2. "mist and a savage, biting cold"
3. "deep snow and drifts on all runways"

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "the ruptured fuselage"
2. "... without the aid of oxygen, a degree of lessened judgement would occur."
3. "If there is a real decompression, you haven't a single second to spare."
4. "Their casualness, both men knew, was on the surface only."
5. "He bungled the explosion, too."
6. "Demerest requested that Detroit Metropolitan still stand by in case of a sudden change of plan, though it wasn't likely."
7. "We'll give 'em fifty more minutes to pry it loose."

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words (in writing).***

An instant after the dynamite charge ripped the aircraft skin, the cabin decompressed. With a second roar and tornado force, air inside the aircraft-

until this moment maintained at normal pressure-swept through the ruptured fuselage to dissipate in the high altitude near-vacuum outside. Through the passenger cabins a dark engulfing cloud of dust surged toward the rear. With it, like litter in a maelstrom, went every loose object, light and heavy-papers, food trays, liquor bottles, coffeepots, hand luggage, clothing, passengers' belongings-all whirling through the air as if impelled toward a cyclopean vacuum cleaner. Curtains tore away. Internal doors-flight deck, storage, and toilets –wrenched free from locks and hinges and were swept rearward with the rest.

Several passengers were struck. Others, not strapped in their seats, clung to any handhold as the wind and suction drew them inexorably toward the rear.

Throughout the aircraft, emergency compartments above each seat snapped open. Yellow oxygen masks came tumbling down, each mask connected by a short plastic tube to a central oxygen supply.

Abruptly the suction lessened. The aircraft's interior was filled with mist and a savage, biting cold. Noise from engines and wind was overwhelming.

Vernon Demerest, still in the aisle of the tourist cabin where he had held himself by instinctively seizing a seatback, roared, "Get on oxygen!" He grabbed a mask himself.

Through knowledge and training, Demerest realized what most others did not: The air inside the cabin was now as rarefied as that outside, and insufficient to support life. Only fifteen seconds of full consciousness remained to everyone, unless oxygen was used at once from the aircraft's emergency system.

Even in five seconds, without the aid of oxygen, a degree of lessened judgment would occur.

In another five seconds a state of euphoria would make many decide not to bother with oxygen at all. They would lapse into unconsciousness, not caring.

**VIII. *Retell the following passage from the chapter.***

The explosion aboard Trans America Flight Two, The Golden Argosy, was instantaneous, monstrous, and overwhelming. In the airplane's confined space, it struck with the din of a hundred thunderclaps, a sheet of flame, and a blow like a giant sledge hammer.

D. O. Guerrero died instantly, his body, near the core of the explosion, disintegrating utterly. One moment he existed; the next, there were only a few small, bloody pieces of him left.

The aircraft fuselage blew open.

Gwen Meighen, who, next to Guerrero, was nearest the explosion, received its force in her face and chest.

An instant after the dynamite charge ripped the aircraft skin, the cabin decompressed. With a second roar and tornado force, air inside the aircraft-until this moment maintained at normal pressure-swept through the ruptured fuselage to dissipate in the high altitude near-vacuum outside. Through the passenger cabins a dark engulfing cloud of dust surged toward the rear. With it, like litter in a maelstrom, went every loose object, light and heavy-papers, food trays, liquor bottles, coffeepots, hand luggage, clothing, passengers' belongings-atl whirling through the air as if impelled toward a cyclopean vacuum cleaner. Curtains tore away. Internal doors-flight deck, storage, and toilets – wrenched free from locks and hinges and were swept rearward with the rest.

Several passengers were struck. Others, not strapped in their seats, clung to any handhold as the wind and suction drew them inexorably toward the rear. Throughout the aircraft, emergency compartments above each seat snapped open. Yellow oxygen masks came tumbling down, each mask connected by a short plastic tube to a central oxygen supply.

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Even in five seconds, without the aid of oxygen, a degree of lessened judgment would occur.

In another five seconds a state of euphoria would make many decide not to bother with oxygen at all. They would lapse into unconsciousness, not caring.

**IX. *Speak on Demerest's actions after the explosion and give your characteristic to them.***

## Chapter 11

### I. *Answer the following questions*

1. What puzzled Freemantle when he entered the main terminal of Lincoln International?
2. What did Freemantle mean by “thievery” practiced by the airport administration?
3. What was real Freemantle’s intention of arranging the meeting at the airport main concourse?
4. What Freemantle’s words caused a cry of outrage from Meadowooders?
5. Why did the Meadowood demonstration escape the attention of the airport management?
6. Why didn’t Mel Bakersfeld let Ned Ordway halt Meadowooders’ demonstration?
7. What was Freemantle’s reaction to Ordway’s order for the participants of the meeting to break up?
8. When did Mel decide to speak in front of the meeting participants?
9. Who prevented assembled Meadowood residents from dispersing?
10. What prevented potential Meadowood residents from getting the following message: “AIRPLANES WILL TAKE OFF AND LAND OVER THIS ROUTE”?
11. What examples given by Mel proved that Meadowooders’ hope for the success was unjustified?
12. How did Meadowooders’ attitude to Elliott Freemantle change after Mel’s speech?
13. What businessman’s advice did Mel give to those who had signed contracts with Freemantle? What arguments did he give?
14. How did Mel himself assess his being so frankly with the Meadowood residents?



