

A background image showing the front of a white airplane on a runway, with a control tower visible in the distance under a clear blue sky. The image is slightly faded to allow the text to stand out.

Aviation English Training Program

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Introduction



The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has mandated new standards of English proficiency for flight crew members and air traffic controllers starting March 5, 2008.

How will your organization make sure that your personnel meet these standards?

Aviation English Training (AET) has become a leader in online/on-site English language training because of the quality of the English training, its easy accessibility through the Internet, and AET's careful adherence to ICAO's training certification standards.

- AET offers high quality Aviation English training.
- AET's courses build listening, speaking and reading comprehension skills, increase vocabulary, and improve pronunciation.
- AET's English programs provide training in five English skill levels, Basic, Beginner, High Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced.
- AET provides a patented learning retention process, enabling AET to deliver high-value and mission-critical training.
- AET's method of learning brings trainees to near 100% long-term retention of key learning points in a course.

Whether the goal is to meet the new standards of ICAO Level 4, to attend training about a new aircraft, to communicate more effectively with ground controllers and passengers, or to increase overall effectiveness, pilots and other flight professionals need a solid command of English.

AET's Aviation English Program is the perfect tool for providing "top flight" English language training for your employees anywhere in the world.

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About Us



Corporate Staff

Jean Ordóñez, President & CEO

Jean Ordóñez is the founder of Aviation English Training. She has over 14 years each of education and international business experience. AET is implementing the Aviation English Program with employees of several of the largest airline companies. This gives Jean valuable experience in setting up the aviation English training program that will fit your specific needs.

Judith Strother, Ph.D. , Vice President

In addition to managing all course development for AET's Aviation English program, Dr. Strother is an expert in communication issues in the aviation industry and e-learning for English for specific purposes.

Dan Gould, Manager of Web Publishing and Audio Engineering

Dan Gould has over ten years' experience in web publishing, audio engineering, and production.

AET's Experts

Aviation Experts:

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Elizabeth Ruggiero, M.A.
Edwin Strother, Ph.D.
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Aviation English Program Overview

AET's Aviation English Program offers courses at five skill levels. The courses are based on important topics such as *Flight Safety, Meteorology, and Aviation Physiology and Medicine.*

In each of these courses, trainees will learn English while they learn important information that they need for their career. The Aviation English lessons contain exercises such as ATC to Pilot Communication, based upon real ATC tapes from ICAO and FAA based towers.

Each course includes interesting topics and interactive activities. Courses are available at five proficiency levels:

- Basic
- Beginner
- High Beginner
- Intermediate
- Advanced

Each skill level course consists of 12 lessons. Each lesson takes approximately 8-10 hours to complete. Each lesson includes quizzes on:

- Listening and ATC Communication
- Speaking
- General and Technical Vocabulary
- Grammar
- Reading Comprehension

All quizzes provide instant and informative feedback to help trainees learn more effectively. Trainees hear a variety of accents of both American and British English speakers throughout the lessons.

Final Exam – Trainees need to score 75% or higher on the 60-minute online final exam to successfully complete each online course.

***Each AET lesson has been written by
a team of
Aviation content experts and Linguistic experts.***

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ICAO Compliancy requires English proficiency at ICAO’s Level 4

AET’s Aviation English Program targets the training needs of Pilots, Cadets and Air Traffic Controllers who need to pass the exam to prove ICAO Level 4 proficiency by 2008.

Trainees are placed into AET’s Language Program based upon the score earned on AET’s Aviation English Placement Test.

When trainees successfully complete the 12 lessons for each course, they will achieve the following levels:

Basic – ICAO Level 2 (Lower Elementary Level)

Trainees can understand, recognize and read a limited a number of common words, phrases and simple sentences used in everyday life. Trainees below this level (ICAO Level 1 Pre-Elementary) are not able to function in English. These trainees should have formal classroom instruction.

AET’s course	Ordinate/Harcourt	TOEFL	IELTS
Basic	20-31	400-427	3.0

Beginner – ICAO Level 2 (Upper Elementary Level)

Trainees can read and understand the basic parts of a limited, often work-related topic (simple facts and main ideas). They are also able to follow some specialized vocabulary and take part in a short simple conversation. They are not able to follow or participate in a native-paced conversation or read complex material. They can handle routine situations but cannot communicate about unexpected events.

AET’s course	Ordinate/Harcourt	TOEFL	IELTS
Beginner	32-43	430-463	3.5

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Aviation English Placement Test



High Beginner – ICAO Level 3 (Lower Pre-Operational Level)

Trainees can function in English in a limited way. They should be able to read and understand most of the main ideas and specialized vocabulary of simple texts. At this level, they have an increasing set of topic-specific vocabulary and can participate in slower-than native-paced discussions. Trainees are not able to participate in lengthy discussions or communicate easily on unfamiliar topics.

