

Language Proficiency Certification System in Japan

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Background

Accidents caused by lack of communication between Pilots and Air Traffic Controllers (in 1990s)

- Pilots could not inform the emergency situation to ATC.
- Pilots could not understand the advice of ATC, etc.



ICAO adopted new Annex 1 and introduced Language Proficiency Requirements.

After March 5, 2008 pilots who engage in international flights -

- shall demonstrate their Language Proficiency,
- except expert level**, shall demonstrate their Language Proficiency every 3 or 6 years.

In Japan,

- the Civil Aeronautics Law and Regulations were amended,
- pilot who is not a native English speaker shall be re-evaluated his/her Language Proficiency every 3 years, and
- only pilots who have a certificate may be engaged in international flight after March 5, 2008.

Outline of Japanese Language Proficiency Certification System for Pilots

1. Examinations for issuing Certificate to the Pilots

- The examinations are made by both listening and interview tests.
- There are around 6,000 pilots engaged in international flights in Japan and about 90% of these pilots belong to Airlines.



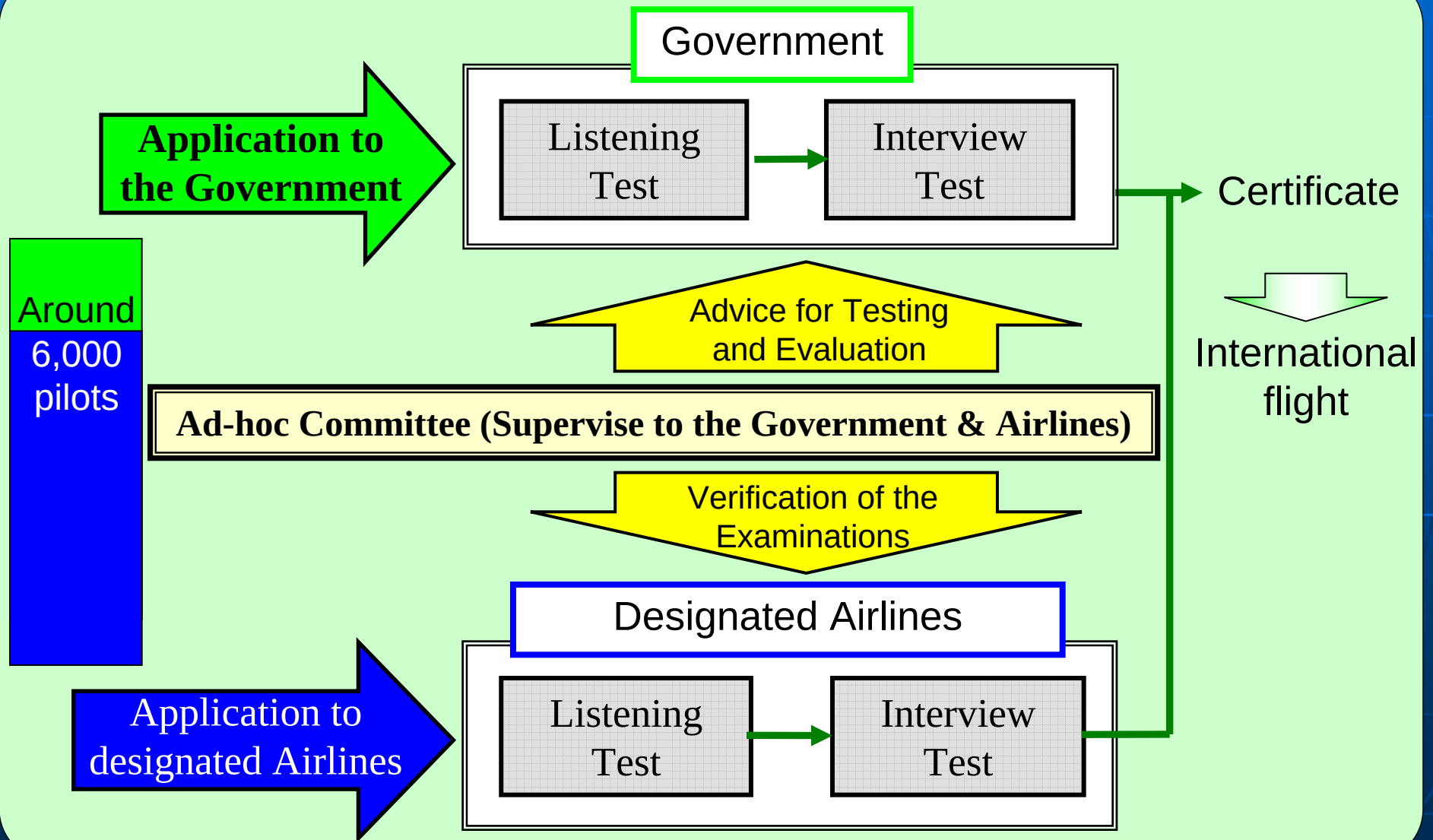
2. Japan may exempt part or all of the examinations for pilots who

