Specialist Certification in Teaching English for Aviation Purposes

Aviation English Vocabulary and Terminology

AAL, above aerodrome level, refers to the height of an aircraft above the aerodrome elevation, usually measured in feet or meters. Related terms include AGL, above ground level, and MSL, mean sea level. The concept of AAL is crucial in aviation as it helps pilots navigate and maintain safe distances from obstacles.

ACAS, airborne collision avoidance system, is a system that uses transponders and radar to detect nearby aircraft and alert pilots to potential collisions. Related terms include TCAS, traffic collision avoidance system, and GPWS, ground proximity warning system. ACAS is an essential tool in preventing mid-air collisions and ensuring safe separation of aircraft.

ADF, automatic direction finder, is a navigation system that uses radio signals to determine the direction of a nearby transmitter. Related terms include VOR, VHF omnidirectional range, and NDB, non-directional beacon. ADF is a valuable tool for pilots, allowing them to locate and track nearby stations.

Aerodrome refers to any area of land or water that is designated for the landing and takeoff of aircraft. Related terms include airport, airfield, and heliport. The aerodrome is a critical component of the aviation system, providing a safe and controlled environment for aircraft operations.

Aeronautical information publication, or AIP, is a publication that contains information about aerodromes, navigation aids, and other relevant data for pilots. Related terms include NOTAM, notice to airmen, and charts. The AIP is a vital resource for pilots, providing them with essential information for safe and efficient flight operations.

Aeroplane refers to any powered, fixed-wing aircraft that is heavier than air. Related terms include airplane, aircraft, and helicopter. The aeroplane is a common type of aircraft, used for a variety of purposes, including transportation, recreation, and military operations.

AGL, above ground level, refers to the height of an aircraft above the ground, usually measured in feet or meters. Related terms include AAL, above aerodrome level, and MSL, mean sea level. The concept of AGL is important in aviation, as it helps pilots navigate and maintain safe distances from obstacles.

AHRS, attitude and heading reference system, is a system that provides information about an aircraft's attitude and heading. Related terms include GPS, global positioning system, and INS, inertial navigation system. AHRS is a crucial component of modern avionics systems, allowing pilots to accurately navigate and control their aircraft.

Airborne collision avoidance system, or ACAS, is a system that uses transponders and radar to detect nearby aircraft and alert pilots to potential collisions. Related terms include TCAS, traffic collision avoidance system, and GPWS, ground proximity warning system. ACAS is an essential tool in preventing mid-air collisions and ensuring safe separation of aircraft.

Aircraft refers to any vehicle that is designed to fly through the air. Related terms include aeroplane, airplane, and helicopter. The aircraft is a complex machine, requiring careful maintenance and operation to ensure safe and efficient flight.

Airmanship refers to the skills and knowledge required to operate an aircraft safely and efficiently. Related terms include aviation, flying, and pilot. Airmanship is a critical component of aviation, as it helps pilots to make safe and informed decisions during flight.

Airport refers to any area of land or water that is designated for the landing and takeoff of aircraft, and provides facilities for passengers and cargo. Related terms include aerodrome, airfield, and heliport. The airport is a hub of aviation activity, providing a safe and controlled environment for aircraft operations.

Airspace refers to the area of air that is designated for aircraft operations, and is controlled by air traffic control. Related terms include ATC, air traffic control, and navigation. Airspace is a critical component of aviation, as it provides a safe and organized environment for aircraft to operate.

Airspeed refers to the speed of an aircraft through the air, usually measured in knots or miles per hour. Related terms include groundspeed, altitude, and heading. Airspeed is a critical component of flight, as it affects the performance and safety of the aircraft.

Altitude refers to the height of an aircraft above a reference point, such as sea level or the ground. Related terms include AAL, above aerodrome level, and AGL, above ground level. Altitude is a critical component of flight, as it affects the performance and safety of the aircraft.

Altitude indicator is a instrument that displays the altitude of an aircraft, usually measured in feet or meters. Related terms include altimeter, airspeed indicator, and heading indicator. The altitude indicator is a crucial component of the aircraft's instrumentation system.

