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Passage 5

After (S1) _____ in a crowded bus and waiting in the noisy airport building, I was glad to be sitting in the plane at last. In a few minutes now we would be asked to (S2) _____ our seat and to stop smoking, and then we would soon be (S3) _____ in the sky on our flight to Berlin.

But I had been (S4) _____. Ten minutes later, instead of enjoying the (S5) _____ of the evening sky from high above the clouds. I was sitting in a smoke-filled room with an airline (S6) _____ and a police officer at my side. On the table in front of me was one of my (S7) _____.

The officials were very polite.

(S8) _____
_____.

I did as I was told.

(S9) _____
_____.

(S10) _____.

(S1) travelling

(S2) fasten

(S3) up

(S4) mistaken

(S5) beauty

(S6) official

(S7) suitcases

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(S8) They asked me to show them my passport, my ticket, and my baggage check. Then I was requested to open the suitcase and to spread out its contents on the table.

(S9) The moment I placed a battery-powered alarm clock I bought for my father on the table, the two officials looked at each other and smiled.

(S10) Hearing the clock ticking away merrily, I suddenly understood. Someone must have heard the ticking noise coming from my suitcase and thought there was a time bomb hidden in it.