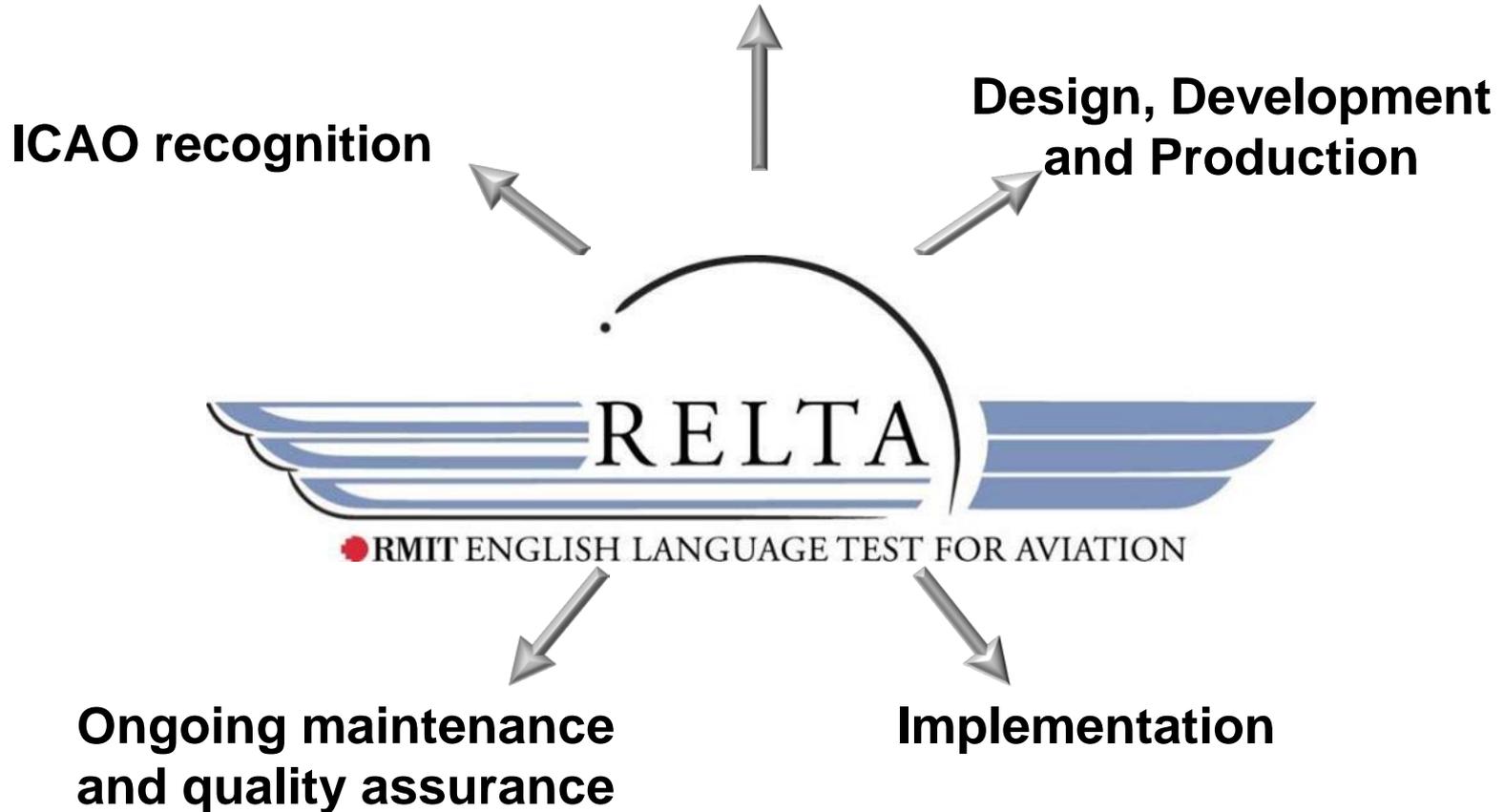


Requirements for an ICAO compliant English Language Proficiency Test

Rachele Zito:
Aviation Relationship Manager
– RMIT English Worldwide

ICAO English Language Proficiency Requirements (Doc 9835)