AOA, angle of attack, refers to the angle between the oncoming airflow and the chord line of the wing. Related terms include stall, lift, and drag. The AOA is a critical component of flight, as it affects the performance and safety of the aircraft.

APU, auxiliary power unit, is a system that provides power to an aircraft when the main engines are not running. Related terms include generator, battery, and electrical system. The APU is a vital component of the aircraft's systems, providing power for essential functions.

Approach refers to the phase of flight where an aircraft is descending and aligning itself with the runway for landing. Related terms include descent, landing, and touchdown. The approach is a critical component of flight, requiring careful planning and execution to ensure a safe and controlled landing.

ASR, airport surveillance radar, is a system that uses radar to track and identify aircraft in the vicinity of an airport. ASR is a critical component of air traffic control, providing real-time information about aircraft positions and movements.

ATC, air traffic control, refers to the service provided by controllers to guide and separate aircraft in the air

and on the ground. Related terms include air traffic, navigation, and safety. ATC is a vital component of aviation, ensuring the safe and efficient movement of aircraft.

ATIS, automatic terminal information service, is a system that provides information about weather, notices, and other relevant data to pilots. Related terms include NOTAM, notice to airmen, and charts. ATIS is a valuable resource for pilots, providing them with essential information for safe and efficient flight operations.

Attitude refers to the orientation of an aircraft in space, including its pitch, roll, and yaw. Related terms include heading, altitude, and airspeed. Attitude is a critical component of flight, affecting the performance and safety of the aircraft.

AWOS, automated weather observing system, is a system that provides weather information, including temperature, humidity, and wind direction. Related terms include ASOS, automated surface observing system, and weather forecast. AWOS is a vital component of aviation, providing pilots with essential information about weather conditions.

Barometer refers to an instrument that measures atmospheric pressure, usually used to predict weather patterns. The barometer is a valuable tool for pilots, providing them with information about weather conditions.

Battery refers to a component that stores electrical energy, usually used to power essential systems in an aircraft. Related terms include generator, APU, and electrical system. The battery is a critical component of the aircraft's systems, providing power for essential functions.

Cabin refers to the compartment of an aircraft where passengers and crew are seated. Related terms include cockpit, galley, and lavatory. The cabin is a critical component of an aircraft, providing a safe and comfortable environment for passengers and crew.

CAN, controller-pilot data link communications, is a system that allows controllers to communicate with pilots using digital data links. Related terms include CPDLC, controller-pilot data link communications, and voice communication. CAN is a vital component of air traffic control, providing real-time information and instructions to pilots.

Captain refers to the pilot in command of an aircraft, usually the most experienced and senior pilot on board. Related terms include first officer, co-pilot, and crew member. The captain is a critical component of the flight crew, responsible for making decisions and commands during flight.

CAS, calibrated airspeed, refers to the speed of an aircraft through the air, usually measured in knots or miles per hour. Related terms include TAS, true airspeed, and IAS, indicated airspeed. CAS is a critical component of flight, affecting the performance and safety of the aircraft.

CATA, commercial aviation training association, is an organization that provides training and resources for commercial aviation professionals. Related terms include FAA, Federal Aviation Administration, and ICAO, International Civil Aviation Organization. CATA is a vital component of the aviation industry, providing

training and resources for commercial aviation professionals.

CDI, course deviation indicator, is an instrument that displays the deviation of an aircraft from its planned course. Related terms include GPS, global positioning system, and navigation. The CDI is a valuable tool for pilots, providing them with information about their position and course.

CDO, controlled descent operation, is a procedure that allows aircraft to descend and land in a controlled and efficient manner. Related terms include approach, landing, and touchdown. The CDO is a critical component of flight, requiring careful planning and execution to ensure a safe and controlled landing.

CEO, chief executive officer, refers to the person in charge of an organization, usually responsible for making strategic decisions and overseeing operations. Related terms include CFO, chief financial officer, and COO, chief operating officer. The CEO is a critical component of an organization, responsible for making decisions and guiding the organization towards its goals.

