

Date: 30/01/2020

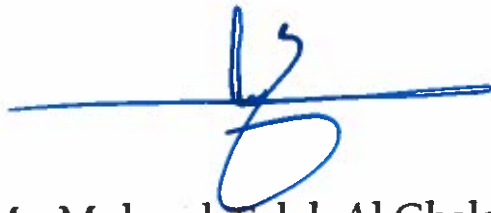
Directorate General for Civil Aviation Regulation (DGCAR)
Public Authority for Civil Aviation

APPROVAL OF CIVIL AVIATION NOTICES CAN 4-06
Aviation English Language Proficiency

Civil Aviation Notices is applicable to the Civil Aviation Regulations issued by the Public Authority for Civil Aviation. It provides guidance to permission holders and aviation users of changes to current regulations.

CAN 4-06 is issued in reference to CAR-FCL.

This CAN will be effective from the Date of issue.



Mr. Mubarak Saleh Al Ghelani
Acting Director General of Civil Aviation Regulation



CIVIL AVIATION NOTICES

CAN 4-06

Aviation English Language Proficiency

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Aviation English Language Proficiency

6.1 Applicability

This Civil Aviation Notice applies to applicants for a PACA license and PACA license holders who are required to use radio telephony.

6.2 Introduction

The Civil Aviation Notices, hereinafter referred to as Notices, are issued by the Public Authority for Civil Aviation (PACA). The Notices are a means of circulating essential information of an administrative or technical nature to holders of PACA licenses and Certificates, foreign air operators in Oman, and foreign operators of Omani registered aircraft as applicable.

Assessing English Language Proficiency (ELP) to meet the requirements for flight crew and ATC licenses require an assessment test which can be carried out through PACA approved ELP testing organisations which assess language proficiency by means of a formal assessment test for Level 4 – 6.

6.3 Background

This CAN describes the policies and procedures for the implementation of Aviation English Language Proficiency as required by CAR FCL.

6.4 Requirements

- (a) The method of assessment and re-evaluation the English Language Proficiency must be incorporated in the Operations Manual Part D and be approved by PACA.
- (b) The minimum English Language Proficiency level for license endorsement is the Operational Level (level 4) of the ICAO Language Proficiency Rating
- (c) Active holders of an ATPL issued in accordance with CAR FCL requirements will be granted, upon request, a preliminary grade level 4.
- (d) The English Language Proficiency re-evaluation intervals referred to in Appendix 1 to CAR FCL-1.010 paragraph 3 should not exceed:
 - (1) Three (3) years if the Language Proficiency level demonstrated is Operational Level (level 4) of the ICAO Language Proficiency Rating;
 - (2) Six (6) years if the Language Proficiency level demonstrated is Extended Level (level 5) of the ICAO Language Proficiency Rating;
 - (3) Re-evaluation is not required for applicants who demonstrate expert (level 6) language proficiency.
- (e) The operator is responsible for keeping English Language Proficiency level records and a reevaluation schedule for all employed pilots.
- (f) It is recommended that the holder of the license receives a statement containing the level and validity of the language endorsements.

6.5 Application Procedure**(a) Existing Licenses:**

Applicants with a valid existing license must apply for re-issue by means of submitting Form PELO 213 to the PACA.

The application must be accompanied with an assessment certificate issued by a PACA approved assessment body.

Note: The assessment certificate requirement does not apply to ATPL holders applying for a preliminary grade level 4 endorsement.

(b) First issued licenses:

Applications after 5th March, 2008 for a first license must be accompanied with an assessment certificate issued by a PACA approved assessment body.

For holders of a valid foreign license the English Language Proficiency endorsement can be accepted at the discretion of the PACA.

(c) Endorsement:

After demonstrated compliance with the requirements of CARFCL-1.010(a)(2)/CAR FCL-2.010(a)(2), the PACA shall include an English Language Proficiency endorsement in all new and reissued licenses in accordance with CAR FCL-1.075 / CAR FCL-2.075.

The re-issued licenses shall be valid for a maximum of 5 years as per CAR FCL-1.025/CAR FCL-2.025.

