

# COMPLANG AVIATION TRAINING CENTRE

Getting Ready For ICAO Level Test

## Unit 1

## Pre-Flight

### In Unit 1



#### you will revise:

- aircraft categories
- flight types
- information included in a flight plan
- NOTAM
- airport services
- meteorological conditions
- significant weather phenomena
- ways of avoiding adverse weather

#### you will practise:

- giving definitions / paraphrasing
- asking for clarification
- asking for confirmation
- asking for repetition
- describing past events
- explaining past actions
- describing possible actions

## I. VOCABULARY

### 1. How many of these can you remember?

- 1) aircraft categories;
- 2) flight types;
- 3) information included in a flight plan;
- 4) reasons for issuing NOTAMs;
- 5) information contained in METAR;
- 6) meteorological conditions included in SIGMET;
- 7) airport and aerodrome services.

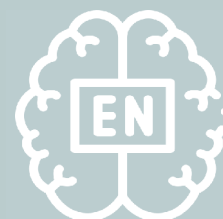
#### Test Tip

During the Interview (Part 2 and Part 4B), listen carefully to the questions and give appropriate and informative answers; show that you have sufficient vocabulary range to communicate effectively on common, concrete and work-related topics.

### 2. Can you read these abbreviations? Do you remember what they stand for?

**Example:** ILS stands for Instrument Landing System.

- 1) CAVOK Ceiling \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) CB \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) EET \_\_\_\_\_ Elapsed \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) FIR \_\_\_\_\_ Region
- 5) IFR Instrument \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) IMC \_\_\_\_\_ Meteorological \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) ISA \_\_\_\_\_ Atmosphere
- 8) PIC \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) POB People \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) RVR \_\_\_\_\_ Visual \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) UAV \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle
- 12) VMC \_\_\_\_\_





## II. GIVING DEFINITIONS/ PARAPHRASING

### Test Tip

During the test, if you don't know or can't remember a word you need, do not panic and do not stop talking.

Try to explain what you mean using other words you know.

### 3. Complete the useful expressions with the words below. Can you guess the words?

area      example      opposite      person      phenomenon  
procedure      service      occurrence      someone      type      what

- 1) It's a \_\_\_\_\_ who travels as an armed guard on a commercial flight to protect against hijack.
- 2) It's \_\_\_\_\_ whose job is to give hand signals to direct aircraft into their parking positions.
- 3) It's a \_\_\_\_\_ which occurs in CB clouds and is accompanied by heavy rain, hail and lightning.
- 4) It's an \_\_\_\_\_ at an aerodrome which is used for take-offs and landings.
- 5) This is \_\_\_\_\_ you feel after a long flight through several time zones.
- 6) It's the \_\_\_\_\_ of severe.
- 7) It's a \_\_\_\_\_ which provides food and drinks.
- 8) It's an \_\_\_\_\_ when an aircraft occupies an active runway without clearance.
- 9) It's a \_\_\_\_\_ which is performed before departure to prevent ice build-up during a flight.
- 10) It's a \_\_\_\_\_ of radar that provides the pilot with a local weather picture.
- 11) For \_\_\_\_\_, the crew may request this if there is a disabled person on board.

It's	a person someone	who + V1(s) whose job is + to V1
	a phenomenon an occurrence an area etc.	which/that + V1(s) which/that + is + V3 when + Subject - Verb where + Subject - Verb



**4. Complete the definitions with the correct words: WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHICH, WHO, WHOSE. Can you guess the words?**

- 1) It's a device \_\_\_\_\_ is used to remove rain, snow, ice and debris from the windscreen.
- 2) It's a member of ground staff \_\_\_\_\_ keeps aircraft serviceable.
- 3) It's an area \_\_\_\_\_ aircraft stop before they are cleared to enter the runway.
- 4) It's an occurrence \_\_\_\_\_ an aircraft veers off or overruns the runway during take-off or landing.
- 5) It's someone \_\_\_\_ job is to provide separation between aircraft in the air and on the ground.
- 6) This is \_\_\_\_\_ the pilot can request if APU is inoperative.

**5. Complete the definitions with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Can you guess the words?**

- 1) It's a device which \_\_\_\_\_ (redirect) the exhaust from a jet engine to prevent damage and injury.
- 2) It's a long radius taxiway which \_\_\_\_\_ (design) to expedite aircraft vacating the runway after landing.
- 3) It's an aerodrome vehicle which \_\_\_\_\_ (help) an aircraft to find the route.
- 4) It's an area where pilots \_\_\_\_\_ (perform) run-up checks of their aircraft.
- 5) It's an area where two taxiways or runways \_\_\_\_\_ (cross) each other.
- 6) It's equipment which \_\_\_\_\_ (use) to connect a tug to an aircraft to push or tow the aircraft.
- 7) They are high-lift devices on the wing trailing edge which \_\_\_\_\_ (use) to increase lift.