- RMIT: Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University
- Established in 1887
- Over 70,000 students
- Leader in technology, design, global business, communication, global communities, health solutions etc...
- Aviation industry related courses: Aerospace Engineering, Aerospace Maintenance, Aviation Management and Flight Training



45 years of experience in providing English language training and testing solutions for academic and professional purposes

25 years of experience in providing Aviation English training and testing solutions for Aviation industry personnel in over 25 countries worldwide

The RELTA journey

1990 to 2004: Aviation English training and testing for a number of Asian airlines



2004: First edition of ICAO Document 9835



2004 to 2006: The design and development process of RELTA

Stage 1: Needs analysis and test specifications

Stage 2: Test task writing and item writing—Draft 1

Stage 3: Test trials, review and modifications
—Drafts 2, 3 and 4

Stage 4: Formal test trials and statistical analysis



Foundation – ICAO Doc 9835

Language assessment expertise – applying linguistic theories and practices to achieve valid and reliable language proficiency test results

Aviation industry expertise – ensuring relevant, authentic and accurate aviation work related contexts for language proficiency test results

Collaboration with Qantas and Air Services Australia and dedicated subject matter experts at RMIT

Responding to ICAO Doc 9835 requirements

Language assessment and subject matter expertise
to develop a valid and reliable testing solution

- rationale for test development and how it meets the tests purpose
- language test design and construct principles
- the target language and language domains used in the test tasks
- methodology used to engage the test taker's areas of language proficiency
- expertise of the test task and item writers
- analysis methodology to evaluate test trial data to ensure consistent and reliable results are achieved

RELTA Format



35 minute listening test

25 minute speaking test

- RELTA Listening is computer delivered on line
- RELTA Speaking is an online computer application and delivered by an accredited RELTA Examiner and rated separately by two accredited RELTA Raters.

RELTA Listening



Computer delivered on line

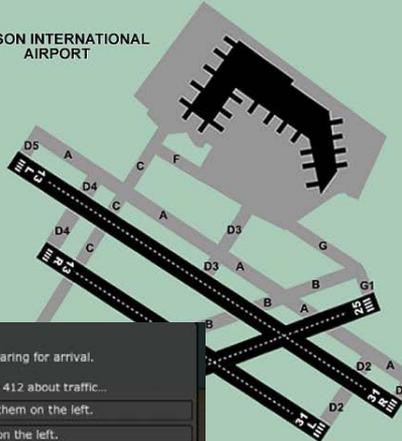
RELTA Listening

RMIT English Language Test for Aviation - Pilots

Listening Test

- There are 3 sections in the Listening Test.
- There are 10 questions in each section.
- You will hear each recording once.
- For Section 1 and Section 3:
 - you will have time to listen to and read the multiple choice questions.
 - you will then listen to the recording.
 - click on the correct answers.
- For Section 2:
 - you will have time to read the questions before the recording starts.
 - answer the questions by typing the missing information.
 - type between 1 and 5 words.
- There is a time limit for answering the questions.
- RELTA is a test of your aviation English. It is not a test of your technical knowledge. The test may present questions in an order in which you would not usually take them.

NELSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



SECTION 1

- You will hear pilots and controllers talking.
- There are 10 questions in this section.
- Listen to and read each question.
- Listen to the recording.
- When the recording stops, you have 30 seconds to answer the question.
- Click on the correct answer.
- The blue aircraft on the map shows the receiving aircraft.

Continue

Question 1

Listen to an aircraft preparing for arrival.

ATC was advising Skyair 412 about traffic...

- descending towards them on the left.
- flying towards them on the left.
- overtaking on the left.



Section One

RELT A Listening



SECTION 2

Please note: timelines in flight scenarios do not reflect real time.

