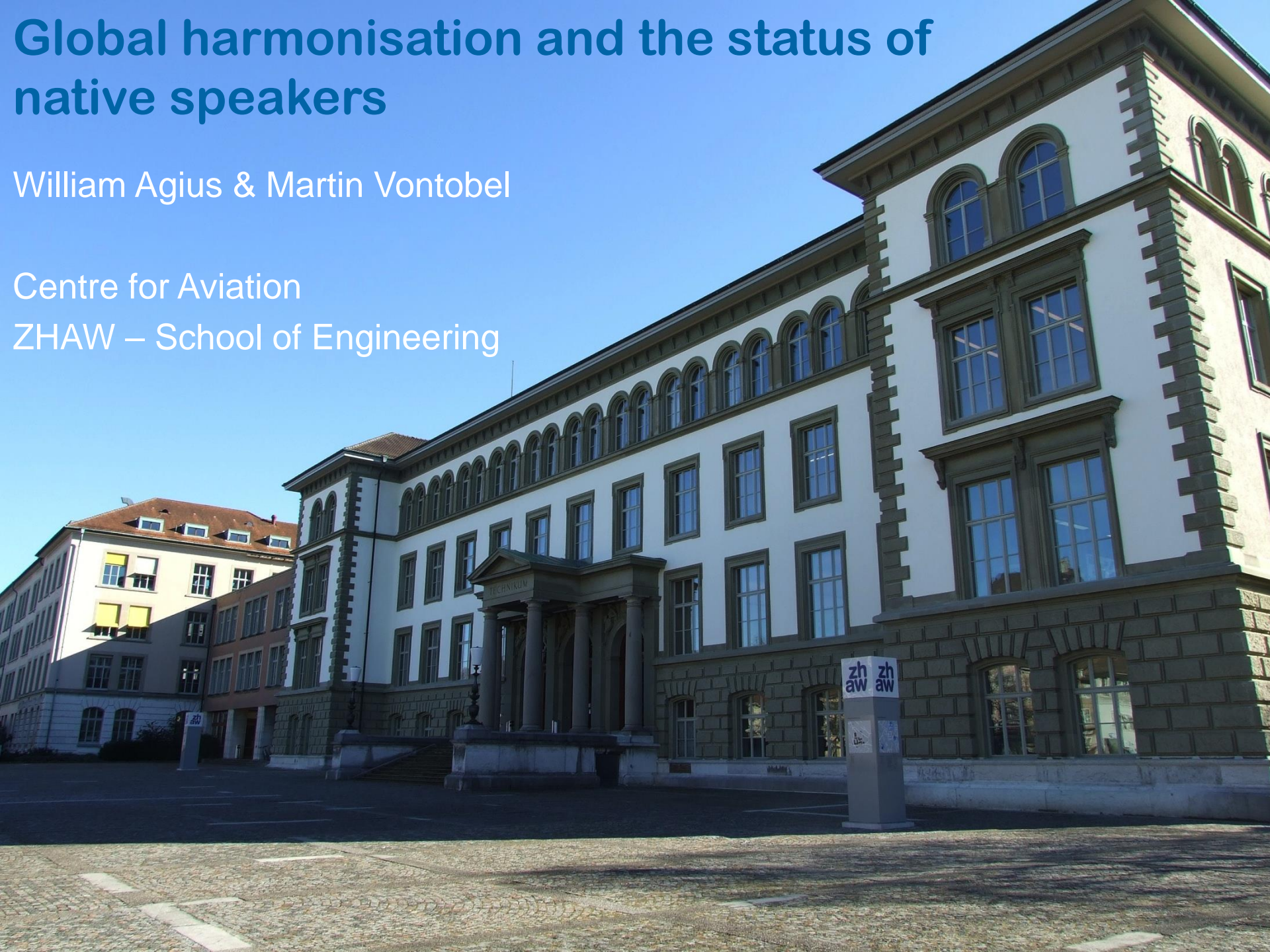


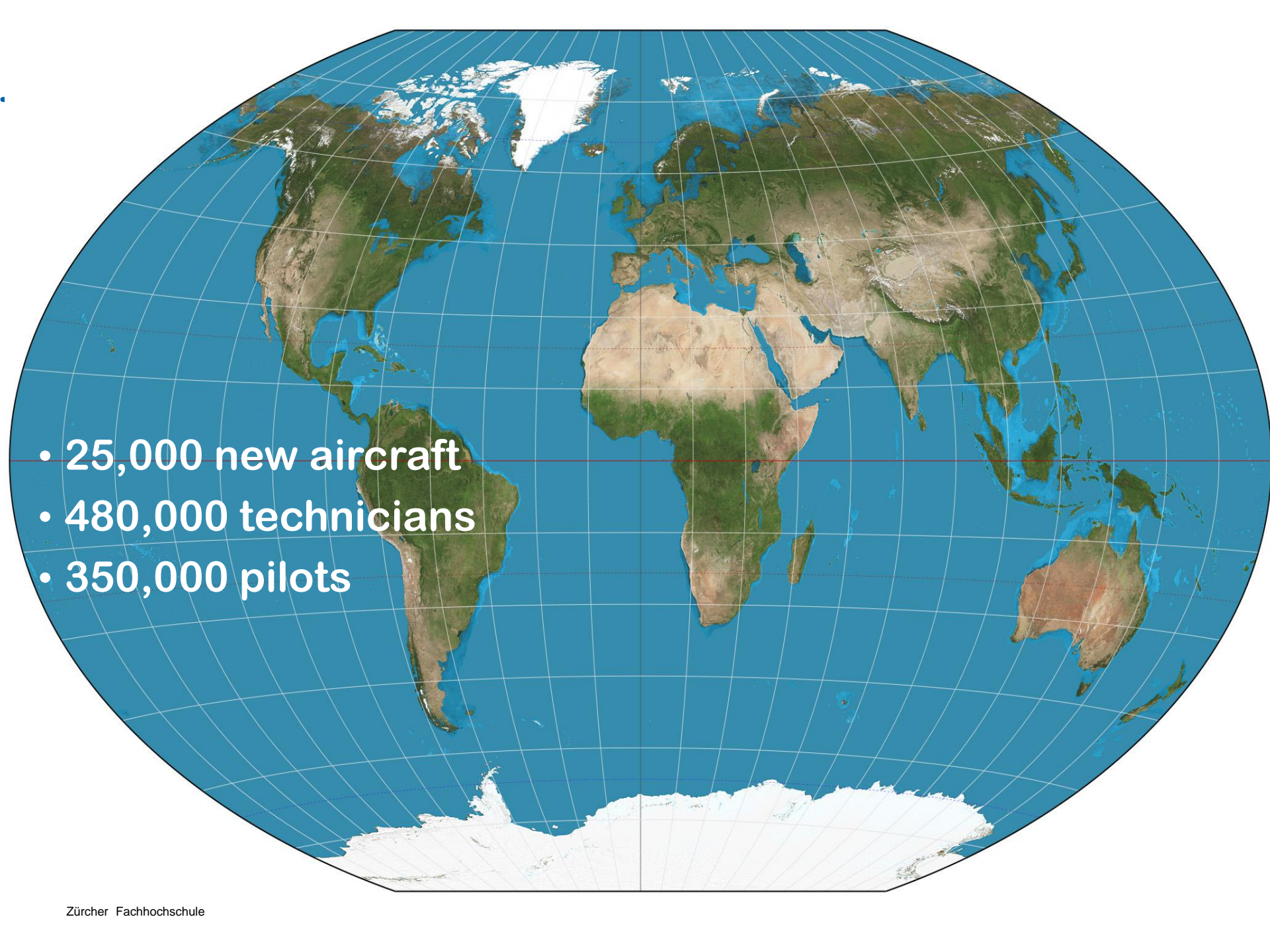
# Global harmonisation and the status of native speakers

