## TEA Test and Its Purpose

The TEA test is an English language proficiency assessment test designed for the aviation sector and is used for the certification of aviation professionals. It assesses a candidate's level of English language proficiency in accordance with ICAO international requirements.

# Main Purposes of the TEA Test

- To assess the candidate's ability to communicate in English in accordance with ICAO language requirements;
- To assess language abilities in non-routine situations;
- To help ensure and improve aviation safety in an international environment;
- To provide an official certificate confirming the candidate's level of English language proficiency, which may be submitted to the licensing authority for the purpose of issuing or maintaining the validity of an ATCO licence.

# Structure of the TEA Test

The TEA test takes approximately 25–30 minutes and is conducted face-to-face with the participation of one interlocutor/tester. It consists of three parts.

### Part 1: Interview

The candidate answers questions relating to their aviation activities and general aviation topics. There are no "right" or "wrong" answers; the important thing is to respond to the questions fully and clearly.

### Part 2: Interactive Comprehension

Part 2 consists of three sub-parts: 2A, 2B and 2C. In each sub-part, the candidate will listen to audio recordings in English.

The recordings will be played once, and, at the candidate's verbal request, may be played a second time. The candidate is not permitted to request that a recording be played a third time. It should be noted that regularly requesting repetitions indicates slower listening comprehension, which may negatively affect the assessment.

#### *Part 2A*

Six recordings will be played, in which either a pilot or an air traffic controller speaks about a non-routine aviation situation.

After each recording, the candidate must fully answer the following two questions:

**"What was the message about?"** and **"Who do you think was speaking: the pilot or the controller?"**

The candidate will be provided with a task card containing these two questions. After the interlocutor/tester gives the instruction **"Report what you can"**, the candidate should speak and describe the situation using their own words or the words used in the recording.

Failure to provide all the information will negatively affect the assessment.

### *Part 2B*

Four recordings will be played, in which either a pilot or an air traffic controller describes a problem.

The interlocutor will provide a pen so that the candidate can take notes on the task card while listening. After each recording, the candidate will be instructed to **"Report what you can."**

The candidate should report the message heard as fully as possible and provide as many details as possible. Failure to provide all the information will negatively affect the assessment.

### *Part 2C*

Three recordings will be played involving more general non-routine situations.

After each recording, the interlocutor will instruct the candidate to **"Ask questions"** for 20 seconds. The candidate will then be instructed to give advice for 20 seconds in response to the question:

**"What advice would you give to this speaker?"**

# Part 3: Picture Description and Discussion

The candidate will be given two pictures on the same topic to describe and compare.

First, the first picture will be shown and the candidate will be instructed to describe it within 30 seconds. The second picture will then be shown, and the candidate will be asked several questions about the pictures.

# Useful Links for TEA Test Preparation

The TEA test website (**Learning Advice – AviationEnglish.com**) contains useful information and guidance for preparing for the examination day.

For the best preparation, candidates are advised to visit www.tea-test.com and:

- listen to the test sample;
- study the guidance;
- complete the Part 2 task.

# TEA Test Organisation and Administration Process

Candidates must arrive at the TEA centre (**"Armenia Air Navigation" CJSC, 33 I. Gasparyan Street**) at least 30 minutes before the examination so that the administrator can verify the candidate's details and take a photograph, which will appear on the certificate. It is not necessary to bring a photograph.

The candidate must bring the passport or identification document used for registration. Without this document, the candidate will not be permitted to take the test. No other items are required.

Recording devices and mobile phones must remain outside the examination room. The test will be recorded for security and quality-control purposes.

If a candidate is dissatisfied with any aspect of the procedures on the examination day, they should speak to the administrator on the day of the examination.

The candidate's result will not be available on the day of the examination; therefore, candidates are requested not to ask for their results.

The interlocutor will not provide any indication of how the candidate performed in the examination. If there are any concerns regarding the examination day, including complaints, a formal written complaint must be submitted to the administrator within 48 hours of the examination day.

The TEA test is assessed according to six criteria—pronunciation, grammatical structure, vocabulary, fluency, listening comprehension and interaction—in accordance with the ICAO Language Proficiency Rating Scale, using levels from 1 to 6.

The final level is determined by the lowest score obtained in any one of the six criteria.

# Who Is the TEA Test Intended For?

The TEA test is intended for the following aviation professionals:

- Airside Driver
- ATCO – En-route
- ATCO – Approach / Aerodrome
- ATCO – Student
- FISO
- Helicopter Pilot
- Private Pilot (Aeroplane)
- Professional Pilot (Aeroplane)
- Radio Operator
- Student Pilot