AET's course	Ordinate/Harcourt	TOEFL	IELTS
High Beginner	44-55	467-497	4.0

Intermediate – ICAO Level 3 (Upper Pre-Operational Level)

Trainees can read and understand some professional English at this level. They are able to use a broader set of vocabulary words and more complex language. They can participate effectively in conversation regarding their specialized area of expertise. When confronted with unexpected topics, comprehension may be slower or require clarification strategies. While grammatical errors still exist, trainees can usually make themselves understood accurately at this level.

AET's course	Ordinate/Harcourt	TOEFL	IELTS
Intermediate	56-67	500-520	5.0

Advanced – ICAO Level 4 (Operational Level)

Trainees can listen to, read and discuss the main ideas, technical vocabulary and details in most professional material. At this level, they are able to participate in a more sophisticated or professional conversation regarding their specialized area of expertise. They can generally handle predictable and unexpected topics of communication.

AET's course	Ordinate/Harcourt	TOEFL	IELTS
Advanced	68-80	523+	5.5+

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Aviation English Placement Test



AET's Aviation English Placement Test

AET's Aviation English Test provides a diagnostic evaluation of English language proficiency.

Experts in the field of linguistics have developed AET's Aviation English Exam to measure language proficiency within the context of aviation.

The Aviation English Test can be used by corporations to assess the English proficiency levels of their employees to help identify training needs and decide upon the appropriate training program.

AET uses the Aviation English Test to place trainees into the appropriate level within AET's five-level program.

The one hour online exam has four sections:

- Part 1 - Listening Comprehension (25 minutes)
- Part 2 - Grammar/Structure (10 minutes)
- Part 3 - Vocabulary (12 minutes)
- Part 4 - Reading Comprehension (12 minutes)

Practice Test

Responding to customer requests, AET has set up a complimentary Practice Test designed to reduce the anxiety of non-native English speakers who may be taking an online test for the first time. Each trainee will be enrolled into the Practice Test prior to the date of the Placement Test. Therefore, he or she will have the opportunity to become familiar with the mechanics of the online test and to practice a variety of kinds of test questions. No questions from the Practice Test are repeated in the full version of the Placement Test.

Ordinate/Harcourt's Telephone Test

AET also offers Ordinate/Harcourt's Telephone Test. This 30 minute telephone test measures spoken language skills accurately and reliably.

- Tests can be given at any time, from any location.
- Immediate, objective, reliable scoring available over the Web.
- All a test-taker needs is a land telephone.

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**Test Report
determines
skill level
placement**



AET's Aviation English Test Report

AET's Placement Test generates a Test Report for each individual or Group.

Last Name	First Name	Username	Grammar (20)	Listening (40)	Read + Vocab (40)	Total (100)	Recommended Courses	ICAO Levels
xxx	xxx	pan02406_ xxx	17	40	36	93	Advanced	Level 5
xxx	xxx	pan02425_ xxx	18	39	33	90	Advanced	Level 4
xxx	xxx	pan02439_ xxx	15	38	31	84	Intermediate	Level 3
xxx	xxx	pan02468_ xxx	10	28	27	65	Intermediate	Level 3
xxx	xxx	pan02476_ xxx	13	36	31	80	Intermediate	Level 3
xxx	xxx	pan02485_ xxx	18	38			Incomplete	
xxx	xxx	pan02487_ xxx	14	39	38	91	Intermediate	Level 3
xxx	xxx	pan02495_ xxx	8	39	36	83	High Beginner	Level 2
xxx	xxx	pan02504_ xxx	16	36	33	85	Advanced	Level 4

Note: ICAO Document 9835, item 2.8.4 states that each person's proficiency rating level is determined by the lowest rating level assigned in any particular category. Therefore, AET's recommended training level is based upon the "lowest score" not the person's "total score" as shown in the chart above.

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**Timeline for
Training to Meet
ICAO Level 4
Requirements**



Progression towards meeting minimum ICAO requirements (Level 4):

Trainees must successfully complete 12 lessons to progress through each skill level course.

This chart can be used to predict your training timeline once the skill levels of your employees are identified.

Online Courses*:	Basic	Beginner	High Beginner	Intermediate
Course length:	12 lessons	12 lessons	12 lessons	12 lessons
Curriculum: Length to meet ICAO requirement:	384 hours	288 hours	192 hours	96 hours

* The Blended Learning model would add additional on-site training time.

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Blended Learning



Blending the Best of Classroom and Individualized Learning . . .

AET combines the best features of both online and on-site training, which has the following advantages:

- Training schedules that are adaptable to work schedules
- Standardized delivery of course content
- Greater development of speaking skills during the on-site component
- Provision of the time and opportunity for full language development
- A greater variety of instructional techniques
- A high level of student motivation and satisfaction

All of these advantages increase an airline's return on investment (ROI).

