

SANTOS DUMONT ENGLISH ASSESSMENT – PREPARATION EXERCISES

PART 1 – Pilot's Background

The first aspect to be remembered by the candidate is that *calmness* and *confidence* tell a lot about him or her. That is why the very first evaluated portion of SDEA is conducted: the evaluator wants to keep you relaxed and *break the ice* so you, who are under some deal of pressure, can start off on the right foot. Part 1 is done by answering questions about your own aviation background, your general conceptions as to flying and sometimes even regarding your personal aeronautical past! Since you are allowed to speak freely about your own flying background on this part, there is no need to worry a lot and get cold feet! Just open up, share experiences and feel like you are chatting with a co-worker in an airport hangar...

1) In pairs, role-play and take turns asking and answering the following questions, which are similar to those you will find on the official test. **Reminder: one-minute answers are just fine:**

- a) Please, list and explain some aspects inherent to aviation that make you like it.
- b) Out of all the airplanes you have flown, which is your favorite? Why?
- c) Have you ever been through a real emergency situation? If yes, what happened and how did you proceed? If not, what would be the most threatening situation onboard and how would you react?
- d) In Brazil, having a college degree is not mandatory for pilots, yet. From where you sit, should it be mandatory? What are the possible advantages of attending an aeronautical university course?
- e) Are you interested in flying overseas at a foreign airline? Why (not)?
- f) How do you feel about Brazilian flying instruction procedures? Are they efficient and compliant with the set of skills a good pilot should have? Explain.

2) Now, change pairs and continue doing the same kind of practice. **Reminder: being objective may be the key to a good answer in a test, especially if you don't feel that confident.**

- a) Are pilots really prepared to deal with emergency situations? Or is it just a misleading feeling they have for having endured such exhausting emergency practices?
- b) We see common people landing hijacked aircraft on the movies. Do you believe that is possible? Explain.
- c) Have you ever felt hypoxic in-flight? How was it? If not, describe how you think you would feel.
- d) How important is it to perform a pre-flight check around the aircraft? Why?
- e) What is the importance of hierarchy in a crew's efficiency and in the flight's safety?
- f) Have you called off a flight due to meteorological conditions?

3) Change pairs. Each of you must choose a set and use all the following words, regardless of sequence, to build a solid aviation story. **Reminder: change verb tenses if necessary.**

- a) Flight – Crack – Sky – Take off – Repair – Impair – ATC – Instructor – Precautious – Emergency
- b) Plan – Fly Overhead – Abeam – Bad Weather – RALT (Route Alternate) – Afraid – Crosswind – Tail Jam