

## What is the TEA test?

- A test of plain English in an aviation context for licensing purposes – not a test of aviation phraseology
- A test of ability to communicate in English – not a test of operational knowledge
- A face-to-face, human interaction test with 1 examiner who asks questions for detailed responses
- A 25 - 30 minute test that consists of 3 parts:

### Part 1 – Interview

You will be asked a series of questions related to your role in aviation, and then to a specific aviation-related topic. There are no right or wrong answers – show you understand the questions by responding to them directly and fully. The examiner will ask you further questions, to encourage you to talk more about some of the things you mention in your responses.

### Part 2 – Interactive Comprehension

There are 3 parts – 2A, 2B and 2C. In each part, you will listen to a series of recordings of international speakers of English. Recordings will only be played once unless you ask for repetition. You cannot hear recordings a third time. If you need to listen again to check something you missed or didn't understand first time, please do ask for repetition. Be aware that regular repetition will suggest that your Comprehension is slower and this may affect your Comprehension score.

In Part 2A, you will hear 6 recordings in which a pilot or controller is talking in a non-routine aviation situation. After each recording, you should show you understand the situation fully by reporting your answers to 2 questions: "*what was the message?*", and "*who do you think was speaking, a pilot or a controller?*". You will be given a Task Card to remind you of these 2 questions. The examiner will ask you to "*report what you can*". You should show that you understood the situation by reporting it either in your own words or using the words in the recording. All the information in the situation is important. This includes stating what the message was and who was speaking (whether it was a pilot or controller). If you do not give all of the information, it will affect your score.

In Part 2B, you will hear 4 longer recordings in which a pilot or controller describes a problem, says what they need, and gives some extra details. The examiner will give you a pen for you to take notes on the Task Card. You need to report the message as fully as possible - the more details you can provide, the better. You should describe the problem, say what the speaker needs and give any extra details that you can. If you do not give all of the information, it will affect your score.

In Part 2C, you will hear 3 short recordings in more general, non-routine situations. After each recording, you have 20 seconds to ask the speaker questions to find out more about the situation. Show you understand the situation by asking as many relevant questions as you can. The examiner will also ask you if you have any advice to give the speaker: again, show you understand the situation by giving some relevant advice.

### Part 3 – Picture Description

You will be given 2 connected pictures to describe and compare. You will be shown the first picture and asked to describe it, and you will be given 30 seconds to speak. You will then be shown a second picture and asked some questions about it. Finally you will be asked some questions about both pictures.

### Part 3 – Discussion

You will take part in an interactive discussion of general aviation topics related to the pictures, and how aviation affects the wider world. The examiner will discuss these topics with you to allow you to show your ability to give opinions, speculate about the future and justify your ideas.

## Who is TEA for?

TEA is suitable for professional, private or student pilots (aeroplane or helicopter), professional or student controllers, FISOs and radio operators. **It is your responsibility to check that your licence-issuing authority accepts a TEA certificate from the TEA Centre where you take the test.**

## What happens on the test day?

You should arrive at the TEA Centre at least thirty minutes before your test so that the Administrator can check your details and take your photograph (which will appear on your certificate). You do not need to provide a photograph. Make sure you bring the passport or national identity card you registered with – you will not be allowed to take the test without it. You do not need to bring anything else with you. Devices capable of recording must be left outside the test room. The test will be recorded for security and quality purposes. If you are unhappy about any aspect of the test day procedures, you must speak to the Administrator on the test day. Your test result will not be available on the test day, so please do not ask. The examiner will not give you any indication of how you have performed in the test. If you have any concerns about your test day experience, including complaints, you should make an official complaint in writing to the TEA Centre and to TEA Head Office in the UK via [tea@maycoll.co.uk](mailto:tea@maycoll.co.uk) within 48 hours of your test date.

## What kind of results are given?

The test performance is scored according to the ICAO Language Proficiency Rating Scale. Only your test performance is considered by the examiners and so they cannot consider any aspect of previous experience or previous test scores as relevant. You will be given a score from 1 to 6 for your performance in Pronunciation, Structure, Vocabulary, Fluency, Comprehension and Interactions. The Overall Score (the ICAO Level) will be the lowest of these scores (which is a mandatory ICAO requirement). All of the scores are recorded on the certificate.

## When will I receive my certificate?

Once your performance has been assessed and once the test has been checked for examiner standards, your certificate will be printed and posted to your TEA Centre within 10 working days of your test date. If you prefer your certificate to be delivered to your TEA Centre by courier service, please speak to the local TEA Administrator about courier fees.

## What should I do next?

- To do your best, it is strongly advised that you visit [www.tea-test.com](http://www.tea-test.com) and
  - listen to the sample test
  - study the *Guide for Candidates*
  - practice the Part 2 task.
- To find your nearest TEA Centre and register, go to our [TEA locations webpage](#) and contact the local TEA Administrator listed.