

Sample TEAP candidate: Notes on individual descriptors

This candidate's overall level of proficiency was assessed at ICAO level 4. Below are the individual scores he was awarded and a summary of his performance in each area.

- **Pronunciation** **5**

Although the candidate has a marked accent he communicates clearly throughout the interview with his pronunciation rarely interfering with ease of understanding and therefore he was awarded a level 5 for this descriptor.

- **Structure** **4**

He demonstrates a good degree of control of basic grammatical structures. He does, however, demonstrate local errors and infrequent global errors but is able to maintain effective communication overall with these errors rarely interfering with meaning. We expect an extended level speaker to display a natural use of more sophisticated sentence patterns, together with greater control of the basic patterns.

- **Vocabulary** **4**

His vocabulary resource enables him to communicate with some accuracy on work-related topics. He is often successful at paraphrasing (within his reports, for example) in order to negotiate meaning but a lack of consistency here means he can only be awarded a level 4. We also expect a greater range of vocabulary at the higher levels of proficiency.

- **Fluency** **4**

When discussing familiar topics he is able to produce stretches of language at an appropriate tempo. While there is an occasional loss of fluency due to lack of vocabulary or attempted use of more complex structures, this does not prevent effective communication but does limit him to a level 4 for this descriptor. He frequently uses fillers, and although these are not distracting they are another indication that he does not yet communicate with the ease of an extended level speaker.

- **Comprehension** **4**

The candidate's comprehension is mostly accurate on common, concrete and work related topics and, although not perfectly accurate in all instances, he does employ good clarification strategies in order to ascertain meaning when confronted with a linguistic or situational complication. He concedes when he has not understood a message. To be assessed at an extended level we require more detail in his reports.

- **Interactions** **4**

His operational level for comprehension is supported by his good interaction throughout the interview. His responses are usually immediate, appropriate and informative and he maintains exchanges effectively even when dealing with an unexpected turn of events. He also checks and seeks clarification. To be awarded an extended level for interaction he would need to exercise greater control over the direction of the conversation.

- **Holistic assessment**

This candidate's performance fits well with the holistic descriptors given for an operational level of proficiency in ICAO Doc 9835, in that he:

- communicates effectively in voice-only and face-to-face exchanges
- communicates on work-related topics with accuracy and clarity
- uses appropriate strategies to exchange messages, recognize and resolve misunderstandings
- handles successfully and with relative ease the linguistic challenges presented by an unexpected turn of events
- uses an accent which is intelligible to the aeronautical community