**II. Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements**

1. At the meeting of Meadowood residents, television was presented by three companies.
2. Freemantle's statement about noise abatement procedures was semi-truth.
3. Not so many Meadowooders arrived at the airport.
4. Freemantle got the official permission for arranging his meeting at the airport.
5. Freemantle wanted assembled Meadowood residents to disperse.
6. Mel's speech didn't win any interest of Meadowood residents.
7. Mel said that airports could not be sued.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

публичное осуждение (общественное порицание), адвокат, душевное здоровье (нормальная психика), запрет на полеты, обман, мученик, в лучшем случае, разглагольствовать, область компетенции (деятельности), вводить в заблуждение, клеветническое заявление, изменить свое мнение (идиома), по сути (по существу, в главном), дать свободу действий, перехитрить, задеть за живое, возбудить дело о клевете, материальная ответственность, арендатор, быть привлеченным к ответственности, тщетность

**IV. Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "I assume that what you're doing at this moment means you're also seeking public support."

2. "A sham, sir! A fake! A public lie. The general manager of this airport confessed to me tonight that even the paltry, so-called noise abatement measures are not being observed."
3. "What comes next, Mr. Freemantle? Do you intend to stage some kind of demonstration here?"
4. "Let's give the airport a taste of their own noise."
5. "That damn lawyer! I told him there'd be no demonstrations here."
6. "Suppose we won't go? ... Let's stay here!"
7. "You see, he's come around. Now, since we're all here, we may as well clear up a few things."
8. "Hush up, now! You had your turn."
9. "But I still haven't heard anything that I can tell my children when they cry, and ask why the noise won't stop so they can sleep."

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... a handsome young man with a Ronald Reagan haircut"
2. "... hostile glances and angry mutterings..."
3. "... like a flood tide encountering a sudden sandbank"
4. "... impeccably styled hair"
5. "... decent people with a real and pressing problem"
6. "... shrewd ...a gambler..."

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "cruelly wronged home-owners"
2. "Some revised mental arithmetic convinced him that his first hope of a fee from Meadowood totaling twenty-five thousand dollars might well be exceeded."
3. "We're all set to go."

4. "...we came here tonight in a mood of reason and with constructive thoughts."
5. "Flight announcements were being drowned out by the noise."
6. "Nix Noxious Noise..."
7. "Impressive as the demonstration was, unless halted officially, it would have little point."
8. "The extra thousand or so people were taxing available space in the concourse."
9. "... pilots must be given leeway, and aircraft safety must come first."
10. "You're being softened up! If you stick with me, we'll take these airport people, and we'll take them good!"
11. "Now there's another scheme afoot to part you from your money. Lawyers all over North America are hotfooting it to airport dormitory communities because 'thar's gold in that thar noise.'"
12. "The prospect of a big killing was gone."

**VII. *Read the following fragment from the chapter and give its content in your own words )in English).***

Mel had been blunter than he at first intended, and he had also been excessively reckless, he supposed, in going quite this far. If Elliott Freemantle chose, he could certainly make trouble. In a matter in which the airport-and therefore Mel-had active interest, Mel had interposed between clients and lawyer, casting doubt upon the latter's probity. Judging by the hatred in the lawyer's eyes, he would be delighted to do any harm to Mel he could. Yet instinct told Mel that the last thing Freemantle wanted was a searching public scrutiny of his client recruiting methods and working habits. A trial judge, sensitive about legal ethics, might ask awkward questions, later still, so might the Bar Association, which safeguarded the legal profession's standards. The more Mel thought about it, the less inclined he was to worry.

Though Mel didn't know it, Elliott Freemantle had reached the same conclusion. Whatever else Freemantle might be, he was a pragmatist. He had

long ago recognized that in life there were— gambits, which you won, others that you lost. Sometimes the loss was sudden and illogical. A chance, a quirk, a nettle in the grass, could turn an almost-grasped success into mortifying defeat. Fortunately, for people like Freemantle, the reverse was sometimes true.

The airport manager, Bakersfeld, had proven to be a nettle-carelessly grasped-which should have been avoided. Even after their first brush, which Elliott Freemantle now realized could have been a warning to him, he had continued to underestimate his opponent by remaining at the airport instead of quitting while ahead. Another thing Freemantle had discovered too late was that Bakersfeld, while shrewd, was a gambler too. Only a gambler would have gone out on such a limb as Bakersfeld had a moment ago. And only Elliott Freemantle—at this point-knew that Bakersfeld had won.

Freemantle was aware that the Bar Association might regard this night's activity unfavorably. More to the point: He had had a brush with an association investigating committee once already, and had no intention of provoking another.