- You will hear pilots and controllers talking.
- There are 10 questions in this section, and an example question.
- There is one question for each recording.
- Read the questions first.
- Listen to the recording. Answer the question by typing the missing information.
- You can type your answers while the recording is playing.
- Type between 1 and 5 words.
- When the recording stops, you have 15 seconds to type your answers.
- Read the information below about the flight.

Callsign:	Pacific 332
Aircraft:	Airbus 330
Origin:	Curran International Airport
Destination:	Nelson

Continue

Section Two



Question 3

Centre advises:
weather conditions
plenty of...
from city will help

Question 4

Centre advises:
not many aircraft tonight
unrestricted arrival...

Submit

RELT A Listening



SECTION 3

- You will hear a group of people talking about an incident.
- There are 10 questions in this section.
- There are two questions for each recording.
- Listen to and read the questions.
- Listen to the recording.
- Click on the correct answers.
- When the recording stops, you have 30 seconds to answer the questions.



Question 1

What did Rob report had happened on Pacific 614?

- A near miss with another aircraft.
- Possible structural damage to the aircraft.
- Stress between the flight crew.

Question 2

Rob didn't use the autopilot on approach to landing because ...

- Michael wanted the inbound leg to be flown manually.
- he wanted to hand-fly the aircraft.
- he had plenty of recent IFR experience.

Submit

Section Three

RELTA Speaking

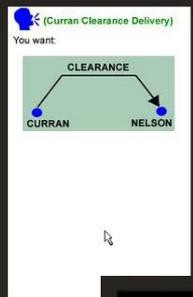


Speaking Test - Pilots

- There are **3** sections in the Speaking Test.
- In **Sections 1 and 2** you will take on the role of a pilot and communicate with air traffic control (ATC) and cabin crew.
- In **Section 3** you will be interviewed about the events from **Section 2** and will discuss your experience and ideas about aviation-related topics.
- Your voice will be recorded.
- The photographs on the screen indicate what you, as the pilot, see from the flight deck for each step in the test.
- During the test, follow the prompts on the right of the screen.
- **Speak** only when you see this symbol:
- You only need to **listen** when you see this symbol:
- You only need to **look at** or **read** information when you see this symbol:
- The **examiner** will control when the next screen is displayed.
- Speak clearly into the microphone.

Instructions for Speaking Test - Section 2

- In this part of the test you will need to listen to and respond to several controllers at **Curran International Airport** in routine and **non-routine** communications.
- You will communicate **directly** with the examiner, who will take on the role of **all** the air traffic controllers.
- You may hear transmissions from other aircraft.
- Your voice will be recorded.

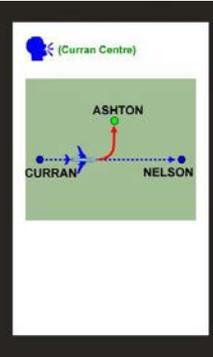


Before **Section 2** begins, **STUDY** the information below.

The examiner will ask you some questions. Answer each question by referring to the information.

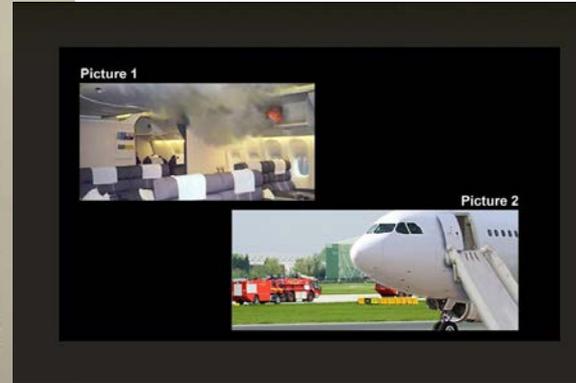
SPEAK clearly. Your voice will be recorded.

Aircraft:	Airbus 330
Location:	Holding Point, RWY15
Origin:	Curran
Destination:	Nelson
POB:	211
Local time:	3.20pm



RELTA Speaking

Section Three



Discussion of non-routine simulation task.