Note: Fee for new and re-issued licenses refer to CAN 1-06

Example:

ELP LEVEL 4, VALIDITY 29/01/2022

6.6 Criteria for the Acceptability of Language Assessment Bodies

(a) To ensure an impartial assessment process, the language assessment should be independent of the language training.

(1) To be accepted, the language assessment bodies should demonstrate:

- (i) appropriate management and staffing;
- (ii) quality system established and maintained to ensure compliance with, and adequacy of, assessment requirements, standards and procedures.

(2) The quality system established by a language assessment body should address the following:

- (i) management;
- (ii) policy and strategy;
- (iii) processes;
- (iv) the relevant provisions of ICAO or CAR FCL, standards and assessment procedures;

- (v) organisational structure;
 - (vi) responsibility for the development, establishment and management of the quality system;
 - (vii) documentation;
 - (viii) quality assurance programme;
 - (ix) human resources and training (initial and recurrent);
 - (x) assessment requirements;
 - (xi) customer satisfaction.
 - (xii) procedure for appealing
 - (xiii) procedure for reporting invalid ELP level
- (3) The assessment documentation and records should be kept for a period of five (5) years by the Authority approved training organisation and made available to the Authority, on request.
- (4) The assessment documentation should include at least the following:
- (i) assessment objectives;
 - (ii) assessment layout, time scale, technologies used, assessment samples, voice samples;
 - (iii) assessment criteria and standards (at least for the levels 4, 5 and 6 of the rating scale mentioned in para 6.8 ATT, A-1¹);
 - (iv) documentation demonstrating the assessment validity, relevance and reliability;
 - (v) assessment procedures and responsibilities:
 - A. preparation of individual assessment;
 - B. administration: location(s), identity check and invigilation, assessment discipline, confidentiality or security;
 - C. reporting and documentation provided to the competent authority or to the applicant, including sample certificate;
 - D. retention of documents and records.

6.7 Operators Responsibility

The operators and license holders are responsible for the validity of English Language Proficiency endorsements in case of level 4 and level 5 endorsements.

¹ ICAO Annex 1, ATT-1, Nov 2018

ATTACHMENT A
ICAO LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY RATING SCALE

1.1 Expert, extended and operational levels

LEVEL	PRONUNCIATION <i>Assumes a dialect and/or accent intelligible to the aeronautical community.</i>	STRUCTURE <i>Relevant grammatical structures and sentence patterns are determined by language functions appropriate to the task.</i>	VOCABULARY	FLUENCY	COMPREHENSION	INTERACTIONS
Expert 6	Pronunciation, stress, rhythm, and intonation, though possibly influenced by the first language or regional variation, almost never interfere with ease of understanding.	Both basic and complex grammatical structures and sentence patterns are consistently well controlled.	Vocabulary range and accuracy are sufficient to communicate effectively on a wide variety of familiar and unfamiliar topics. Vocabulary is idiomatic, nuanced, and sensitive to register.	Able to speak at length with a natural, effortless flow. Varies speech flow for stylistic effect, e.g. to emphasize a point. Uses appropriate discourse markers and connectors spontaneously.	Comprehension is consistently accurate in nearly all contexts and includes comprehension of linguistic and cultural subtleties.	Interacts with ease in nearly all situations. Is sensitive to verbal and non-verbal cues and responds to them appropriately.
Extended 5	Pronunciation, stress, rhythm, and intonation, though influenced by the first language or regional variation, rarely interfere with ease of understanding.	Basic grammatical structures and sentence patterns are consistently well controlled. Complex structures are attempted but with errors which sometimes interfere with meaning.	Vocabulary range and accuracy are sufficient to communicate effectively on common, concrete, and work-related topics. Paraphrases consistently and successfully. Vocabulary is sometimes idiomatic.	Able to speak at length with relative ease on familiar topics but may not vary speech flow as a stylistic device. Can make use of appropriate discourse markers or connectors.	Comprehension is accurate on common, concrete, and work-related topics and mostly accurate when the speaker is confronted with a linguistic or situational complication or an unexpected turn of events. Is able to comprehend a range of speech varieties (dialect and/or accent) or registers.	Responses are immediate, appropriate, and informative. Manages the speaker/listener relationship effectively.
Operational 4	Pronunciation, stress, rhythm, and intonation are influenced by the first language or regional variation but only sometimes interfere with ease of understanding.	Basic grammatical structures and sentence patterns are used creatively and are usually well controlled. Errors may occur, particularly in unusual or unexpected circumstances, but rarely interfere with meaning.	Vocabulary range and accuracy are usually sufficient to communicate effectively on common, concrete, and work-related topics. Can often paraphrase successfully when lacking vocabulary in unusual or unexpected circumstances.	Produces stretches of language at an appropriate tempo. There may be occasional loss of fluency or formalized speech in spontaneous interaction, but this does not prevent effective communication. Can make limited use of discourse markers or connectors. Errors are not distracting.	Comprehension is mostly accurate on common, concrete, and work-related topics when the accent or variety used is sufficiently intelligible for an international community of users. When the speaker is confronted with a linguistic or situational complication or an unexpected turn of events, comprehension may be slower or require clarification strategies.	Responses are usually immediate, appropriate, and informative. Initiates and maintains exchanges even when dealing with an unexpected turn of events. Deals adequately with apparent misunderstandings by checking, confirming, or clarifying.

