

Task. Get familiar with the following questions. Next, use the link given below and watch the video. Take some notes and get ready to answer as many questions as possible.

British Airways Flight 38 (2008) – The Heathrow Enigma

1. What problem did the pilots have on descent at Heathrow Airport?
2. Was the main cause of the crash clear to the investigators right after the crash?
3. How long was the flight and what was the route of the flight?
4. What type of aircraft was involved in the crash landing?
5. What was the flight destination airport?
6. Was the autopilot set when the aircraft lined up for RWY 27L or was it flown manually by the pilots?
7. How strong were the gusts of wind on descent?
8. Why can the autopilot help in turbulent weather?
9. How soon before the crash landing did the pilot take over to fly the plane?
10. Who had control of the aircraft on landing? The captain or the first officer?
11. Was the undercarriage up or down on landing?
12. What was the British Airways Flight 38 call sign?
13. Did passengers feel anything wrong on the approach to land?
14. What was the direct indication of the engines failure?
15. What impact point was the captain afraid of hitting on landing which might have led to 100% fatality rate?
16. Why did the captain decide to retract the flaps?
17. Why was this action risky at the same time?
18. What did the pilot do first? Retracted the flaps or called Mayday?
19. What's the checklist procedure after a crash landing?
20. What was the imminent (possible) danger for passengers after the crash landing?
21. How many passengers got injuries due to this crash landing?
22. What early hunches and clues did the investigators have at an early stage of the investigation? Give at least 3 of them.
23. What's the British counterpart of American NTSB?
24. How far from the runway did the aircraft hit?
25. What is a QAR and where is it located? What is it mainly used for?
26. What was the big surprise when the tin kickers got access to the QAR?
27. Why was there so much pressure on the investigators?
28. What kinds of fuel contamination are mentioned?
29. How far did the inspectors go to trace the fuel origin and what did they find out?

30. What did inspectors find in the tanks of the aircraft?
31. Why was the case of Malaysia Airlines from 3 years back similar to the one at Heathrow?
32. What was the time window between when the pilots were fully aware what was going on and the accident was inevitable?
33. What was the descent rate after the double engine failure on Flight 38?
34. How much did the captain reduce the flap setting prior to landing?
35. Does the QAR record the real-time data? Why yes / why not?
36. What is fuel waxing?
37. How often did the captain check the temp gauges during the flight?
38. What was the weather on the day of the accident?
39. What was the fuel temperature at different legs of the flight?
40. What was the breakthrough in the investigation no matter how unlikely it seemed to be?
41. How did engineers deal with the problem of ice forming in the fuel lines on jet airliners a long time ago?
42. How does FOHE work?
43. What 3 things did the investigators have to prove speaking of FOHE?
44. What did they find out?
45. What was the breakthrough and the answer to the puzzle?
46. What happened to Delta 777 flight (on the route from Shanghai to Atlanta) 10 months after the crash at Heathrow that helped the investigators?
47. What caused the clogging of the fuel/oil heat exchanger?
48. How did the engineers redesign the FOHE after the discovery of the true cause of the crash?

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