

# TOEFA – Test of English for Aviation

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## ICAO LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

TEST NUMBER: 2010-012

DATE: FEB 1, 2010

TEST TAKER CODE: 012

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### TEST TASKS AND TEST ITEMS - ATCO

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#### **INTRODUCTION AND RAPPORT ESTABLISHMENT**

This is..... language assessor and .....technical assessor. As a team we are going to conduct the TOEFA examination according to the ICAO language proficiency requirements; the examination will be recorded and it will last approximately 35 minutes. Briefly, the exam consists of three tasks; the open questions, talking about pictures and the listening comprehension task. It is very important that you tell us if you do not understand something during the test. **(1 min.)**

#### **TASK I: OPEN QUESTIONS**

**Evaluate pronunciation, structure, vocabulary, fluency and interactions.**

The interlocutors/raters (in this case both persons perform both functions, at different times) ask open questions to the candidate, allowing some seconds to answer them. Remember that this is a face-to-face interview, so the interview should be as natural as possible.

**Question 1.** Will you please tell me your main functions as an Air Traffic Controller? **(3 min.)**

**Sub-question:** Do you think that it is an interesting job? Why?

**Question 2.** Which is the importance of using the radar for Air Traffic Control? **(3 min.)**

**Sub-question:** Is conventional control unsafe?

**Question 3.** What is the importance of coordination in Air Traffic Control? **(3 min.)**

**Sub-question:** How could you assure a good coordination in ATC?

**Question 4.** What can you tell me about Human Factors in ATC? **(3 min.)**

**Sub-question:** What is the importance of training in ATC?

**Question 5.** What would you do when managing an aircraft emergency situation? **(3 min.)**

**Sub-question:** How do you prepare yourself to manage an emergency situation?

## **TASK II: STATING YOUR OWN IDEA ABOUT A SITUATION**

**Evaluate interactions as responses to unexpected turn of events.**

*Candidates see a picture of an aviation non-routine situation and have to describe and respond to a question related to the picture.*

**(Now, I will show some pictures to you.)**

**Pic. TOEFA 4 (Chaotic Tower):** Please describe what you see in this picture. **(3 min.)**

**Sub-question:** What could be the cause of this chaotic situation?

**Pic. TOEFA 5 (ATC Training):** What can you tell me about this picture? **(3min.)**

**Sub-question:** What is the importance of simulators in ATC?

**Pic. TOEFA 6 (Systems for ATC):** What is this picture about? **(3min.)**

**Sub-question:** Why is the importance of electronic systems in ATC?

## **TASK III: COMPREHENSION PRACTICE**

**Evaluate comprehension.**

*Candidates listen to a previously recorded aviation situation (news, conversations, explanations, etc.) and after listening to it only once; they have to retell what they have understood, as to judge their listening proficiency when exposed to different accents of the English language, in this case produced by means of non-verbal clues. The same task is repeated three times, with different audios.*

**(10 min.)**

Listen carefully to the following audio and after it I will ask you to tell me what it is about.

**Audio 1:** (TOEFA) 004: ATCOs Shortage (story length: 2 minutes 34 seconds).

**Question 1:** Will you please tell me what is this audio about?

**Audio 2:** (TOEFA) 005: JEPPESEN Audio (story length: 1 minute 20 seconds).

**Question 2:** Please tell us, what is this person talking about?

**Audio 3:** (TOEFA) 006: BBC Flying Effects (story length: 1 minute 45 seconds).

**Question 3:** What can you tell us about this audio?

**Closing of the interview.**

.....(Candidate's name).....thank you for your participation on the TOEFA test. The results will be announced to you through (name of company) approximately in 2 days.

**(1 min.)**

**TOTAL TIME OF THE TEST: approximately 35 minutes**