The Online Component

Trainees Build Confidence

Trainees can learn at their own pace in a non-threatening environment. They build confidence because of the number of assessment tools, feedback to a variety of quizzes and tracking of their progress. This prepares them for a higher level of learning during the on-site sessions.

Trainees Hear and Repeat the Language

AET courses use multiple voice professionals who demonstrate correct usage of American and British English. Trainees can listen to each lesson as often as they want to help them get comfortable with the language.

Trainees have Maximum Flexibility

Rather than leaving their work to travel to a training facility for a long period of time, trainees can schedule their AET training around their individual schedules – at the office, at a training center, at home, while traveling – anywhere they have access to a PC. There is no need to wait until a group class is started; each trainee can begin the program as soon as he or she is ready.

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Blended Learning (continued)



The On-site Component

Professional Trainers

AET certified trainers who are ESL professionals deliver the on-site portion of the program. Where appropriate, aviation professionals may provide additional training.

Expansion of Online Content

The on-site sessions give the trainees a deeper understanding of the course content while they are developing their language skills.

Development of Speaking Skills

During the classroom sessions, trainees get extensive practice in the listening and speaking skills that are so important for radiotelephony. Trainees participate in a variety of activities to improve their use of ICAO phraseology and to learn how to communicate in both standard and nonstandard situations -- skills that pilots and air traffic controllers need to reach ICAO's required Operational Level 4.

Controlled Setting

The controlled setting of a classroom provides the opportunity for additional testing and evaluation.

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AET Training Options



AET's program allows for a variety of delivery options. Three suggested options for delivery are listed below.

Possible Training Options:

1. *Option 1:* At the Basic, Beginner and High Beginner levels, courses are delivered online with the final week of each course being an on-site intensive one-week session. This intensive teacher-led session would focus on speaking skills as well as provide a review of course materials at that level. At the Intermediate level, the intensive session is two weeks of teacher-led instruction.
2. *Option 2:* The courses are delivered online with an intensive two-week session offered on site after the Intermediate level. The additional on-site session would strongly emphasize speaking skills in addition to reviewing course material, all in preparation for the ICAO English proficiency exam
3. *Option 3:* AET's Aviation English courses may be delivered strictly online.

All on-site sessions are taught by AET qualified ESL professionals.

Selection of AET as your English Language training source guarantees a high-quality Aviation English program that is constantly kept up-to-date with ICAO mandates and guidelines.

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Corporate Services

AET offers a number of corporate services which include:

Administrative Reports from our PLSystem (LMS)

- Trainee Retention Rate
- Test records
- Time spent following the Learning Plan
- Trainees who are enrolled who have not begun
- Trainees who have successfully completed a course

AET's Administrator's Training Program

AET's Master Trainers deliver a program to give on-site corporate administrators the materials and instructions they need to direct their own employees. This program includes a complete Administrator's Manual and Orientation Program so that administrators are equipped with everything they need to help AET implement the program that will enable their trainees to meet ICAO English language proficiency levels.

Such support is crucial in helping everyone to fully understand the online program and to feel comfortable with its implementation. This kind of hands-on support translates into a successful corporate training program

AET's Review and Evaluation of Ongoing Programs

AET's Master Trainers conduct on-site observations and evaluations to assure standardized course delivery and achievement of targeted goals.

AET's Consulting Program

- AET's linguistic experts can analyze your technical training program, assess the English skill level of your non-native English speaking trainees and develop an English program that will improve your company's training success with international trainees.
- AET can develop a proprietary English training program based upon your corporate materials.

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Published Papers



Dr. Judith Strother has written papers that are published and available upon request. Please e-mail us for a copy of the article you wish to read.

1. C. Serrano, Ph.D., J. Strother, Ph.D., R. Alford, Ph.D., and C. Chien, Ph.D. 2004 Effectiveness of Implementing Computer-Assisted Language Learning Technology in an English for Specific Purpose Training Program. The article appears in *The International Journal of Learning*, July 2004.
2. Judith B. Strother, Ph.D. 2003. An Assessment of the Effectiveness of e-learning in Corporate Training Programs. This article first appeared in *The International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning* (IRRODL.org).
3. Judith B. Strother, Ph.D. June 2003. Shaping Blended Learning Pedagogy For East Asian Learning Styles. *Proceedings: 2002 IEEE International Professional Communication Conference*, Orlando, Florida.
4. Judith B. Strother, Ph.D. June 2003. Aviation English Training (AET) – Helping Airlines and Aviation Personnel Meet ICAO Language Proficiency Standards. White paper.
5. Judith B. Strother, Ph.D. and R. Alford, Ph.D. 2003. Addressing Learner Variables In an e-Learning Environment. (2003). *Proceedings: e-Learn: AACE World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education*, Phoenix, Arizona.
6. C. Serrano, Ph.D., J. Strother, Ph.D., R. Alford, Ph.D. June 2004. AET's Online Aviation English Program Produces Outstanding Results – Press Release available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

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