**6. Give definitions of the words in bold, using the key words in brackets.**

**Example:** **BAGGAGE HANDLER** (person, passengers', baggage)  
 A baggage handler is a person who loads and unloads passengers' baggage.

- 1) **WIND SHEAR** (phenomenon, changes, direction)
- 2) **CUSTOMS** (service, goods, illegal)
- 3) **DRONE** (aircraft, controlled, ground)
- 4) **LANDMARK** (object, pilots, navigation)
- 5) **AERODROME REFERENCE POINT** (point, located, runway)
- 6) **HOLD-OVER TIME** (period, fluid, active)

### III. ASKING FOR CLARIFICATION

#### Test Tip

During the test, if you are not sure that you understand the question correctly, do not keep silent, ask the examiner to repeat, rephrase or clarify the question.

#### 7. Categorise these phrases according to the communicative functions. Can you suggest any other useful phrases to ask for repetition, rephrase or clarification?

Are you asking about the flight crew or cabin crew actions?

Could you repeat your question, please?

Could you rephrase your question?

Could you say that again, please?

Could you say that in other words?

Did you say flight crew or cabin crew?

Shall I talk about flight crew possible actions?

Sorry, what is 'curfew'?

What does 'eruption' mean?



Asking for repetition

Asking for a rephrase

Asking for clarification

#### 8. Play 'WHAT'S THE WORD?'

## IV. DESCRIBING AN AVIATION OCCURENCE

<i>setting the scene</i>	
<b>to occur</b> <b>to happen</b>	The incident <b>occurred</b> in summer. It <b>happened</b> during the take-off.
<i>stating the problem</i>	
<b>to encounter</b> _ sth <b>to experience</b> sth	The crew <b>encountered a problem</b> with the No 2 engine. The crew <b>experienced</b> severe <b>turbulence</b> .
<i>announcing the crew decision</i>	
<b>to decide to</b> + V <sub>1</sub> <b>to make a decision to</b> + V <sub>1</sub>	The crew <b>decided to</b> return to the departure aerodrome. The crew <b>made a decision to</b> divert to the nearest airfield.
<i>describing the consequences</i>	
<b>to be injured</b> <b>to receive injuries</b> <b>to suffer injuries</b> <b>to be damaged</b> <b>to receive damage</b> <b>to sustain damage</b>	Nobody <b>was injured</b> . One flight attendant <b>received</b> serious <b>injuries</b> . Four passengers <b>suffered</b> minor <b>injuries</b> . The aircraft <b>was</b> seriously <b>damaged</b> . The aircraft <b>received</b> minor <b>damage</b> . The aircraft <b>sustained</b> substantial <b>damage</b> .
<i>stating the cause(s)</i>	
<b>to be caused by</b> + Noun	The incident <b>was caused by</b> an engine flame-out.

9a. Look at the two sentences. Which verbs show ‘completed actions’? Which one describes ‘an incomplete action in progress’? At what level was the aircraft in the second sentence when the engine failed? At what level was the aircraft in the first sentence?

- 1) The aircraft **was climbing** to FL 120 when the No 2 engine **failed**.
- 2) The aircraft **climbed** to FL 120 when the No 2 engine **failed**.



**9b. Complete the occurrence description with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets.**

An aircraft <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (maintain) FL 410 over a thunderstorm when it <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (experience) severe turbulence and the number two engine <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (flame) out. The aircraft <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (begin) to descend and the flight crew <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (decide) to divert to a nearby airport. During the descent, the aircraft <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (encounter) large hail, heavy rain, severe turbulence and lightning. The number one engine <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (flame) out from hail and water ingestion as the aircraft <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (descend) through FL 330. Attempts to restart the engines <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (be) unsuccessful.

The aircraft <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (make) an emergency landing in a wheat field.

None of the seven passengers on board <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (be) injured. The two pilots also <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (escape) injury. The aircraft <sup>13</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (sustain) moderate to severe hail damage.

An investigation <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (determine) that the flight crew <sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (not / obtain) a weather briefing before the flight, although a convective SIGMET and weather warnings were issued for the route of flight.

