Question 1
Describe and discuss the evolution of the present system of air service agreements. Your essay should include consideration of the change from strict governmental control over air services to the present trend towards more liberalised operations, and how this has impacted the air transport industry. You should also present your own assessment of the effectiveness of today’s system and how it may change in the future.

[20 marks]

Question 2
The air transport industry faces many challenges, not least the maintenance and improvement of its safety record. Discuss the trends in air accidents over the last twenty years, highlighting the areas of greatest concern. Your discussions should include not only the major causes of accidents and the geographical variations, but also the direct impact on the industry of aircraft accidents, and what it is attempting to do about it.

[20 marks]

Question 3
Describe the principles of airline route selection and scheduling. How are routes chosen and what considerations are taken into account when planning timings and frequencies? Your answer should include consideration of the relative benefits of such areas as; target passenger type and class, fares strategy, and point to point versus hub and spoke operations.

[20 marks]

Question 4
There are many ways in which an airline can maximise its efficiency and improve its market penetration and economics by negotiating agreements with other carriers. Describe the options available to a carrier looking to do this, and the relative merits and drawbacks of each option.

[20 marks]

Question 5
An airline can measure its performance in a number of different ways, not based solely on bottom-line profit. List and describe the key indicators, both financial and performance related, that an airline should be monitoring to ensure it is operating efficiently. Your answer should show how these different parameters are interrelated.

[20 marks]
Question 6

Discuss the evolution and current status of the civil air transport regulatory system worldwide. Your answer should include explanation of; the key industry bodies behind regulatory requirements, the two major regulatory regimes currently in existence, their major operational requirements, and a discussion of how this situation is changing now and in the near future.

[20 marks]

Question 7

Most experts agree that the air transport industry is set for significant growth for at least the next twenty years. Discuss the key differences between the growth forecasts of the major manufacturers and the regulators, how these forecasts expect growth to vary in different parts of world, and what issues may have significant impact on these forecasts.

[20 marks]

Question 8

Recent years have seen a huge expansion in many parts of the world by low-fares airlines. Explain the reasons for this growth and discuss the areas of the world where this growth is strongest, explaining why you think that is. How are the fundamental business principles for successful operation of a low-cost carrier changing over time; what is driving that change?

[20 marks]