PROBLEM SOLVING ACTIVITY:

Too Hot To Fly ???????

PROBLEM: One day in July, passengers jets at the airport in Phoenix, Arizona were grounded. The problem: a sizzling 50 °C was too hot for the planes to get off the ground! The planes had to wait several hours until the temperature dropped a few degrees before they take off.

TASK: You are a public relations representative for the airport. It is your job to explain the reason for the delay to the passengers and their friends and families. Prepare a press release explaining the science behind the problem:

• Why were the planes unable to take off in hot air?