

For release  
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Oxygen and altitude! If you go up in an airplane with no equipment to supply oxygen in adequate amounts, you first have a feeling of exhaustion, then one of drowsiness, and finally become unconscious due to decreasing amounts of oxygen. The amount of oxygen breathed in depends upon lung capacity and air pressure. Thus, at 18,000 feet one-half the atmosphere is below that level, the pressure is reduced one-half and only one-half as much oxygen is breathed in as at the surface. At 45,000 feet the pressure is so low that even if the air at that level were all oxygen (that is, not mixed with nitrogen) there still would not be enough for normal breathing.

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