

## The Application of Full English Teaching Model in Aviation Theory Courses

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### Abstract

Based on the analysis of full English teaching model, the teaching characteristics and current teaching situation of aviation theory courses, this paper analyzes the application of full English teaching model in the aviation theory courses, with the purpose of gradually innovating the present teaching methods in aviation colleges and universities, continuously improving the flight cadets' enthusiasm in class, significantly encouraging flight cadets master more aviation knowledge and aviation English, and greatly enhancing the flight cadets' comprehensive ability.

**Key words:** Full English; Teaching model; Aviation theory; Application

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### INTRODUCTION

In China, 70% pilots get their flight training in foreign countries, so acquiring good command of aviation English is of significant importance for flight cadets. With the development of globalization and international education, full English teaching model has become a popular teaching model and a new upsurge of modern education. It is a sign of conformity with social development and requires more

international exchanges and cooperation in the process of courses presentation. Under this background, aviation colleges and universities should follow this international trend and cultivate more all-round talents with this teaching model. On the one hand, this teaching model can assist the aviation colleges and universities strengthen the talent training and education quality; On the other hand, it can make the aviation colleges and universities conform to the need of international development in terms of educational contents and methods. The application of full English teaching model in aviation theory courses can help the aviation colleges and universities cultivate more aviation talents with international cooperation consciousness, conventional communication skills and international competition. All in all, the application of full English teaching model is of great significance of international pilots cultivation and personnel training with core-competence.

## 1. AN INTERPRETATION OF FULL ENGLISH TEACHING MODEL

### 1.1 Connotation of Full English Teaching Model

Full English teaching refers to the use of English as a special language for teaching and as an important tool for knowledge transmission in class. In full English teaching, the teachers should correctly understand the relationship between the teaching contents and the relevant language subjects. The purpose of this teaching model is to use English language as the main language in teaching, so that students can learn and understand the relevant knowledge in English and master other related subjects with international vision. Besides this, the students can form advanced thinking habits and exchange their experiences by using English as the main language. In the process of courses teaching, this teaching model must be correctly based on the modern educational theory, closely related

to the modern educational facilities, directly related to other language forms and intentionally avoid language interchangeability.

### **1.2 Comparative Study Between Full English Teaching Model and Other Teaching Model**

Full English teaching model is not a substitute for the conventional English teaching model, nor a substitute for other teaching model. Actually it is an effective supplement and promotion of other teaching methods. In full English teaching process, students can naturally memorize the professional vocabulary much easier. This approach not only improves the students' capability of English application, but also enables them to understand the global changes of knowledge and contents. It can be clearly seen that full English teaching model is based on both general English teaching and professional English teaching. Thus, in full English teaching, students' major vocabulary level can be significantly improved, their professional theoretical vocabulary can be certainly increased, and their knowledge in English science can be effectively cultivated.

## **2. CHARACTERISTICS AND PRESENT SITUATION OF AVIATION THEORY TEACHING**

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### **2.1 Characteristics of Aviation Theory Teaching**

The aim of aviation theory teaching is to cultivate skilled and applied aviation talents. In the process of teaching, the aviation teachers should focus on theoretical simulation experiment teaching and combine practice and theory by taking "flight simulation experiment as the center, active aviation knowledge teaching as the task and pilots cultivation as the emphasis". In the courses presentation, according to the aviation theory characteristics, the teachers should take the communication of aviation skills as the main goal, make the flight cadets feel relaxed and pleasant in the learning process, combine the knowledge teaching and skills training and enhance the acceptability of teaching content.

### **2.2 Analysis of the Present Situation of Aviation Theory Teaching**

Currently, the aviation theory teaching is comparatively dull and boring. Some of the teachers do not pay attention to the learning state of the flight cadets and they only instill knowledge in the lectures, regardless of the phenomenon that the cadets do not concentrate on classes attendance. Even some of the teachers are only in the class on the podium, ignoring the cadets' reaction. And some teachers can not understand the cadets' autonomic learning situation in time, do not help them in due time, nor encourage them to inquire actively, making the self-study efficiency low. In some classes, teachers only

attend to lectures and do not give cadets the opportunity to express themselves. In the long run, cadets' lose their motivation and get used to passively accepting teachers' knowledge.

## **3. ADVANTAGES OF THE APPLICATION OF FULL ENGLISH TEACHING MODEL IN AVIATION THEORY TEACHING**

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### **3.1 Creating Full English Learning Atmosphere**

The current teaching environment of most colleges and universities in China is not full English teaching, except English majors. The full English teaching model requires the teachers to teach in English all the time, which creates an all-English classroom environment and learning atmosphere for the flight cadets. In this way, they can cultivate the cadets' sense of listening and understanding and greatly improve the cadets' language skills, which can help them establish a sound foundation of flight training and radio communication skills before they go abroad to conduct the flight practice.

