UDC 656.7.071.13=111(043.2)

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**TEACHING ENGLISH FOR AVIATION ENGINEERS**

The occupation of Aircraft Maintenance Engineer is nor less important and influential then profession of Air Traffic Controller or pilot when we consider the safety of flights. Nevertheless there is no common detailed evaluation classification of English level proficiency such as scale developed by ICAO for certification of members of cabin crew and Air Traffic Controllers. ICAO amended Annex 1 to add a requirement for all aeroplane and helicopter pilots, flight navigators, flight engineers and air traffic controllers to be assessed in their command of the language used for radio communication. A scale of 1 to 6 has been devised where native speakers would be assessed at Expert Level 6. For those where the language is not the mother tongue ICAO set a minimum of Operational Level 4 for license issue. The abovementioned scale is concentrated mainly on the skills that are involved in radio communication, Speaking and Listening prevailing.

But should the Aircraft Maintenance Engineers be treated as pilots or Air Traffic Controllers during the process of teaching them aviation English? To answer this question we should investigate what English language skills are dominating in their routine working activity.

Repairing airplanes is a complicated process as each aircraft has many manuals. Typically, when mechanics repair a part, they open the manual, consult the book, and make the repair step-by-step. In addition they make a list of every action they take, so the next person to fix the plane (as well as the people who fly it) will know exactly what has been done. If mechanics don't speak English, the international language of aviation, they can't read the manual and they can't record their activities creating an issue that is putting the whole aircraft and its occupants in danger. Thus while teaching English for Aircraft Maintenance Engineers one should pay special attention to the development of such skills as Reading and Writing, as they would be prevailing during the majority of their working activities.

The authentic texts on appropriate topics should be used while teaching Reading as it is vital for engineers to be acquainted with up-to-date topical terminology as well as to enhance their ability to find necessary information among the vast array of information in a short period of time (in order to be more productive while working with manuals). Speaking about Writing teacher would be recommended to use both productive and reproductive exercises and to connect Reading and Writing activities on the lessons.