

What is ICAO Level 4 for Aviation English

ICAO is the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), a specialised agency of the United Nations. It was created in 1944 to set international standards and regulations in aviation, and to promote its safe growth and development.

The ICAO Council looks at aviation safety, security issues, infrastructure, and environmental protection among others. The ICAO headquarters are in Montreal, Canada.

ICAO International English Assessment to Ensure Safety in the Air

The ICAO set an English language assessment framework for all Pilots and Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs) working in international air space.

This was in recognition of the vital importance of having an international standard in Aviation English to ensure clear communication as integral to safe international air travel. In doing so, ICAO recognised the importance of English as the global language of the aviation industry.

The ICAO framework was introduced in March 2008 and came fully into effect in March 2011.

Measuring Aviation English

The ICAO framework divides English level into 6 levels — pre-elementary (1), elementary (2), pre-operational (3), operational (4), extended (5), and expert (6).

In order for pilots and ATCs to work in international air space they need to be ICAO Level 4 'Operational'.

Aviation English Tests

There are a number of tests which national aviation authorities have recognised as an appropriate assessment tool for ICAO Level 4.

They include the **ELPAC** Test of Aviation English, **TEA** (Test of English for Aviation), **TEAP** (Test of English for Aviation Personnel), **RELTA** (RMIT English Language Test for Aviation), and **ETA** (English Test for Aviation).



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The tests look at 6 aspects of English:

- Vocabulary
- Structure
- Pronunciation
- Fluency
- Comprehension
- Interaction

ICAO Level 4 and the other levels are measured according to the descriptors found [here](#).

Achieving ICAO Level 4 or above with Specialist Language Courses

SLC works with companies to arrange highly targeted courses for pilots and air traffic controllers. We work with specialist Aviation English experts only. Courses can take place in company training centres or in Aviation English training schools in the UK, US and Canada.

SLC also arranges Aviation English Teacher Training courses and courses for ICAO raters.

Contact us on enquiries@specialistlanguagecourses.com or on +44 1273 900213 for more information.



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