William Agius & Martin Vontobel

Centre for Aviation

ZHAW – School of Engineering



- 
- 25,000 new aircraft
  - 480,000 technicians
  - 350,000 pilots



09.01.2015



14.02.2012



27.01.2012

**160 nationalities**

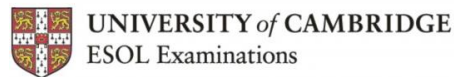


# Who defines what is an acceptable variety of English?

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3:1

# What do common language tests test?



## Cambridge English

The most valuable range of English qualifications in the world



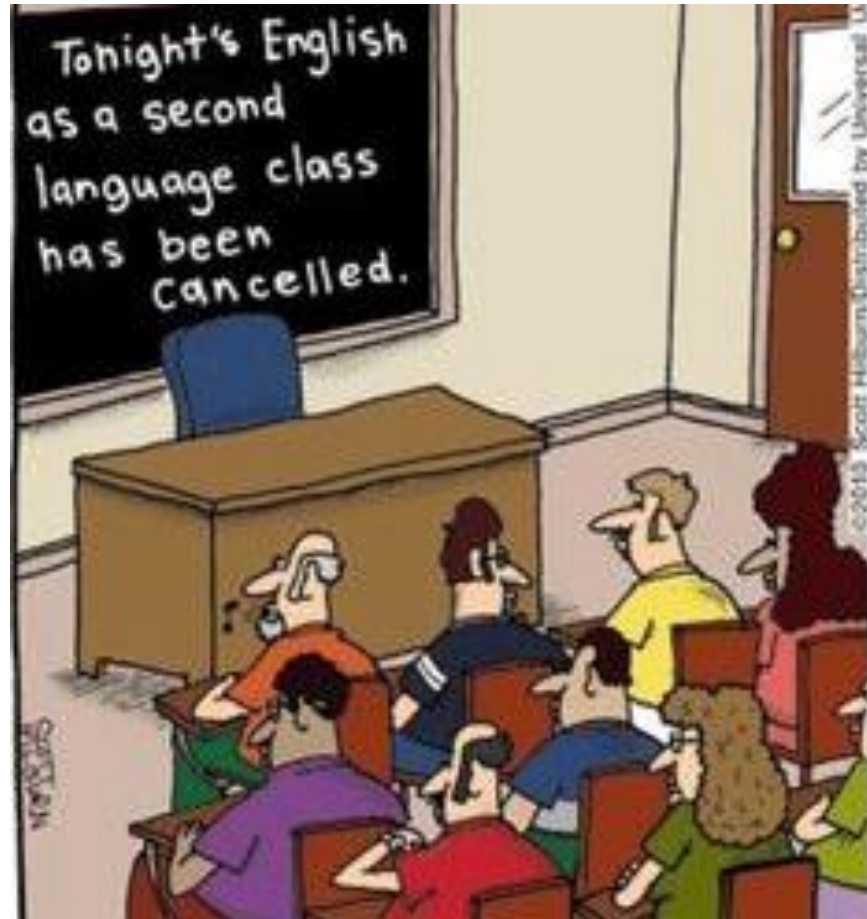
L'italiano scritto. Parlato. Certificato.