Levels 1, 2, and 3 are on subsequent page

1.2 Pre-operational, elementary and pre-elementary levels

LEVEL	PRONUNCIATION <i>Assumes a dialect and/or accent intelligible to the aeronautical community.</i>	STRUCTURE <i>Relevant grammatical structures and sentence patterns are determined by language functions appropriate to the task.</i>	VOCABULARY	FLUENCY	COMPREHENSION	INTERACTIONS
Pre-operational 3	Pronunciation, stress, rhythm, and intonation are influenced by the first language or regional variation and frequently interfere with ease of understanding.	Basic grammatical structures and sentence patterns associated with predictable situations are not always well controlled. Errors frequently interfere with meaning.	Vocabulary range and accuracy are often sufficient to communicate on common, concrete, or work-related topics, but range is limited and the word choice often inappropriate. Is often unable to paraphrase successfully when lacking vocabulary.	Produces stretches of language, but phrasing and pausing are often inappropriate. Hesitations or slowness in language processing may prevent effective communication. Fillers are sometimes distracting.	Comprehension is often accurate on concrete, specific, and work-related topics when the accent or variety used is sufficiently intelligible for an international community of users. May fail to understand a linguistic or situational complication or an unexpected turn of events.	Responses are sometimes immediate, appropriate, and informative. Can initiate and maintain exchanges with reasonable ease on familiar topics and in predictable situations. Generally inadequate when dealing with an unexpected turn of events.
Elementary 2	Pronunciation, stress, rhythm, and intonation are heavily influenced by the first language or regional variation and usually interfere with ease of understanding.	Shows only limited control of a few simple memorized grammatical structures and sentence patterns.	Limited vocabulary range consisting only of isolated words and memorized phrases.	Can produce very short, isolated, memorized utterances with frequent pausing and a distracting use of fillers to search for expressions and to articulate less familiar words.	Comprehension is limited to isolated, memorized phrases when they are carefully and slowly articulated.	Response time is slow and often inappropriate. Interaction is limited to simple routine exchanges.
Pre-elementary 1	Performs at a level below the Elementary level.	Performs at a level below the Elementary level.	Performs at a level below the Elementary level.	Performs at a level below the Elementary level.	Performs at a level below the Elementary level.	Performs at a level below the Elementary level.

Levels 4, 5 and 6 are on preceding page.

Note— The Operational Level (Level 4) is the minimum required proficiency level for radiotelephony communication. Levels 1 through 3 describe Pre-elementary, Elementary, and Preoperational levels of language proficiency, respectively, all of which describe a level of proficiency below the ICAO language proficiency requirement. Levels 5 and 6 describe Extended and Expert levels, at levels of proficiency more advanced than the minimum required Standard. As a whole, the scale will serve as benchmarks for training and testing, and in assisting candidates to attain the ICAO Operational Level (Level 4).

Mr. Mubarak Saleh Al Ghelani
Acting Director General of Civil Aviation Regulation