



Is Business Class Worth the Extra Cost? A Frequent Flyer's View

Description

Richard Robinson measures time in a unique way, using boarding passes, seat numbers, and time zones instead of weeks or months. Last year, he was away from home more than he was there.

Since 2010, Robinson has taken 945 flights, covering 1,585,148 miles, which is about 64 times around the Earth. He has visited 130 airports and flown with 35 different airlines. Of these flights, he has been in business class 521 times, 11 times in international first class, and a few times in private jets.

At 41, he has United Airlines Premier 1K status, the airline's highest level, which offers special benefits. United Airlines is part of the Star Alliance, which is a group of major airlines. Despite his many flights in business class, he is no longer impressed by luxuries like fine wines and amenity kits. Now, he focuses on comfort basics, like a good bed and enough space to move.

Business class fares are often three to four times the cost of economy class. If you are not using company funds, deciding on an upgrade can be tough. Robinson advises travellers to consider their needs before spending cash or air miles.

Vocabulary List:

1. **unique** //ju'nik// (adjective): one of a kind; not like others
2. **covering** //ˈkʌvərɪŋ// (verb): moving across a distance or area
3. **status** //ˈsteɪtəs// (noun): your rank or position in a group
4. **fares** //fɛrz// (noun): the price you pay for a trip
5. **upgrade** //ʌp'greɪd// (noun): a better seat or service you buy
6. **amenity** //ə'menɪti// (noun): small useful items for comfort on travel

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What unique method does Richard Robinson use to measure time?
Option: Weeks and months
Option: Boarding passes and seat numbers



Option: Clocks and calendars

Option: Daily routines

2. How many flights has Richard Robinson taken since 2010?

Option: 945

Option: 521

Option: 130

Option: 35

3. What is Richard Robinson's United Airlines status?

Option: Premier Gold

Option: Premier 1K

Option: Premier Platinum

Option: Standard

4. Which alliance is United Airlines a part of?

Option: Oneworld

Option: SkyTeam

Option: Star Alliance

Option: Global Airlines

5. What is one of Richard Robinson's main focuses when flying?

Option: Fine wines

Option: Comfort basics

Option: Luxury amenities

Option: Entertainment options

6. How many times has Richard Robinson been in international first class?

Option: 11

Option: 521

Option: 130

Option: 945

True-False

7. Richard Robinson has visited 130 airports.

8. Robinson takes weeks and months into account when measuring time.



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9. Business class fares are typically less expensive than economy class fares.
 10. Robinson has flown with 35 different airlines.
 11. Robinson prefers luxury amenities over comfort.
 12. Robinson has been away from home more than he has been there last year.

Gap-Fill

13. Richard Robinson was away from home more than he was there last year, measuring time using _____.
14. Since 2010, Robinson has covered _____ miles in flights.
15. He has been in business class _____ times.
16. United Airlines is part of the _____ Alliance.
17. Business class fares can cost _____ to four times the price of economy class.
18. Robinson has taken a total of _____ flights since 2010.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Boarding passes and seat numbers 2. 945 3. Premier 1K 4. Star Alliance 5. Comfort basics 6. 11

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. boarding passes 14. 1,585,148 15. 521 16. Star 17. three 18. 945

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is a legal status for a person or entity that cannot repay the debts it owes?
Option: Foreclosure
Option: Liquidation



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- Option: Bankruptcy
 - Option: Repossession

2. What term is used to describe the current state or condition of something?

- Option: Profile
- Option: Status
- Option: Rank
- Option: File

3. Which of the following refers to a desirable feature or facility of a building or place?

- Option: Facility
- Option: Amenity
- Option: Service
- Option: Provision

4. What occurs when a planned event does not take place?

- Option: Postponements
- Option: Cancellations
- Option: Delays
- Option: Reschedules

5. What is the term for the rivalry among sellers to attract customers?

- Option: Cooperation
- Option: Competition
- Option: Partnership
- Option: Collaboration

6. What term describes the process of improving a broken, damaged, or outdated structure?

- Option: Restoration
- Option: Renovation
- Option: Construction
- Option: Demolition

7. Which adjective describes something that is the only one of its kind?

- Option: Common
- Option: Unique
- Option: Regular
- Option: Standard

8. Who are the professionals that examine financial data and market trends?

- Option: Investors
- Option: Consultants
- Option: Analysts



Option: Managers

9. What is divided ownership of a company represented by documents called?

- Option: Stocks
- Option: Dividends
- Option: Shares
- Option: Assets

10. What term refers to improving the quality, value, or performance of something?

- Option: Downgrade
- Option: Upgrade
- Option: Recycle
- Option: Reduce

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

- 11. The holiday season is often regarded as the _____ time of year for retailers.
- 12. Traffic _____ is a common issue in large cities during rush hours.
- 13. It's _____ to provide excellent customer service in any business.
- 14. Many small businesses are _____ to survive in today's competitive market.
- 15. Corporate _____ can play a significant role in community development.
- 16. Businesses must manage their _____ carefully to maintain profitability.
- 17. Providing _____ amenities can enhance the customer experience.
- 18. The company's profits are expected to _____ last year's figures.
- 19. The number of flight _____ has increased significantly over the summer.
- 20. Investors are keenly awaiting the quarterly _____ report from the company.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

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|---|
| 21. The status of the project was unclear after the delay in funding. |
| 22. There were numerous cancellations due to the unexpected storm. |



23. Effective communication is crucial for team success in any organization.
24. The company filed for bankruptcy after failing to meet its financial obligations.
25. Each piece of art at the gallery is unique and offers a different perspective.
26. There is fierce competition among tech companies to innovate and lead the market.
27. The renovation of the historic building brought new life to the downtown area.
28. The hotel offers a range of amenities, including a spa and fitness center.
29. The company's shares have risen sharply in value over the past year.
30. Many artists are struggling to gain recognition in the competitive music industry.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Bankruptcy 2. Status 3. Amenity 4. Cancellations 5. Competition 6. Renovation 7. Unique 8. Analysts 9. Shares 10. Upgrade

Gap-Fill: 11. busiest 12. congestion 13. crucial 14. struggling 15. philanthropy 16. expenses 17. superior 18. surpass 19. takeoffs 20. earnings

Matching sentence: 1. status 2. cancellations 3. crucial 4. bankruptcy 5. unique 6. competition 7. renovation 8. amenity 9. shares 10. struggling

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL2

POST TAG

1. business class
2. ESL learning
3. esl news
4. Level 2
5. splurge
6. worth

Tags

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