Bakersfeld had been right, Elliott Freemantle thought. There would be no attempted debt collecting, through the courts, on the basis of the signed legal retainer forms. The hazards were too great, the spoils uncertain.

He would not give up entirely, of course. Tomorrow, Freemantle decided, he would draft a letter to all Meadowood residents who had signed the forms; in it he would do his best to persuade them that retention of himself as legal counsel, at the individual fee specified, should continue. He doubted, though, if many would respond. The suspicion which Bakersfeld had effectively implanted—damn his guts!—was too great. There might be some small pickings left, from a few people who would be willing to continue, and later it would be necessary to decide if they were worthwhile. But the prospect of a big killing was gone.

Something else, though, he supposed, would turn up soon. It always had.

### ***VIII. Render the content of Mel' speech?***

## Chapter 12

### I. *Answer the following questions*

1. How did it happen that Gwen was not killed by the explosion?
2. What were two main dangers for the passengers of the destroyed airliner?
3. What prevented Gwen from being sucked into the gaping hole in the aircraft's rear?
4. What was the reaction of Inspector Standish's niece to the explosion?
5. What saved Gwen Meighen and other passengers having no oxygen masks on from asphyxiation?
6. Why was there a lack of blankets on board the plane?
7. What was Milton Compagno's professional rank?
8. What were Gwen's physical conditions immediately after the explosion?
9. Where were the passengers moved after the explosion and how were they arranged?
10. What made medical attention and movement of passengers more difficult?
11. What did Vernon Demerest say to the passengers via the cabin p.a. system?
12. Why was it dangerous for Flight Two to land on runway two five?
13. What instructions did Vernon Demerest give to Cy Jordan after having received the message about non-functional runway three zero?
14. Why did Anson Harris ask Vernon to fly for a while?
15. What decision concerning Gwen did Vernon make?
16. What two messages did Vernon ask Chicago Centre supervisor to pass to Lincoln airport and to Mel Bakersfeld personally?

**II. Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements**

1. Fortunately, Gwen Meighen remained conscious after the explosion.
2. One of the stewardesses helped Mrs. Quonsett put on a mask.
3. A human being can survive without oxygen for six minutes without damage to the brain.
4. Each of the three doctors on board the airplane had a medical bag.
5. Two internists were engaged in bandaging passengers who had received cuts, none excessively serious.
6. There was no chance for Gwen to recover.
7. It was typical for Vernon Demerest to make lengthy announcements during the flights.
8. Demerest was going to create another big fight about airport insurance vending.
9. Vernon Demerest took Milton Compagno's report of Gwen's injuries without any emotions.
10. The news about Gwen shocked Vernon to such an extent that he could not fly the plane.
11. Demerest regretted that he had told about Gwen's pregnancy.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

Врач общей практики, зияющая дыра, отпуск в межсезонье, вихрь, терапевт (амер.), иск о халатности (профессиональной небрежности), облегчить недуг, пострадавший, предельно лаконичный, собраться с духом, травма брюшной полости, порядочность (благородство)

**IV. Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "Is there a doctor, please?"

2. "I suggest you move as many people as you can nearer the front. Keep everyone as warm as possible. We'll need blankets for those who are hurt."
3. "Bring us all the first aid equipment you have."
4. "Doctor, Captain Demerest asked me to say he's grateful for everything you and the other doctors are doing."
5. "You know we've had trouble-bad trouble. I won't attempt to minimize it. I won't make any jokes either..."
6. "Whatever happened, the girl on the floor would not be pretty any more-not without plastic surgery."
7. "That was pretty good. You should be in politics."
8. "Whatever's between the two of you is none of my business, but if there's anything I can do as a friend."
9. "Life's full of goddamned 'if onlys.'"
10. "We're giving you priority, a clear radio frequency, and a straight-in course for Lincoln."

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "... wounded, bleeding badly, and dazed, but still on his feet and conscious"
2. "... were struck, and stunned or bruised by hurtling objects impelled toward the aircraft's rear by the explosive decompression."
3. "A small, sharp-featured man who moved impatiently and talked quickly with a Brooklyn accent."
4. "... a twisted mess of charred and bloodstained wood and metal."
5. "... normally mournful, hollow-cheeked face..."
6. "... smooth, smug brother-in-law"
7. "... multiple lacerations of the face and chest ... considerable bleeding ... a compound fracture of the left arm and, of course, shock."
8. "... had a core of sane solidity."
9. "... had spunk and courage ... not one to be pushed around."
10. "sickly sentimental about children"

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "Dr. Milton Compagno, general practitioner, was exerting the utmost of his professional skill in an attempt to save Gwen Meighen's life."
2. "Gradually, as initial shock wore off, passengers and the remaining stewardesses took stock of their situation."
3. "Thirty-five years ago, as a young man who had fought an upward battle from a New York slum, he hung out a shingle in Chicago's Little Italy, near Milwaukee and Grand Avenues."
4. "He disapproved of "long-playing captains" who bombarded their captive audience with assorted commentaries from a flight's beginning to its end."
5. "combined experience comes in mighty useful"
6. "Plain speech there (at the Board of Airport Commissioners meeting) had proved disastrous."
7. "What occurred was exceptional; the odds are against it happening again."
8. "Trans America's public relations flacks would do their damndest, of course, to keep him incommunicado "in the interests of company policy."
9. "The pregnancy can't be very far advanced."
10. "... if Gwen came through, the baby would be born."
11. "...but emotions got better of him."
12. "He reflected grimly: For all it was going to cost him, in anguish and hard cash, it better had."
13. "Then why in blazes aren't we getting action?"