CFC, carburetor ice, refers to the formation of ice in the carburetor of an aircraft engine, usually caused by moisture in the air. Related terms include carburetor, engine, and ice. The CFC is a critical component of aircraft performance, affecting the power and efficiency of the engine.

CFIT, controlled flight into terrain, refers to the accident where an aircraft collides with the ground or terrain, usually caused by pilot error or navigation failure. Related terms include accident, incident, and safety. The CFIT is a critical component of aviation safety, requiring careful planning and execution to prevent accidents.

CG, center of gravity, refers to the point where the weight of an aircraft can be considered to be concentrated, usually located near the center of the aircraft. Related terms include weight, balance, and stability. The CG is a critical component of aircraft performance, affecting the stability and control of the aircraft.

Checklist refers to a list of procedures or tasks that must be completed in a specific order, usually used to ensure safety and efficiency during flight. Related terms include procedure, task, and safety. The checklist is a valuable tool for pilots, providing them with a step-by-step guide to completing tasks and procedures.

CIS, common information services, refers to the services provided by air traffic control to provide information to pilots, usually including weather, notices, and other relevant data. The CIS is a vital component of air traffic control, providing pilots with essential information for safe and efficient flight operations.

Crew refers to the personnel on board an aircraft, usually including the pilots, flight attendants, and other support staff. Related terms include pilot, co-pilot, and flight attendant. The crew is a critical component of flight, responsible for ensuring the safety and comfort of passengers and crew.

CRM, crew resource management, refers to the techniques and strategies used by crew members to manage resources and communicate effectively during flight. Related terms include communication, teamwork, and safety. The CRM is a vital component of aviation, providing training and resources for crew

members to manage resources and communicate effectively.

CTA, control area, refers to the area of airspace where air traffic control has jurisdiction, usually including the airspace surrounding an airport. The CTA is a critical component of air traffic control, providing a safe and organized environment for aircraft to operate.

DAP, data acquisition panel, is an instrument that displays and records data about an aircraft's performance and systems. Related terms include instrument, display, and data. The DAP is a valuable tool for pilots and maintainers, providing them with essential information about the aircraft's performance and systems.

DCS, digital control system, is a system that uses digital signals to control and monitor an aircraft's systems and performance. Related terms include computer, software, and hardware. The DCS is a critical component of modern aircraft, providing real-time information and control of the aircraft's systems and performance.

DF, direction finder, is a system that uses radio signals to determine the direction of a nearby transmitter. Related terms include navigation, radio, and direction. The DF is a valuable tool for pilots, providing them with essential information about their position and course.

DG, direction indicator, is an instrument that displays the direction of an aircraft, usually measured in degrees. Related terms include compass, heading, and navigation. The DG is a critical component of the aircraft's instrumentation system, providing pilots with essential information about their direction and course.

DLR, data link recorder, is an instrument that records and displays data about an aircraft's performance and systems. The DLR is a valuable tool for pilots and maintainers, providing them with essential information about the aircraft's performance and systems.

DME, distance measuring equipment, is a system that uses radio signals to measure the distance between an aircraft and a nearby transmitter. Related terms include navigation, radio, and distance. The DME is a critical component of the aircraft's navigation system, providing pilots with essential information about their position and course.

EAS, equivalent airspeed, refers to the speed of an aircraft through the air, usually measured in knots or miles per hour. The EAS is a critical component of flight, affecting the performance and safety of the aircraft.

ECAM, electronic centralized aircraft monitor, is a system that displays and monitors an aircraft's systems and performance. The ECAM is a valuable tool for pilots, providing them with essential information about the aircraft's systems and performance.

EGT, exhaust gas temperature, refers to the temperature of an aircraft engine's exhaust gases, usually measured in degrees Celsius or Fahrenheit. Related terms include engine, temperature, and performance. The EGT is a critical component of engine performance, affecting the power and efficiency of the engine.

ELT, emergency locator transmitter, is a device that transmits a signal in the event of an emergency, usually activated by impact or manual activation. Related terms include emergency, locator, and transmitter. The

ELT is a vital component of aviation safety, providing a means of locating and rescuing aircraft in distress.

