

## Dictation

1. Any one of you could be famous on the Internet by next Sunday.
2. The atmosphere gradually changed as the team achieved one victory after another.
3. My father asked me how long I had been practicing in the rain.

## Listening Comprehension: Aircraft Company Airbus to Stop Making A380

The airplane maker Airbus has announced plans to stop producing its A380 model airplane. The famous A380 is the world's largest passenger airplane and has been used for 12 years. When it first flew, it was called "the future of aviation." However, the demands of customers have changed in the last 15 years, so giant, four-engine passenger planes are no longer needed. Airbus decided to stop production of the 544-seat A380 because they couldn't sell enough of this plane. The feather that sank the boat was when Emirates Airlines, an Arabian airline company, cut its A380 order by 39 airplanes.

The A380 made its first flight in April 2005. The enormous jet was called a "symbol of economic strength" and "the realization of a dream." The plane was designed to reduce the number of airplanes needed because it could carry a large number of people. The Airbus company believed this would help busy airports operate more smoothly. However, an increase in air travel has resulted in a higher demand for two-engine planes that can quickly fly non-stop to a variety of destinations. Giant, four-engine jets such as the Airbus A380 must usually stop at only larger airports. Airbus has said it will stop building the A380 in 2021. This will cause significant job losses at companies linked to the plane's manufacture.

1. The A380 airplane is the world's biggest passenger airplane. **T**
2. The Airbus A380 has been flying for over 20 years. **F**
3. The A380 can carry nearly 550 passengers. **T**
4. There is a higher demand for 4-engine planes than two-engine planes. **F**
5. Airbus said ending the A380 will not result in job losses. **F**
6. When did the A380 first fly?

**c. 14 years ago**

7. How many planes did Emirates Airlines cut its order by?

**d. 39 planes**

8. What was the A380 designed to do?

**It was designed to reduce the number of airplanes needed (because it could carry a large number of people). / It was designed to help busy airports operate more smoothly.**

9. What can two-engine planes do that four-engine planes cannot do?

**They can quickly fly non-stop to a variety of destinations.**

10. The article said, "The *feather that sank the boat* was when Emirates Airlines...cut its A380 order." Explain in English the meaning of the idiom, "*the feather that sank the boat*." **It means the last thing that caused a result. In this case, the feather that sank the boat was Emirates Airlines cutting their order by 39 planes.**

## Dictation

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Listening Comprehension: Aircraft Company Airbus to Stop Making A380

1. The A380 airplane is the world's biggest passenger airplane. T / F
2. The Airbus A380 has been flying for over 20 years. T / F
3. The A380 can carry nearly 550 passengers. T / F
4. There is a higher demand for 4-engine planes than two-engine planes. T / F
5. Airbus said ending the A380 will not result in job losses. T / F
6. When did the A380 first fly?
  - a. 12 years ago
  - b. in 2021
  - c. 14 years ago
  - d. for 15 years
7. How many planes did Emirates Airlines cut its order by?
  - a. 4-engine planes
  - b. 15 planes
  - c. It cut many jobs.
  - d. 39 planes
8. What was the A380 designed to do?

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9. What can two-engine planes do that four-engine planes cannot do?

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10. The article said, "The *feather that sank the boat* was when Emirates Airlines...cut its A380 order." Explain in English the meaning of the idiom, "the feather that sank the boat."

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