**VII. *Read and retell the following fragment giving the characteristic of Milton Compagno.***

Carrying a bag with emergency supplies wherever he went was characteristic of Milton Compagno. So was taking charge now, even though-



as a G.P. - he was outranked professionally by the other two doctors who were internists.

Milton Compagno never considered himself off duty. Thirty-five years ago, as a young man who had fought an upward battle from a New York slum, he hung out a shingle in Chicago's Little Italy, near Milwaukee and Grand Avenues. Since then-as his wife told it, usually with resignation-the only time he ceased practicing medicine was while he slept. He enjoyed being needed. He acted as if his profession were a prize he had won, which, if not guarded, would slip away. He had never been known to refuse to see a patient at any hour, or to fail to make a house call if sent for. He never drove past an accident scene as did many of his medical brethren, fearing malpractice suits; he always stopped, got out of his car, and did what he could. He kept conscientiously up to date. Yet the more he worked, the more he seemed to thrive. He gave the impression of running through each day as if he planned to assuage the world's ailments in a lifetime, of which too little was left.

The journey to Rome-many years postponed-was to visit the birthplace of his parents. With his wife, Dr. Compagno was to be away a month, and because he was growing old, he had agreed that the time should be a total rest. Yet he fully anticipated that somewhere en route, or perhaps in Italy (never mind regulations about not being licensed) he would be needed. If so, he was ready. It did not surprise him that he was needed now.

**VIII. *Speak on Sarah's character and the character of Gwen as presented by Vernon.***

## Chapter 13

### I. *Answer the following questions*

1. Why did the airport controller call the flight, making an emergency landing, “the flight in question”?
2. Why did Bakersfeld take the Tribune reporter to the runway tree-zero?
3. What Mel’s proposals concerning the airport development were not realized?
4. Why did Airport Commissioners break their promises to support Mel?
5. What did Tomlinson mean saying the following words: “*If you don't mind my saying so, you've been in great form tonight. Just now, and with the lawyer and those Meadowood people. More like your old self. I haven't heard you speak out like that in a long while.*”?
6. What did Men answer to Tomlinson’s question about airport insurance vending; “... has what’s happened tonight made you change your mind?” How did he explain his answer?
7. Why did Mel Bakersfeld order to send plows and graders to Aereo-Mexican aircraft?
8. What was Patroni’s reaction to Mel’s intention concerning Aereo-Mexican aircraft?
9. How much time did Mel have to make his own final decision?
10. Why did Mel support Tomlinson’s topic concerning aviation philosophy?
11. What creative ideas about airport design were proposed by different cities?
12. Why did Mel doubt that he would get on the list of the most imaginative people about airports and the future?

**II. Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements**

1. The tragedy with Flight Two was going to be publicly known.
2. The words “no foam” meant that there was some trouble with the landing gears of Flight Two?
3. Tomlinson asked Mel Bakersfeld to take him to the stuck aircraft.
4. Airport public parking lots appeared to be more profitable than the proposed new runway.
5. Mel did not allow Tomlinson to make his reasoning publicly known.
6. Mel did not feel that Vernon’s addition message to the previous one would be so rude.
7. The Airport Line Pilot Association was sure it would win their anti-insurance campaign quickly.
8. Some states outlawed insurance vending machines at their airports.
9. Mel was sure that plows and graders summoned by him would be put into effect.
10. Mel supposed, that there would be few who would support his action afterwards.
11. Mel’s arguments did not convince Joe Patroni.
12. Mel did not warn Patroni that the time of landing had reduced.
13. Mel refused to give a list of imaginative people, which Tomlinson asked him for.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

аварийный транспорт, начальник пожарной охраны, конфиденциальная информация, лживый, идти в ногу, иметь ясное понимание чего-то, так оно и есть, агитировать (вербовать сторонников), выпуск облигаций; рейс, терпящий бедствие; оглядываясь назад, выходить в эфир, приборная панель, уклониться от

ответа, в общем и целом (по большому счету), сесть на свой конек (увлечься темой), лишенный воображения,

**IV. *Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. “Has Joe Patroni, with stalled aircraft on runway three zero, been advised of new emergency situation?”
2. “I'd like to use all that as coming from you.” ... “I'm still fitting pieces together.”
3. “All the time we're talking ... about runways, the public, Meadowood, other things . . . I'm thinking about those people on Flight Two. I wonder how they're feeling, if they're afraid.”
4. “Four plows and three graders, with convoy leader, are on their way to runway three zero as instructed. What orders, please?”
5. “A six-million dollar airplane shoved sideways by snowplows! My God, you'll tear it to pieces! And afterward, the owners and insurers'll do the same to you.”
6. “I'm cheering-for what you're doing now. Whatever happens after, I'll remember.”
7. “I'll save you from your own insanity.”
8. “I don't think I can bear the waiting.”