Discussion of aviation incident in relation to work-related experience



Opportunities to use language forms to discuss Aviation work related topics - elicit opinions and ideas

Three types of RELTA to reflect aviation work-related scenarios of Aviation professionals

- RELTA for pilots (IFR)
- RELTA for light aircraft (VFR)
- RELTA for Air Traffic Controllers
 - Tower
 - Approach
 - Area Control (En-Route)



Late 2005: Launched RELTA for ATC

Mid 2006: Launched RELTA for Pilots

Mid 2007: Launched RESET – RMIT Expert Speaker Evaluation Tool

Early 2008: Launched RELTA for Light Aircraft Pilots

2005 onwards: Ongoing review taking into account results from trialling as well as recommendations from stakeholders

Updating the test bank in 6 monthly cycles: 2–3 new test versions added to test bank each quarter, following useability checks, trialling adjustment and subsequent statistical evaluation.

Responding to ICAO Doc 9835 requirements

Language assessment and subject matter expertise to implement a valid and reliable testing solution

- ensuring test versions provide equal results and are sufficient
- security systems in place to protect the test from being compromised
- qualifications of all testing personnel
- test guidelines and instructions for test-takers
- familiarisation process provided for test-takers
- implementation process of the test
- record keeping of the test results

RELTA Test Centre Quality Assurance

Test Centre Responsibility

Appoint Test Centre Manager who takes responsibility for the implementation of all RELTA quality assurance policies and procedures.

Appoint Administration Co-ordinator who takes responsibility for the administrative processes and procedures.

Recruit Examiners and Raters according to RELTA selection criteria requirements.

Test Centre Manager, Administration Co-Ordinator, Examiners and Raters sign RELTA 'Code of Conduct'.

RMIT Responsibility

Provide training for Test Centre Manager.

Provide training for Administration Co-ordinator.

- Monitor and provide support for all administrative processes

Conduct RELTA Examiner and Rater selection process

Provide RELTA Examiner and Rater training

- ICAO requirements
- Test delivery and rating policies and procedures

RELTA Examiner and Rater Re-Accreditation process

- every 12 months

Conduct regular RELTA Test Centre Quality Assurance Reviews

RELTA delivery at certified test centres

Test Centre Responsibility

- Make appointments with candidates
- Use RMIT Records Management System to:
 - Enter candidate details
 - Create test sessions for specific dates
 - Allocate Examiners and Raters
 - Allocate Candidates

RELTA Examiners deliver test using on line application

Print RELTA Certificates from RMIT Records Management System

- Provide copy to Candidate and/or Employer and/or Civil Aviation Authority

RMIT Responsibility

RELTA version is decrypted and randomly allocated to each candidate on the date of the scheduled test.

- Test will only open using the assigned examiner's secure password.

The completed listening test and speaking test sound file are automatically uploaded to RMIT

Two independent accredited RELTA raters evaluate the speaking sample using the ICAO rating scale

Generate RELTA certificates

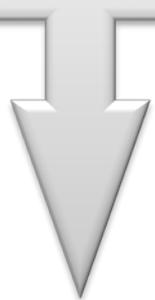
2012: Submission accepted by ICAO AELTS for evaluation of RELTA for Pilots



2013 to 2015: Provided AELTS with evidence of compliance to Doc 9835

Modified and enhanced RELTA in response to ICAO recommendations

Ongoing review, test trials and data analysis



2015: RELTA for Pilots fully recognised by ICAO



2015 onwards: Continue internal review, test trials and data analysis policy

Continue to provide evidence to AELTS to maintain ICAO compliance

Committed to support ICAO by actively participating in I-HELPP initiative





● RMIT ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEST FOR AVIATION

Celebrates 10 year anniversary

Achieved ICAO recognition

Over 29,000 Aviation professionals from
25 countries have used RELTA to achieve
ICAO English language proficiency requirements