**Unit 5**

**Technical Problems**

**Lecture 7 (page 42)**

**Describing the causes of faults**

**Ex. 9. b.: In this text you are going to read the sequence of events that followed the fuel leak on the Airbus A330 (which we discussed in lesson 6).**

**At 4:38:** The flight data recorder registered an abnormal increase in fuel consumption, but the anomaly was not enough to cause the warning lights to come on.

**At 4:58/ (b):** The crew noticed that a disproportionate amount of oil had been used by each engine, but they thought that it was still within acceptable parameters.

**At 5:33:** A warning message came up, alerting the crew to an imbalance between the amount of fuel in each wing tank.

**At 5:36/ (d):** Trying to correct the anomaly, the crew opened a cross-feed valve to transfer fuel from the left tank to the right tank.

**At 5:45:** As a precaution, the crew decided to divert to the nearest airport.

**At 6:13/ (a):** An alarm sounded and a warning lit up. Seconds later, the right engine flamed out due to insufficient fuel.

**At 6:26:** The second engine failed, and having run out of fuel, the plane was gliding and descending at 2000 feet per minute.

**Vocabulary items for each paragraph:**

**At 4:38:**

Register (v): record

Abnormal (adj.): unusual/ uncommon

Consumption (n.): use

Consume (v.): use

Slight (adj.): small in degree

Anomaly (n.): irregularity/ something that is unusual

Insufficient: not enough/ inadequate

Alert (v.): warn

Alert (n.): alarm

Alert (adj.): watchful

Imminent (adj.): almost certain to happen very soon/; usually unpleasant.

**At 4:58/ (b):**

Disproportionate: too large or too small in comparison to something.

Parameter: limiting factor or characteristic. E.g. if someone's bold pressure is 110/80 then your pressure is 'within acceptable parameters'.

**At 5:33:**

Imbalance: inequality/ lack of balance

Malfunction (v.): fail to work properly

Malfunction (n.): failure

Reveal (v.): make known

Significantly (adv.): considerably/ importantly