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. “... was only lightly snow-covered. Despite the blockage of one portion, the remainder had been kept plowed.”
2. “like vultures”
3. “built as circles-like doughnuts with car parking inside, instead of somewhere out beyond; with minimum distances for people to walk with aids like high-speed horizontal elevators”
4. “like an unimaginative, patchwork quilt”

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "The procedure was no improvisation."
2. "I'm giving you a chance you may be sorry for not taking."
3. "But other influences proved stronger."
4. "With a good many projects, Mel could swing the Board of Airport Commissioners his way."
5. "Message begins. Straight-in course to Lincoln no good if ends on runway two five. Airplane heavily loaded, will be landing very fast. .  
."
6. "I'll grant you there are some decisions take a lot of guts."
7. "... when you left the mainstream for whatever reason, you were apt to be forgotten quickly; and later, even if you wanted to, sometimes you never did get back."

**VII. *Read and retell the following fragment from the chapter.***

A few minutes ago, when Tanya had handed Mel her note about the explosion aboard Flight Two, and the flight's attempt to reach Lincoln International, Mel had broken free instantly from the crowd of Meadowood residents. With Tanya beside him, he headed for the elevators, which would take him to the basement garage two floors below, and his official airport car. Mel's place now was on runway three zero, if necessary to take charge. Shouldering his way through the crowd in the main concourse, he had caught sight of the Tribune reporter and said tersely, "Come with me." He owed Tomlinson a favor in return for the reporter's tip-off about Elliott Freemantle-both the legal contract form and the lawyer's mendacious statements later, which Mel had been able to repudiate. When Tomlinson hesitated, Mel snapped, "I haven't time to waste. But I'm giving you a chance you may be sorry for not taking." Without further questioning, Tomlinson fell in step beside him.

Now, as they drove, Mel accelerating ahead of taxiing aircraft where he could, Tanya repeated the substance of the news about Flight Two.

"Let me get this straight," Tomlinson said. "There's only one runway long enough, and facing the right direction?"

Mel said grimly, "That's the way it is. Even though there should be two." He was remembering bitterly the proposals he had made, over three successive years, for an additional runway to parallel three zero. The airport needed it. Traffic volume and aircraft safety cried out for implementation of Mel's report, particularly since the runway would take two years to build. But other influences proved stronger. Money had not been found, the new runway had not been built. Nor had construction-despite Mel's further pleas-yet been approved.

With a good many projects, Mel could swing the Board of Airport Commissioners his way. In the case of the proposed new, runway, he had canvassed them individually and received promises of support, but later the promises were withdrawn. Theoretically, airport commissioners were independent of political pressure; in fact, they owed their appointments to the mayor and, in most cases, were political partisans themselves. If pressure was put on the mayor to delay an airport bond issue because of other projects, similarly financed and more likely to swing votes, the pressure penetrated through. In the case of the proposed new runway it not only penetrated, but three times had proved effective. Ironically, as Mel remembered earlier tonight, triple-decking of the airport's public parking lots-less necessary, but more visible-had not been held up.

**VIII. *Tell how Mel's behavior and actions characterize him (basing on the chapter content).***

## Chapter 14

### I. *Answer the following questions*

1. How could be explained the lateness of landing and taking off flights?
2. When was Keith Bakersfeld to finish his work in the radar room?  
Why was his shift prolonged?
3. What helped Keith perform his professional duties?
4. How did the tower chief explain his uneasy feeling about Keith?
5. How did Wayne Tevis expound the runway problem to Keith? What instructions did he give to him?
6. How did Keith formulate his difference from his elder brother?
7. How did Keith manage to overcome his fear?
8. What instructions were given to Patroni?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements*

1. After midnight air traffic at Lincoln International relented.
2. Keith was not able to concentrate completely on his work.
3. The tower chief was sorry for having interrupted the conversation between Keith and his brother.
4. When Keith guessed, that the supervisors' conversation was in part about him, he was hurt.
5. Keith considered only one variant of landing Trans-America Two: on runway three zero.
6. Keith got in a panic realizing his responsibility for landing the crippled airliner.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

скопление, скользящий график, с перерывами, все это время, чутье, под предлогом, качать на качелях, оплошать (сплоховать), дружище (приятель), урывками, дурное предчувствие, на свое усмотрение

**IV. Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "Should we take Keith off; put someone else on?"
2. "Let's not push it. Keep Keith on, but stay close."
3. "He didn't want this, or any part of it! There was nothing he sought to prove, or could; nothing he might retrieve, even if he handled the situation well."
4. "They are coming on the scope."
5. "... this is Lincoln approach control. Sorry about the delay. We're still hoping for runway three zero; we shall know in three to five minutes."

