

English language proficiency assessment

Pilots and air traffic control officers must meet the standard of English language proficiency as defined by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and have it endorsed on their licences. As part of your training at the Emirates Flight Training Academy (EFTA), you will take a series of assessments conducted at the EFTA English Language Proficiency Training Organization (ELP TO). The ELP TO is approved by the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA).

The assessment

The EFTA ELP TO uses the English Language Proficiency for Aeronautical Communications (ELPAC) test designed by Eurocontrol and approved by ICAO. The test has three parts. The first part is an online test that assesses your listening comprehension. Parts two and three of the test are a spoken conversation to test your speaking skills.

If you achieve a Level 5 in parts one and two of the test, you will have the opportunity to demonstrate your communicative competence to achieve a Level 6.

Our assessors

Our assessors have vast experience in their respective fields of expertise. The English language experts have decades of experience in linguistics and English language training and testing in a variety of sectors, including aviation. The operational experts are all theoretical knowledge instructors who have achieved a Level 6 in the ELPAC test. The assessors are thoroughly trained and go through continuous checks to ensure they comply with regulations.

We maintain high standards to make sure you are assessed competently and fairly. The result of your assessment will be based on the criteria set out by the developers of the test, which are in line with ICAO directives.

If you have any questions about the assessment, please contact efta.elpto@emirates.com.