**Branson’s new route to more jobs**

**Comprehension:**

1. The tow reasons why Virgin Atlantic was considering redundancies were: facing a recession and a failure to acquire more flight slots out of Heathrow.
2. Richard Branson invited his staff to take up six months unpaid leave and to practice a job-sharing scheme.
3. 450 people volunteered to take unpaid leave.
4. The long break made the staff enjoy their work more.
5. The scheme is attractive to new recruits because it develops their financial situation, and enable people who has no work or living on the dole to have a chance to work too.
6. The scheme might become permanent because they are thinking about making nine-month working a standard contract.

**Exercise 5:**

1. I think that if the people are well paid, it will possible for them to take this period off, and go back full of energy, this scheme also give other people the opportunity to develop their financial situation. So, I guess it’s a win-win situation.
2. I don’t think that this scheme will succeed in firms here in morocco because people are not well paid, they cannot this long period without making money, and they have so much expenses.
3. So many people of Virgin’s cabin crew took advantage of the scheme, because they need to rest a good time of the year and four weeks was not enough.
4. I think this kind of scheme can only succeed with youthful staff, because having so much responsibilities automatically means more money to spend, and taking a long unpaid period can make it difficult.
5. I can convince the people who have considerable working experience and are used to earning a certain wage that they should take a pay cut, by explaining to them that they need to rest and spending more time with their families and that it’s a good cause, that will improve the financial situation of many people.