**V. Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. "... mind had split into two levels, like a duplex ... was like a light bulb about to fail and, for its last few minutes, burning brightest."
2. "...gaunt, pale, strained"

**VI. How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.**

1. "Since the emotion-charged session with his brother, which ended abruptly and abortively an hour and a half ago, Keith had sought relief of mind by concentrating intensely on the radar screen in front of him".
3. "thoughts were personal and introspective"



4. “perhaps the session with Mel had achieved that, if nothing more”
5. “Keith knew that he was trapped.”

**VII. *Read and retell the following fragment from the chapter.***

Since the emotion-charged session with his brother, which ended abruptly and abortively an hour and a half ago, Keith had sought relief of mind by concentrating intensely on the radar screen in front of him. If he could maintain his concentration, he thought, the remaining time—the last he would ever have to fill—would pass quickly. Keith had continued handling east arrivals, working with a young assistant—a radar handoff man—seated on his left. Wayne Tevis was still supervising, riding his castor-equipped stool around the control room, propelled by his Texan boots, though less energetically, as Tevis's own duty shift neared an end.

In one sense, Keith had succeeded in his concentration; yet in a strange way he had not. It seemed almost as if his mind had split into two levels, like a duplex, and he was able to be in both at once. On one level he was directing east arrivals traffic—at the moment, without problems. On the other, his thoughts were personal and introspective. It was not a condition which could last, but perhaps, Keith thought, his mind was like a light bulb about to fail and, for its last few minutes, burning brightest.

The personal side of his thoughts was dispassionate now, and calmer than before; perhaps the session with Mel had achieved that, if nothing more. All things seemed ordained and settled. Keith's duty shift would end; he would leave this place; soon after, all waiting and all anguish would be over. He had the conviction that his own life and others' were already severed; he no longer belonged to Natalie or Mel, or Brian and Theo . . . or they to him. He belonged to the already dead—to the Redfens who had died together in the wreck of their Beech Bonanza; to little Valerie . . . her family. That was it! Why had he never thought of it that way before; realized that his own death was a debt he owed the

Redferns? With continued dispassion, Keith wondered if he were insane; people who chose suicide were said to be, but either way it made no difference. His choice was between torment and peace; and before the light of morning, peace would come. Once more, as it had intermittently in the past few hours, his hand went into his pocket, fingering the key to room 224 of the O'Hagan Inn.

## Chapter 15

### I. *Answer the following questions*

1. Why did Joe Patroni delay starting the engines of the Aereo-Mexican 707?
2. Why was Patroni so shocked by Mel's plan to reduce the undamaged aircraft to a pile of scrap metal?
3. Whom on the ground did Patroni communicate with being on the flight deck?
4. What message did the tower chief receive from Bakesfeld?
5. When did Mel report that runway three zero was clear and open?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements*

1. Patroni ascended the boarding ramp when everything had been made as he wanted.
2. Patroni wanted somebody else to be with him on the flight deck.
3. Patroni was indifferent to the safety of Flight Two passengers.
4. Mel Bakesfeld left the stuck plane for the control tower.
5. Being on the flight deck Patroni forgot his habit of chewing cigarettes.
6. Patroni was about to close the throttles when the airplane shifted forward.
7. Mel was sure that Patroni had not received his demands to stop engines immediately.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

серьезные опасения, снизить мощность двигателя, опытный специалист по техническому обслуживанию, пойти ва-банк («либо пан, либо пропал»), всякий мусор,

**IV. Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. “Get everybody clear! We're starting up.”
2. “Power cart's clear. So's everything else down here”
3. “She'd better come out now, or she's a dead duck.”
4. “Do you hear? We have to shut down.”
5. “He’s done it! He’s done it!”
6. “Mobile one to ground control. Obstructing aircraft has been moved from runway three zero. Vehicles following. I am inspecting for debris.”

**V. Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. “... its bright yellow coloring reflected through the darkness”
2. “small and spare”
3. “chunky fingers”
4. “like a pinball machine at Vegas”

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "I need somebody with me on the flight deck, but let's keep the weight down. Send me a skinny guy who's cockpit qualified."
2. "If we come out fast, I hope that guy's a good runner."
3. "The airplane's inclination to stand on its nose was unmistakable."
4. "As any seasoned maintenance man knew, you always had a minute more than the panic-prone sales types in the front office said you had."
5. "I gotta stake in this, too."
6. "Patroni had gotten away with it, and no one with sense quarreled with that kind of success."

