

Aviation English Rater & Test Development

Regent Oxford

Accredited by the



for the teaching
of English in the UK



**Cambridge Assessment
English**

Authorised Exam Centre

ENGLISHUK 
member

Course Outcomes

By the end of the one-week course participants will have:

- Understood and applied the ICAO English Language Proficiency Descriptors
- Raised their awareness of the key issues in language testing
- Developed their skills in assessing oral / aural language
- Attended off-site activities to further immerse themselves in aviation English
- Set clear and measurable targets for themselves and developed on-going learning strategies

Course Outline

The Aviation English Rater and Test Development Course develops participants' skills in the context of testing aviation English. Each day is divided into five sessions with an opening plenary and five complementary sessions. Each specific session has a set focus to target participants' needs precisely and the duration of lessons ensures lessons are fast-paced and clear objectives are achieved.

Plenary

The day begins with a whole-school presentation led by teachers, the Principal or Academic Manager and students. It is an inspirational 15-minute session to kick start the day and focus students' attention on themes to broaden horizons, to increase world knowledge and develop learning strategies.

Key Issues

This 1 hour session addresses the key issues and concepts in the context of aviation English assessment.

Rating Tasks

The next 1 hour session of the day provides practice in rating according to the requirements of the ICAO language proficiency requirements. Participants apply the rating scale to speech samples of pilots and air traffic controllers from around the world. Participants develop their abilities to rate and discuss associated issues of security and administration.

Feedback & Analysis

Through feedback and analysis participants hone their skills and so develop their abilities to rate effectively and reliably both on the course and on an on-going basis.

Test Design

This session focuses on test design, development and evaluation. Speaking and listening task types are analysed.

Workshop

The workshop session provides an opportunity for further practice in required areas throughout the course.

Aviation and Cultural Activities

A number of aviation-specific cultural activities are organised during the week including a tour of Oxford Airport in nearby Kidlington. Regent Oxford also invites a local pilot to join participants to discuss their profession in an authentic conversational environment. Participants can also join our regular school cultural activities including a first day tour of Oxford's historical centre and a Thursday social event such as a group dinner in a traditional English pub.

Sample Timetable*

**The precise days and times of activities are subject to change based on local alterations beyond our control*

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
08.45 – 09.00	Plenary				
09.00 – 10.00 Key Issues	Key concepts in language proficiency & assessment	Issues in aviation language testing	Examples of test validity and reliability	Rater reliability and severity	The process of regulatory approval for aviation tests
10.15 – 11.15 Rating Tasks	ICAO rating scale & holistic descriptors	Develop candidates ability to rate: guided	Develop candidates ability to rate: individual/peer	Assess candidates ability to rate: individual/peer	Security and administration
11.30 – 12.30 Feedback & Analysis	Application of rating scale to pilot and ATC speech samples	Develop candidates ability to rate: group	Feedback on candidates ability to rate: individual/peer	Assess candidates ability to rate: individual/peer	Implementation of on-going rater training and standardisation
12.30 – 13.30 Lunch break			CAE Oxford Aviation Academy Tour with lunch at the CAE Oxford Aviation Academy Oxford Airport Tour including ATC Tower and Radar Leave school at 12.30 with Michael		
13.30 – 14.30 Test Design	Review of aviation tests & testing	Test design, development and evaluation		Evaluation of the usefulness of aviation english speaking test tasks	Listening test design and item writing
14.45 – 15.45 Workshop	Develop candidates ability to rate: guided	Workshop with Loris Mazzetto, VDS aeroplane and radiotelephony instructor and pilot		Feedback on candidates assessment to rate: individual/peer	Feedback and open space

Key Regent Oxford Team Members



Doris Suchet
Principal

Doris has been the Principal of Regent Oxford for twelve years. She looks after the welfare of all staff and students in the school and is always happy to talk to students about goals and future ambitions.

Doris drives the friendly, academic atmosphere in the school. If you have any feedback she is always delighted to hear what you have to say.

Email address: doris.suchet@regent.org.uk



Oliver Beaumont
Academic Manager

Oliver studied Languages at Cambridge University before completing a Masters in Applied Linguistics at Oxford University. He worked at Regent London for a year and has since worked for Regent Oxford for five years leading courses and teacher training.

Oliver is always available to discuss the student's academic programme, progress and goals. Any questions or queries regarding classes or the course can be directed to Oliver.

Email address: oliver.beaumont@regent.org.uk



Sheila Maclean
Senior Teacher and Aviation English Specialist

Sheila has over 30 years of teaching experience and is CELTA, DELTA and PGCE qualified. She has been trained in teaching Aviation English and has extensive experience teaching both aviation and military English including at the Ministry of Defence in Shrivenham. She will be the lead tutor during the course.

During her career Sheila has held a variety of leadership roles including Senior Teacher, Director of Studies, and Teacher Trainer.

Email address: teachers.oxford@regent.org.uk



Sarah Blair
English Language Teacher

Sarah is a highly experienced and educated language teacher, coach and university lecturer at both B.A and M.A. level. At Regent Oxford Sarah specialises in individual tuition, language coaching, Cambridge Proficiency exam preparation and advanced academic language.