SOCIETÀ DANTE ALIGHIERI  
IL MONDO IN ITALIANO

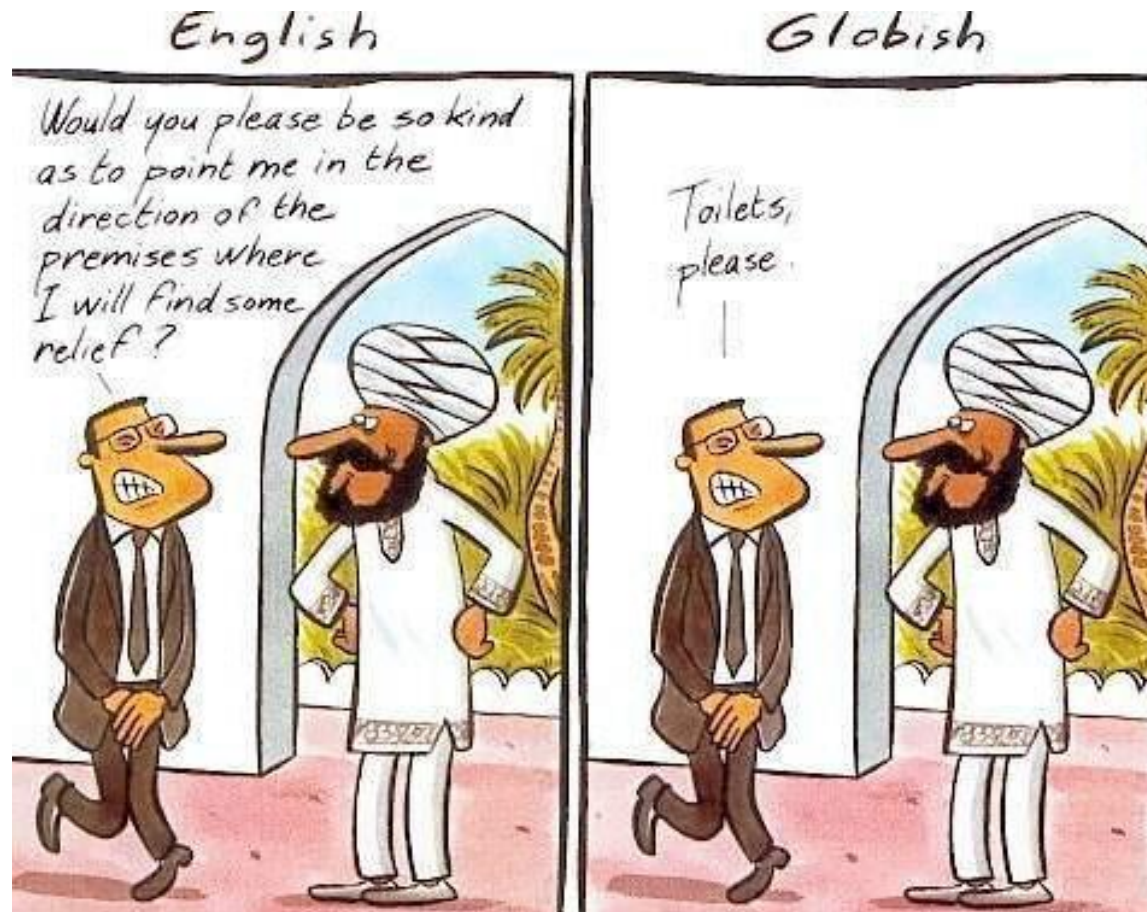


...as a foreign language

# What do common language tests test?



# What do the ICAO LPRs test?





# The case for accommodation

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Expert Level 6 exceed(s) the demands of aeronautical radiotelephony communications. Level 6 has a very wide coverage since it is intended to account for most first-language speakers with native or native-like proficiency as well as second- or foreign-language speakers with a high level of proficiency. Attainment of Level 6 should be considered as being beyond the realistic expectations of most second- or foreign-language learners.

- *ICAO Doc. 9835, 4.5.9*

# The case for accommodation

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Research also points to the need, especially for highly proficient speakers, to focus on skills of accommodation in speaking.

Accommodation is a natural process of adapting speech habits to the constraints of the context and the perceived ability of the hearer to understand. This involves:

- The perception of an interlocutor's linguistic difficulties; and
- The replacement of high-risk (possibly unclear or ambiguous) features of the language to increase communicative efficiency.

- *ICAO Doc. 9835, 2.5.4*

# The case against idioms

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(The) use of idioms may be taken into account in assessment procedures designed to identify Level 6 users in a non-radiotelephony context. This is not however intended to imply that idiomatic usages are a desirable feature of aeronautical radiotelephony communications. On the contrary, use of idioms is an obstacle to intelligibility and mutual understanding between non-expert users and should therefore be avoided by all users in this environment.

- *ICAO Doc. 9835, 4.6.4*

# The ICAO LPRs are levelling the playing field