**9c. Cover the text. Describe what happened step-by-step.**

## V. LISTENING

### Test Tip

During the audio tasks, try to understand the main idea and important details; some of the irrelevant details may be omitted, but you should have a clear picture of what happened. While you listen, make notes of what you hear. They will help you answer comprehension questions more informatively.

### 10a. Match the synonyms.

- 1) in anticipation of
- 2) to subside
- 3) to run roughly
- 4) on stand-by

- a) ready
- b) to not work smoothly
- c) to become less strong
- d) in preparation for

### 10b. Listen to an incident description. What weather phenomenon did the crew encounter?

### 10c. Put the crew actions in the correct order. Listen again and check.

- \_\_\_ the crew declared PAN
- \_\_\_ the crew increased engine power
- \_\_\_ the crew increased the number one engine power to 50%
- 1 the crew reduced engine power
- \_\_\_ the crew reduced the number one engine power to idle thrust
- \_\_\_ the crew requested priority on descent



### 10d. Explain the reason for each of the actions in 10c. Use 'because' or 'due to'.

**due to** + Noun

e.g. ... **due to** mountain wave turbulence

**because** + Clause

e.g. ... **because** they expected mountain wave turbulence



**10e. Describe what happened step-by-step.**

**10f. Have you ever encountered adverse weather conditions in your practice?  
Describe what happened.**

## REVIEW



**11. Complete the incident description by writing in the missing words. Sometimes more than one answer is possible. You may write ONLY ONE word in a gap.**

An aircraft en-route from Atlanta to Chicago <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ turbulence and hail while climbing through 20,000 <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. The aircraft was in instrument conditions and <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ substantial damage. A flight attendant was seriously <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

The flight crew was avoiding <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and was following another aircraft that went through <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ same area between the two cells. The hail <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ about five seconds, with moderate turbulence <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 30 seconds. Three front windshield outer panels <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ shattered, with impact damage to the wing <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ edge, horizontal stabilizer, and engine inlet cowls. <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ engines were also damaged as the nose <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ separated from the aircraft and was partially <sup>13</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ by the engines. Both airspeed indicators also <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ inoperative; ATC provided speed readouts every 10 <sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 15 seconds.

The flight made an emergency <sup>16</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ at Chattanooga, Tennessee.

**12. What precautions should be taken in anticipation of these phenomena?**

- 1) severe turbulence;
- 2) obscured thunderstorm en-route;
- 3) icing conditions;
- 4) a flock of large birds on final;
- 5) freezing drizzle?

I think (that) ...  
I believe (that) ...  
I guess (that) ...  
In my opinion, ...  
To my mind, ...  
Well, it depends (on)...

## *Aircraft Categories*

airship  
drone  
glider  
helicopter  
hot air balloon  
UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle)

## *Types of Flights*

commercial / non-revenue  
international / domestic  
passenger / cargo  
scheduled / charter  
code-sharing  
connecting / direct  
ferry  
test  
training

## *Special Flights*

crop-dusting  
firefighting  
ILS calibration  
oil and gas lines patrol  
reconnaissance  
supervision of power lines

## *Flight Plan*

aircraft identification  
flight rules (VFR / IFR)  
flight type  
aircraft type  
wake turbulence category  
equipment  
departure aerodrome  
destination aerodrome  
alternate aerodromes  
route of flight  
cruising speed  
cruising level  
total EET (estimated elapsed time)  
endurance  
POB (people on board)  
aircraft colour and markings

## *Problems Linked to Flight Plans*

no flight plan / missing flight plan  
change in flight plan  
computer failure  
inoperative flight plan processing system

## *Airport Services*

aircraft balancing  
passenger / cargo handling  
catering service  
customs  
de-icing  
immigration service  
meet and assist unaccompanied minors  
refueling  
security  
veterinary service

## *NOTAMs*

TFRs (Temporary Flight Restrictions)  
air shows  
firing / shooting  
formation flight  
glider flights  
military exercises  
parachute jumps / parachute dropping  
satellite / rocket / missile launch  
temporary obstacles  
inoperable NAVAIDS (navigational aids)  
closed runways  
work in progress  
construction / maintenance / digging work  
runway clearing / snow removal

## *Weather Conditions*

wind direction and speed  
visibility and RVR (runway visual range)  
cloud amount and height  
temperature and dew point  
trend  
runway surface condition  
*Significant / Adverse Weather*  
CAT (clear air turbulence)  
dust storm / sand storm  
earthquake, earth tremor  
flood  
fog  
freezing drizzle  
hail  
ice pellets  
jet stream  
lightning  
microburst  
mountain wave  
shower rain / snow  
thunderstorm (CB, towering cumulus)  
wind shear