Email address: teachers.oxford@regent.org.uk

Details Of Aviation Activities

1. Tour Of Oxford Airport



Participants are taken on a guided tour of Oxford airport and, at the time of writing, security permits entry to the control tower as well.

This is the fastest growing airport for private and business aviation in the UK and is one of Europe's leading centres for professional pilot training.

<http://www.oxfordairport.co.uk/>



2. Talk with an Aviation Specialist



Aviation Expert and Regent Oxford Alumnus Loris Mazzetto was born in Jesolo, Venice, 25 years ago. He is a VDS aeroplane and radiotelephony instructor, an autogyro pilot and General Aviation private pilot. He has completed around 1100 hours flight time. He achieved the first license when he was 16, due to a great passion for and devotion to flight. He is of a proficiency level of English and currently lives in Oxford.

This is an ideal opportunity to discuss the field of aviation and share experiences and stories and assist with some specific language terms in English, while developing general fluency in a casual and informal authentic conversation.

3. Meet Up with Popular Flying Association – Oxford Group

The Popular Flying Association is a group of local aviation enthusiasts who meet up regularly to discuss all aspects of flying. The group holds regular social events with drinks and the highlight of their social calendar is the summer barbecue. Regent Oxford will invite the group to the school for relaxed conversation alongside a tutor.

http://www.oxfordairport.co.uk/airport_info/clubs.htm

Facilities at Regent Oxford

Student Lounge and garden

A comfortable and spacious seating area is offered to student to use between classes. Here a supply of newspapers and magazines are on offer for students to read and use as reference materials. There is also a TV running with subtitles to provide news to students in English. The students can also use the garden with tables and benches during the breaks. The school provides tea, coffee, fruit and biscuits free of charge all day as well as other refreshments to encourage casual conversation at break times over a drink.



Classrooms

There are 15 classrooms in the school. All classrooms are furnished with ergonomically designed chairs, with upholstered leather back and seat pads and stylish glass desk tops. Our classrooms consist of large shared desks that support the type of group learning Regent Oxford offers. Each classroom has various technological resources accessible for teachers to use as part of their classes.

Computer Room

Our suite of computers with printing facilities also provides high speed internet access and English learning software. The Computer Room is used by students both in and out of class. Each computer has a set of headphones allowing students to complete and partake in language listening exercises without disturbing other students.

Resources

There is a wide library of books, CD-ROMs, CDs and DVDs that students are encouraged to use as an extension of their studies and to practise everyday English as well as links to recommended websites and apps. The school hosts a weekly bookshop at which students can purchase resources and the library is open all day to self study and browse materials.



Further School Details

We have a short video about Regent Oxford to give you an insight into the culture of the school:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KLFCx21NMz4>

We have an extensive photo gallery of the school here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/regentlanguagetraining/sets/72157651284719548>

Finally, for an in-depth look at the premises we also have a virtual tour of the school that you can access here:

<http://www.regent.org.uk/about-us/virtual-tours>

Sample Social Programme

Evening Activities:



Tour of Oxford

Meet in the Main Hall. We will take you through the history of Oxford and tell you everything you need to know about our beautiful city! The tour will include: The Bodleian Library, the Radcliffe Camera, the Bridge of Sighs and will let you know where to eat, where to get a bus pass and SIM Card and some of the best pubs Oxford has to offer.



Ashmolean Museum

Meet @ 3.45pm in the Main Hall. Visit the world's oldest University museum and one of Britain's finest art and historical collections. Opening in 1683, this museum is a combination of historical curiosities and 17th century art along with other current exhibitions.

Weekend Excursions:



Excursion to Bath and Stonehenge

Enjoy a guided tour to two of England's most remarkable sites. Visit the ancient and mysterious site at Stonehenge and then take a stroll through one of the most beautiful cities in the UK, and a world heritage site, in Bath.

A Trusted Centre for Government Sponsored Project and Corporate clients

Regent Oxford has a strong history of working closely with many European, Asian and Middle-Eastern countries to provide tailor made courses. Current Contracts Include:

Europe:

- Deutsche Telecom
- Deutsche Post
- Oracle
- Credit Suisse
- Prior Bank (Ukraine)
- Spanish Military Attaché Office
- Unilever (Germany)
- Philips (various European offices)
- Subaru
- Schneider electric
- EDF Energy

Asia:

- Kazakhstan Ministry of Education
- MEXT – Japanese Overseas Teacher sponsored by Japanese Ministry of Education
- CIEE
- Hitachi
- Mitsubishi
- Akebono Brakes
- Kawasaki

Middle East:

- Saudi Military Attaché Office
- Saudi Arabian Ministry of Water
- UAS Technical Training Project
- Abu Dhabi Police Force (UAE)
- Jordanian High Court Judges
- Public Authority for Electricity and Water of Oman Royal Air Force of Oman
- Saudi Cultural Attaché Office
- SASO: Saudi Arabian Standards Agency
- UASC: United Arab Shipping Company
- DP World Port of Dubai