**VII. *Prove by the text that Patroni was not only a qualified mechanic but also a skilled pilot.***

## Chapter 16

### I. *Answer the following questions*

1. Why was The Golden Argosy guided with gentle turns during the descent?
2. Why did Vernon Demerest order Cy Jordan to return to the flight deck?
3. Why didn't Demerest react to the doctor's news about Gwen?
4. What position did those doctors, who were on board the plane, take before landing?
5. Why was it of vital importance to calculate landing speed?
6. How did Harris explain his intention to "touch down early"?
7. What help did Harris want from Vernon after landing?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements*

1. Vernon Demerest recognized
2. the voice of the Lincoln International approach controller.
3. Cy Jordan was to stay in the flight deck till the landing.
4. All injured passengers on board the plane were strapped in seats.
5. Ada Quonsett was afraid of landing but tried not to show it.
6. Demerest didn't change his mind about Gwen's child.
7. Vernon was glad to see clustered emergency vehicles at the runway.

**III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations**

Передышка, прибегнуть к (чему-то), дьявольский, торможение, условное обозначение (стенография), прилагать усилие

**IV. Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?**

1. "I thought you'd like to know-your stewardess, Miss Meighen, is holding her own. If we can get her to a hospital soon, I'm fairly sure she'll come through."
2. "Trans America Two, turn right on heading two eight five. Runway three zero is open."
3. "... God! – the whole tail assembly might come off . . . If it does, ... at a hundred and fifty knots we've had it . . . That son-of-a-bitch who had set off the bomb! A pity he had died!"
4. "I may need help with rudder."

**V. Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?**

1. "Weariness, too, was creeping over her from the exertions of an exceedingly full day"
2. "least concerned of anyone aboard the airplane"
3. "... lights strung ahead like strands of converging pearls"
4. "piled snow and a cavern of darkness beyond"

**VI. How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.**

1. "... your stewardess, Miss Meighen, is holding her own. ... I'm fairly sure she'll come through."

2. "I'm going in low," Harris said, "and we'll touch down early. We're still going to need every bit of real estate they have down there."
3. "Vernon Demerest clicked his mike button twice-an airman's shorthand "thank you."
4. "To both pilots, the mile and three quarters of runway in front had never looked shorter."

**VII. *Read and retell the following fragments***

He (Vernon Demerest) was peering ahead, straining to penetrate cloud and darkness, to catch a glimpse of the airport lights which must be visible soon. His thoughts, despite his own outward calm, were on the damage to the plane. They still didn't know exactly how bad it was, or how it might have worsened during the rough flight in. There was that damned great hole; then there would be the heavy, fast landing ... *God!— the whole tail assembly might come off* . . . If it does, Demerest thought, at a hundred and fifty knots we've had it . . . *That son-of-a-bitch who had set off the bomb!* A pity he had died! Demerest would like to have his hands on him now, to personally rip out his stinking life ...

Beside him, Anson Harris, making an Instrument Landing System approach, increased the rate of descent from seven hundred to eight hundred feet per minute.

Demerest wished desperately he were flying himself. With anyone else but Harris - with a younger or less senior captain - Demerest would have taken full command. As it was, he couldn't fault Harris for a thing ... He hoped the landing would be the same way ... His thoughts went back to the passenger cabin. *Gwen, we're almost in! Keep on living!* His conviction about their child, that he and Gwen and Sarah would work out something, was as strong as ever.

.....  
.....

They zoomed over the airfield edge, runway lights strung ahead like strands of converging pearls. On either side were piled banks of



snow; beyond them, darkness. Harris had made his approach as low as he dared; the nearness to the ground revealed their exceptional speed. To both pilots, the mile and three quarters of runway in front had never looked shorter.

Harris flared out, leveling the aircraft, and closed all four throttles. The jet thrum lessened; an urgent, shrieking wind replaced it. As they crossed the runway's edge, Vernon Demerest had a blurred impression of clustered emergency vehicles which would, he knew, follow them down the runway. He thought: *We damned well might need them! Hang on, Gwen!*

They were still floating, their speed scarcely diminished.

Then the aircraft was down. Heavily. Still traveling fast.

Swiftly, Harris raised wing spoilers and slammed thrust reverse levers upward. With a roar, the jet engines reversed themselves, their force - acting as a brake - now exerted in an opposite direction to the airplane's travel.

They had used three quarters of the runway and were slowing, but not enough.

Harris called, "Right rudder!" The aircraft was veering to the left. With Demerest and Harris shoving together, they maintained direction. But the runway's forward limit-with piled snow and a cavern of darkness beyond-was coming up fast.

Anson Harris was applying toe brakes hard. Metal was straining, rubber screaming. Still the darkness neared. Then they were slowing . . . gradually slowing more . . . Flight Two came to rest three feet from the runway's end.

## Chapter 17

### I. *Answer the following questions*

1. What was the only Keith's wish after Flight Two landing?
2. Where did Keith keep his wife's photo?
3. Why did Keith take from his locker nothing but Natalie's note and her snapshot?
4. What conclusion did Keith come to as the result of his thinking about the future?

### II. *Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements*

1. Keith left the radar room after his shift had been over.
2. Nobody but Keith with his competence could guide in Flight Two.
3. Keith has always realized his hatred of aviation.
4. Keith's decision to go home was a sudden one.
5. Keith hoped to forget the Redfern family.

### III. *Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations*

головокружение, бережно хранить, «клаузула (специальное условие) возможного отказа», зарабатывать на жизнь.

