Podcast #137 Conversation on a Plane

Original Version

Last week I was on a plane to Los Angeles. The man sitting next to me was Asian. He was from China. We started to talk.

His English name was Edward. He had studied English for over twenty years. This was his first time in the United States.

His wife was travelling with him. She was sitting in a different row. She knows almost no English. They had just been on a cruise. The language on the ship was English. This gave his wife a headache.

Edward was joining a tour in Los Angeles. The group was all Chinese. Edward would have liked an English tour. But that would not be good for his wife.

We got quite friendly during the flight. I practiced my twenty words of Chinese. Edward asked about some English words I used. I explained that "taxi" can be a verb. A plane taxis when it moves on the ground.

Edward doesn't get to speak much English. He could find a speaking partner on Skype. He would trade Chinese for English. Or he could get personalized tutorials.

I also hope his wife learns English. It's better than getting a headache.

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Choose the correct word or term

Last week I (were – was) on a (plane – plain) to Los Angeles. The man (seating – sitting) next to me was Asian. (She – He) was from China. We started to talk.

His (english – English) name was Edward. He had (studied – studyed) English for over twenty years. This was his first time (in – to) the United States.

His wife was travelling (with – by) him. She was sitting in a (diferent – different) row. She knows (allmost – almost) no English. They (had – have) just been on a cruise. The language on the ship was English. This (gave – gave to) his wife a headache.

Edward was (joined – joining) a tour in Los Angeles. The group was all (China – Chinese). Edward would have liked (an – a) English tour. But that (could – would) not be good for his wife.

We (got – getted) quite friendly during the flight. I (practiced – practicing) my twenty words of Chinese. Edward asked about some English words I used. I explained that "taxi" can(to be – be) a verb. A plane (taxi's – taxis) when it moves on the ground.

Edward (doesnt – doesn't) get to speak much English. He could (find – be finding) a speaking partner on Skype. He would trade Chinese for English. Or he could get personalized (tutorals – tutorials).

I also hope his wife (was learning – learns) English. It's better than getting a (head ache – head ache).

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Practice with incorrect or missing articles, indefinite pronouns, and verbs.

In the following version of the story, circle or underline places where (a) a grammatically incorrect article is used, (b) an incorrect verb tense is used, or (c) any of the following is <u>missing</u>:
- a grammatically required article (*a, an, the*)
- a personal pronoun (for example, *he*)
- a possessive pronoun (for example, *his*)
- an indefinite pronoun such as *some* or *any*
- a form of the verb *to be* (for example, *was*)

The first sentence has been underlined to show where you would circle or underline a word or phrase.

Last <u>week was</u> on <u>the</u> plane to Los Angeles. Man sitting next to me was Asian. Was from China. We started to talk.

His English name Edward. He had studied English for over twenty years. This was first time in United States.

His wife travelling with him. She was sitting in different row. She knows almost no English. They had just been on cruise. Language on ship was English. This gave wife headache.

Edward was joining tour in Los Angeles. Group was all Chinese. Edward would have liked English tour. But that would not be good for wife.

We got quite friendly during flight. I practiced my twenty words of Chinese. Edward asked about English words I used. I explained that "taxi" can be verb. A plane taxis when moves on the ground.

Edward doesn't get to speak much English. He could find speaking partner on the Skype. Would trade Chinese for English. Or could get personalized tutorials.

I also hope wife learns English. Is better than getting headache.