- are judged to be not less than level 4 by the designated airlines,
- have a Certificate issued by the ICAO contracting state, and
- graduated the Civil Aviation College or Approved Training Organization.



Japan has developed a designation system

Flow of Certification

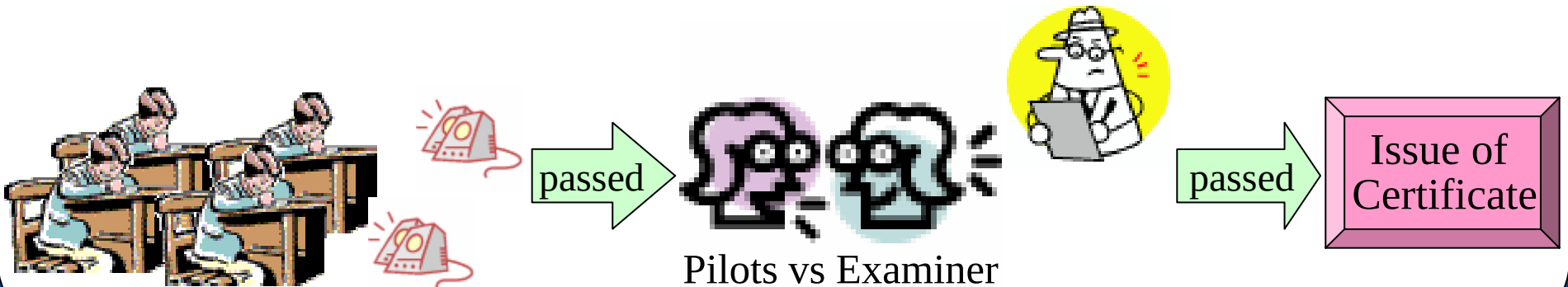


Examination (for Pilots)

To demonstrate Language Proficiency (comprehension) and speaking

Listening Test

Interview Test



- Listening Tests are to be performed 6 times a year in Tokyo and Osaka.
- Interview Tests are also to be performed 6 times a year in Tokyo and Osaka after about 2 months of Listening Test.

Flow of Interview Test

1. Warm Up

- Greeting or Identification of name or aircraft category of license

2. Single Picture Card Description

- Let the pilots describe what is drawn in the picture.
- Q & A with the Examiner.

3. ATC Role Play and its Description

- ATC communication with the Examiner who plays the role of Air Traffic Controller
- ATC communication starts if pilots are ready following a basic flight data given.
- Let the pilots describe what happened during the role play.
- Q & A with the Examiner
- Only plain English communication skill is evaluated but not ATC skill.