### IV. *Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?*

1. "Hey!" ... "What gives?"
2. "Take this. Somebody else may need it."

3. "I'm glad we had our ration. With love and passion."
4. "... there would be times when he would be reminded of the past"

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "with its wooden benches and cluttered notice board"
2. "impudent pixyish face, and freckles"

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "Hey!" Wayne Tevis said. "What gives?"
2. "As others who had quit air traffic control before him had discovered, that could prove the hardest thing of all."

**VII. *Give a brief retelling of the chapter.***

## Chapter 18

### ***I. Answer the following questions***

1. What landing conditions did ground control provide for Trans-America Flight Two?
2. What did Tomlinson want to do after arriving at the terminal?
3. What was Mel thinking about watching the Aereo-Mexican 707 being moved away?
4. What was Mel planning to do on the next day after the disaster?
5. What did Mel think about his relations with Tanya Livingston?

### ***II. Define which of the following statements correspond to the content of the chapter. Make corrections in the false statements***

1. Tanya and Tomlinson were driving back to the terminal with Mel Bakersfeld.
2. It was Joe Patroni, who taxied the Aereo-Mexican 707 to the hangars.
3. All airports through the nation had the same problems as Lincoln International had.
4. Mel decided to fight for building extra runways.
5. Mel did not hope to win all his fights for ground-air progress.
6. Mel's personal problems were not of great importance for him.
7. Mel was sure that he would be able to patch up relations with Cindy.

### ***III. Find the English equivalents of the following words and word combinations***

затмевать, обыденная тема, долгосрочная перспектива, тяжелое испытание, предчувствие, устаревший, хвастливый, поддерживать (одобрять) на словах, встать на чью-то сторону, излишества,

самодостаточный, возобновление, жаждать дружеского общения, включить скорость (передачу в авто)

**IV. *Whom of the characters do these words or thoughts belong to?***

1. "Are you still coming home?"
2. "Well, one voice alone would not change everything, but each voice which spoke with knowledge and conviction was a help."
3. "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main."

**V. *Who or what do the following descriptions refer to?***

1. "merge with the galaxy of terminal lights"
2. "gleaming glass and chrome"

**VI. *How do you understand the following word combinations and sentences? Give your interpretation in English.***

1. "The disaster had happened, though through good fortune it had been neither complete, nor had the airport's facilities-or lack of them-been directly responsible."
2. "record-breaking passenger volume, its Niagara of air freight"
3. "... air progress had eclipsed prediction. Once more, expert prognosticators had been wrong, the visionary dreamers right"
4. "... tonight they merely resolved to remove a facade behind which nothing existed any more."

**VII. *Read and retell the following fragment from the chapter.***

The experience of tonight had strengthened, as nothing else could, the arguments for increasing runway capacity which Mel had presented long ago. But this time, he determined, he would make a fight of it-with plain, blunt words, warning of catastrophe if public safety were given lip service only, while vital operational needs were ignored or shelved. He would see to it that press and public opinion were marshaled on his side -the kind of pressure which downtown politicians understood.

After new runways, other projects, so far only talked about or hoped for, must be pressed on; among them - an entirely new terminal and runway complex; more imaginative ground flow of people and freight; smaller, satellite fields for the vertical and short takeoff aircraft which were coming soon.

Either Lincoln International was in the jet age, or it wasn't; if it was, it must keep pace far better than it had.

It was not, Mel thought, as if airports were an indulgence or some civic luxury. Almost all were self-sustaining, generating wealth and high employment.

Not all the battles for ground-air progress would be won; they never were. But some of them could be, and some of what was said and done here-because of Mel's stature in airport management-could spill over into national, even international, arenas.

If it did, so much the better! The English poet John Donne, Mel remembered, had once written: *No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.* No airport was an island either; those, which called themselves International should employ the kind of thinking to justify their name. Perhaps, working with others, Mel could help to show them how.

People who hadn't heard from Mel Bakersfeld for a while might quickly learn that he was still around.

## ЗАКЛЮЧЕНИЕ

Чтение оригинальной неадаптированной литературы – обязательное требование к подготовке студента языковых специальностей. Знакомство с литературой носителей языка не только расширяет словарный запас и делает речь более точной, выразительной и эмоциональной, развивает аналитическое мышление и необходимые социокультурные компетенции. В процессе чтения происходит погружение в мир народа, живущего в стране изучаемого языка, а понимание этого мира – это путь к формированию профессиональной зрелости.

Система упражнений, предлагаемая автором, позволяет не только интегрировать знания, полученные на более ранних этапах изучения английского языка, но и развивать эти знания, успешно применять их на практике.

Автор выражает надежду, что издание будет полезно тем, кто заинтересован в усовершенствовании своих знаний английского языка.

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*Учебное электронное издание*

READ FOR PLEASURE  
(Novel “Airport” by Arthur Hailey)

Практикум по внеаудиторному чтению

*Автор-составитель* КОЙКОВА Татьяна Ивановна

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