EMA, engine monitoring system, is a system that monitors and displays data about an aircraft engine's performance and condition. Related terms include engine, monitoring, and performance. The EMA is a valuable tool for pilots and maintainers, providing them with essential information about the engine's performance and condition.

EOBT, estimated off-block time, refers to the estimated time an aircraft will depart from the gate or stand, usually provided by air traffic control. Related terms include departure, gate, and stand. The EOBT is a critical component of flight planning, affecting the scheduling and coordination of flight operations.

EODB, estimated off-block delay, refers to the estimated delay an aircraft will experience before departing from the gate or stand, usually provided by air traffic control. The EODB is a critical component of flight planning, affecting the scheduling and coordination of flight operations.

ETOPS, extended-range twin-engine operational performance standards, refers to the standards and guidelines for operating twin-engine aircraft on long-range flights, usually involving extended periods of single-engine operation. Related terms include twin-engine, long-range, and safety. The ETOPS is a critical component of aviation safety, providing a framework for safe and efficient operation of twin-engine aircraft on long-range flights.

FANS, future air navigation system, refers to the system of navigation and communication technologies used to support air traffic control and navigation, usually including satellite and digital communication systems. Related terms include navigation, communication, and satellite. The FANS is a vital component of modern aviation, providing real-time information and control of air traffic.

FDR, flight data recorder, is an instrument that records and stores data about an aircraft's flight and performance, usually used for safety and investigative purposes. Related terms include instrument, data, and recorder. The FDR is a critical component of aviation safety, providing a means of recording and analyzing flight data.

FDU, flight data unit, is an instrument that displays and stores data about an aircraft's flight and performance, usually used for navigation and performance monitoring. Related terms include instrument, data, and display. The FDU is a valuable tool for pilots, providing them with essential information about the aircraft's flight and performance.

FF, fuel flow, refers to the rate at which fuel is consumed by an aircraft engine, usually measured in pounds or kilograms per hour. Related terms include fuel, consumption, and performance. The FF is a critical component of flight planning, affecting the range and endurance of the aircraft.

FIR, flight information region, refers to the area of airspace where flight information and weather services are provided, usually by air traffic control. The FIR is a critical component of air traffic control, providing a safe and organized environment for aircraft to operate.

FL, flight level, refers to the altitude of an aircraft, usually measured in feet or meters, and designated by a

specific flight level number. Related terms include altitude, level, and flight. The FL is a critical component of flight, affecting the performance and safety of the aircraft.

FMS, flight management system, is a system that integrates and manages an aircraft's navigation, communication, and performance systems, usually including computer and software components. Related terms include navigation, communication, and performance. The FMS is a vital component of modern aviation, providing real-time information and control of the aircraft's systems and performance.

FOD, foreign object debris, refers to any object or material that is not part of the aircraft and can cause damage or hazard to the aircraft or its occupants, usually including tools, equipment, and other objects that are not secured or removed from the aircraft. Related terms include damage, hazard, and safety. The FOD is a critical component of aviation safety, requiring careful attention and precautions to prevent accidents and injuries.

FPL, flight plan, refers to the document or plan that outlines the route, altitude, and other details of a flight, usually filed with air traffic control before departure. Related terms include flight, plan, and route. The FPL is a critical component of flight planning, affecting the safety and efficiency of the flight.

FSS, flight service station, refers to the facility or station that provides flight information, weather services, and other assistance to pilots, usually operated by air traffic control or other agencies. The FSS is a vital component of air traffic control, providing a safe and organized environment for aircraft to operate.

FTD, flight training device, refers to the simulator or device used to train pilots and simulate flight conditions, usually including computer and software components. Related terms include training, simulator, and device. The FTD is a valuable tool for pilots, providing them with essential training and practice in a safe and controlled environment.

GCA, ground controlled approach, refers to the procedure where air traffic control guides an aircraft to land using radar and other instrumentation, usually used in low-visibility conditions. Related terms include approach, landing, and radar. The GCA is a critical component of air traffic control, providing a safe and controlled environment for aircraft to land.