

Do you know what Level 4 is?

Assessing pilot/controller communication

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Practical exercises in assessing language proficiency

The importance of test reliability and rater reliability

Inter-rater reliability and intra-rater reliability



An exercise in inter-rater reliability

 You will listen to a number of audio tracks from the ICAO RSSTA project

 Your task will be to assess the overall performance of the candidates

 We will use colour cards to indicate your assessment as level 5, level 4 or level 3

Use of colour cards

Hungarian Air Navigation Services

Level 5 Level 4 Level

Task description:

Face-to-face discussion.

The interlocutor asks the candidate a series of work-related discussion questions.

Professional background: pilot

ICAO Rating Scale Vocabulary

Level 5:

Vocabulary range and accuracy are sufficient to communicate effectively on common, concrete, and work-related topics. Paraphrases consistently and successfully. Vocabulary is sometimes idiomatic.

✓ Level 4:

Vocabulary range and accuracy are *usually* sufficient to communicate effectively on common, concrete, and work related topics. Can *often* paraphrase successfully when lacking vocabulary in unusual or unexpected circumstances.

ICAO Rating Scale Fluency

Level 5:

Able to speak at length with relative ease on familiar topics, but may not vary speech flow as a stylistic device. Can make use of appropriate discourse markers or connectors.

✓ Level 4:

Produces stretches of language at an appropriate tempo. There may be *occasional loss of fluency* ... but this does not prevent effective communication. Can make limited use of discourse markers or connectors. Fillers are not distracting.

Task description:

The candidate describes a picture, and responds to discussion prompts presented by the interlocutor.

Professional background: pilot



ICAO Rating Scale Pronunciation

Level 4:

Pronunciation, stress, rhythm, and intonation are influenced by the first language or regional variation but *only* sometimes interfere with ease of understanding.

✓ Level 3:

Pronunciation, stress, rhythm, and intonation are influenced by the first language or regional variation and *frequently* interfere with ease of understanding.

Task description:

Face-to-face discussion
The interlocutor asks the candidate a series of work-related discussion questions.

Professional background: pilot

ICAO Rating Scale Structure

Level 5:

Basic grammatical structures and sentence patterns are consistently well controlled. Complex structures are attempted but with errors which sometimes interfere with meaning.

✓ Level 4:

Basic grammatical structures and sentence patterns are used creatively and are usually well controlled. Errors may occur, particularly in unusual or unexpected circumstances, but rarely interfere with meaning.

ICAO Rating Scale Fluency

Level 5:

Able to speak at length with relative ease on familiar topics, but may not vary speech flow as a stylistic device. Can make use of appropriate discourse markers or connectors.

✓ Level 4:

Produces stretches of language at an appropriate tempo. There may be occasional loss of fluency ... but this does not prevent effective communication. Can make limited use of discourse markers or connectors. Fillers are not distracting.

Task Description:

Face-to-face discussion
The interlocutor asks the candidate a series of work-related discussion questions.

Professional background: pilot



ICAO Rating Scale Level 5 descriptors

- ✓ Pronunciation, stress, rhythm, and intonation, though influenced by the first language ..., rarely interfere with ease of understanding.
- ✓ Basic grammatical structures ... are consistently well controlled. Complex structures are attempted ...
- ✓ Vocabulary range and accuracy are sufficient to communicate effectively on common, concrete, and workrelated topics ...
- Able to speak at length with relative ease on familiar topics...
 Straight

What is reliability and why is it important?

Consistency is measured in terms of reliability

- Test reliability
- Rater reliability



Hungarian Air Navigation Services





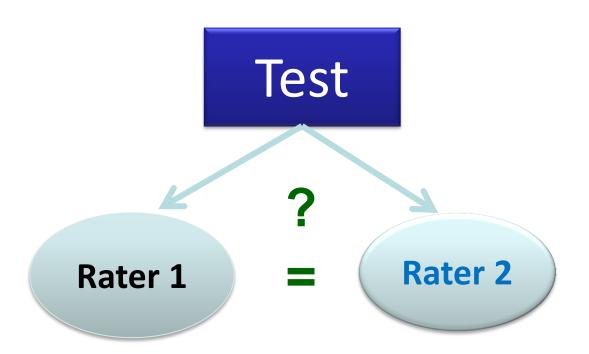
Rater reliability has two components

- Inter-rater reliability
- Intra-rater reliability

ICAO Doc 9835 (6.3.4.3)

Inter-rater reliability

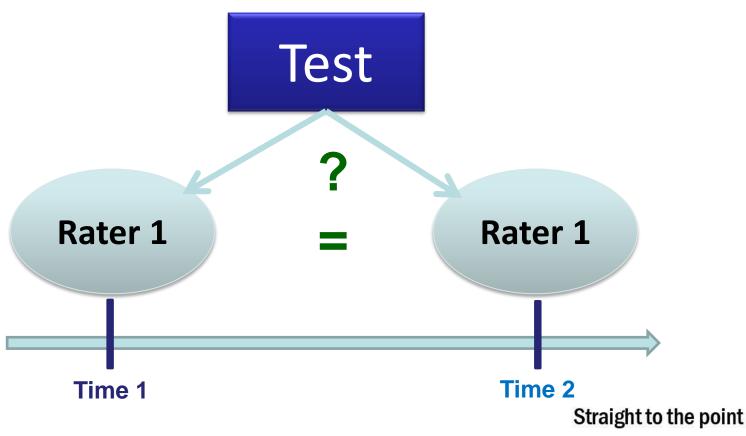
The degree of consistency among raters





Intra-rater reliability

The degree of consistency of a rating performed by the same rater over a period of time





Contribute to safety

Hungarian Air Navigation Services





Thank you for your attention

Hungarian Air Navigation Services