4. Sequence Picture Card Description

- Let the Pilots describe the scenario of 4 or 6 frames picture card.
- Q & A with the Examiner

5. Wind Down

Ad-hoc Committee

Member



Expert of Linguistics

Professors, Associate Professors



Expert of Air Traffic Control



Air Traffic Controllers



Expert of Aircraft Operation

Pilots

- Advice for testing and evaluation
- Verification of the Examinations by the designated airlines
- Advice for evaluation of Airline's evaluation officer

JCAB – Designated Airlines



Japan Airlines
ICAO Language Requirement
Project Team

Getting Ready – A Proactive Approach

Pre-Testing

**Staff
Training**

**Test
Making**

**Language
Education**

Official Testing



The Need for Pre-Testing

Getting off the ground !



- *Inform the Pilots !*
- *Evaluate the Results !*
- *Train the Staff!*

Interviewers and Evaluators

The Certification Process

- Ground School
- The SST Workshop
- JCAB Check



JCAB Certification

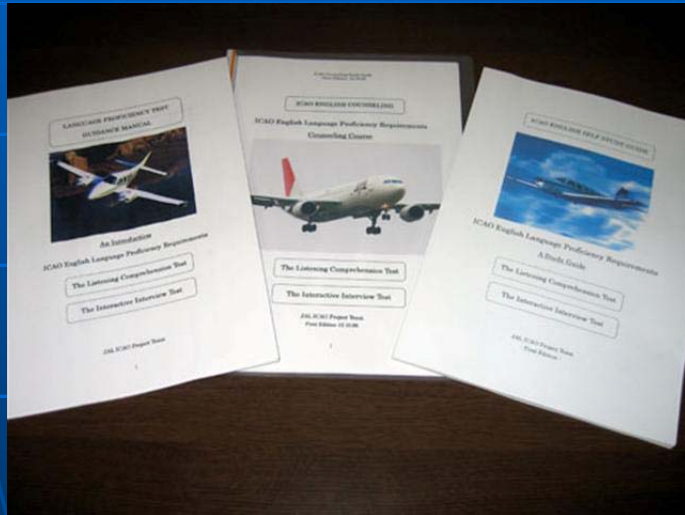


All Interviewers and Evaluators are JCAB certified !

Language Training

Getting Ready for the Official Test

Based on Pre-Testing Results



- Introduction Handbook
- Self Study Textbook with CD
- 3 day Language Training Course
- 1 day Counseling Course



Study Really Hard !

Making of the Official Test



- *Based on the Model Test*
- *Shared Workload*
- *Standardizing the Test*

The Listening Comprehension Test

- Radio Recorded ATC Dialogs
- Unusual / Unexpected Situations
- 100 Dialogs / 300 Questions

The Interview Test

- Single Picture Card
- ATC Role Play Scenario
- Picture Sequence Card

Administration of the Official Test



- *October 2nd, 2006 – Start of Official Testing.*
- *Pilots scheduled on ground duty days.*
- *CBT Based for Scoring Accuracy, Cost Efficiency & Security.*

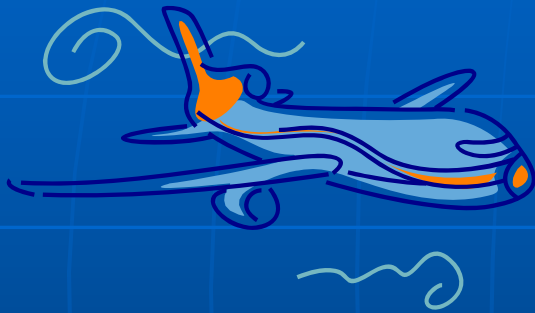
Evaluation of the Interview Test

Ensuring Accuracy



- *Getting a 'Ratable Sample'*
- *The Three Evaluation Approach*
- *Standardization of Evaluators*

Looking to the Future . . .



- Integrated Language Training
- Online Interactive Study
- Individual & Group Counseling

No Speak English !
No Fly Airplane !

ICAO English Language Proficiency Requirements

March 5th, 2008