### **3.2 Developing Cadets' Comprehensive English Ability**

Full English teaching model can enlarge cadets' English vocabulary and lay a sound foundation for cadets to study abroad. In order to promote the smooth process of full English teaching, the teachers should develop the cadets' English ability via various of methods, such as reading English books and periodicals, reciting English beautiful texts, listening to English music and movies, and delivering updated lectures. Through the constant and continuous practice, the cadets' ability of understanding, communicating and expressing would be gradually improved and they would become accustomed to the full English teaching process. In the process of learning, cadets can also develop fresh way of thinking, bilingual language transforming, and understanding the meaning in a very short time. This kind of teaching model is really beneficial to develop cadets' comprehensive English ability.

### **3.3 Connecting Aviation Theory Study and Flight Training**

Nowadays, many domestic colleges and universities encourage subject-related teaching and full English teaching. Everyone should correctly understand that it is an useful way to connect the subjects and English for those suitable subjects. Taking aviation theory courses as an example, if aviation colleges and universities arrange the all English courses reasonably, cooperate with other relevant professional courses in the teaching content, make scientific construction, and correlate English course and the related aviation teaching, the cadets' not only successfully complete the license examination and theory

study, but also master English as soon as possible. Thus, the flight training and aviation theory study can be connected and language difficulties would be greatly reduced.

#### **4. STRATEGIES FOR THE APPLICATION OF FULL ENGLISH TEACHING MODEL IN AVIATION THEORY COURSES**

At present, most Chinese flight cadets need to go abroad for flight training, which requires them to lay a solid foundation of professional aviation knowledge and a good command of English. For those who don't go abroad for flight training, they also need to have professional aviation knowledge and excellent English if they want to meet the requirements of ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) English and pass all the licence examinations held by CAAC (Civil Aviation Association of China). The solid foundation of aviation English and aviation theory not only affect their future work, but also has a great impact on flight safety. So searching for effective measures and strategies to promote full English teaching in aviation theory courses has important practical significance.

##### **4.1 Provide Targeted Teaching Resources as Textbooks and Periodicals and Establish Teaching Framework**

At the beginning of full English teaching in aviation theory courses, the aviation colleges and universities should select appropriate and suitable teaching materials, and with the accumulation of teaching time, they should ensure that they have their own aviation English database, relevant aviation textbooks and self-made teaching materials. In providing targeted teaching resources, the colleges and universities should also pay attention to the overall consideration and the knowledge must be understood by the majority of flight cadets. Teachers should ensure that the basic aviation theoretical systems, aeronautical knowledge integrity, and flight disciplines are linked. For teaching content, attention should be paid to the relationship between subjects, classroom efficiency and teaching order, and a aviation teaching framework should be developed for flight cadets to learn in order to strengthen the pertinence of teaching.

##### **4.2 Enrich Teachers' Professional Knowledge and Practical Operational Experience**

In order to present effective classes in aviation theory teaching, teachers need to constantly enrich their professional knowledge, communicate with experienced flight instructors, understand teaching priorities, clarify teaching objectives, communicate with students after class, and master all-round related aviation subjects. In short, the teachers must have a high level of knowledge in order to make the cadets accept the theory much easier. At the same time, aviation theory is a comprehensive course,

the teachers should not only have a solid professional theory foundation, but also have certain practical operational experience. Only in this way, can the teachers accurately express, fully explain and thoroughly grasp the cadets' attention in classroom presentations. During the teaching process, teachers should not only explain theoretical knowledge to cadets, but also strengthen the use and analysis of aeronautical data. If the teachers can deliver all the concerning flight information in full English teaching, the teaching efficiency will be certainly promoted.

##### **4.3 Search for Suitable Aviation Dictionaries and Recommend them to Flight Cadets**

Using the full English teaching, the cadets will encounter a great deal of new words and relevant professional terms in the use of English teaching materials or the aviation textbooks, which will seriously hinder the cadets' understanding and learning of the full English course and even the enthusiasm of study. Although the various electronic dictionaries in the society are emerging and these translation tools have a great effect on the conventional translation, they are lack of pertinence in aviation theory learning. The aviation teachers definitely will introduce aviation professional vocabulary and technical terms to cadets, but those are far away from enough. According to the investigation, it is quite necessary for the teachers search for and recommend practical and content-rich professional aviation dictionaries to the cadets as much as possible. Also, the teachers should sort the information of the related terms, accumulate the content, and then send them to the students in the form of electronic manuscript. All these measures will play an important and positive role in full English teaching in aviation theory courses.

##### **4.4 Take Network Resources as Powerful Complement to Full English Teaching in Aviation Courses**

Online learning is becoming more and more popular among aviation college and university cadets, and it has become an important channel to learn aviation knowledge and spread aviation theory information. In aviation theory courses, the teachers can collect some video-audio resources and a wide range of learning websites related to the full English teaching so as to improve cadets' autonomous learning ability. If conditions permit, the teachers can also set up a query system to facilitate cadets to query professional vocabulary and professional knowledge and build full English teaching textbooks and periodicals synchronously to provide a good learning atmosphere for cadets to learn aviation knowledge.

##### **4.5 Full English Classroom Teaching Should Be Carried Out at Different Layers**

In aviation knowledge teaching, the teachers should adjust teaching rhythm to suit different kinds of flight cadets

with different English levels. The teachers must try their best to explain different aspects of the operational skills to different cadets with different interpretations, so that all the cadets can get through and detailed understanding. With no doubt, in conducting full English teaching, the teachers should make lesson plans according to the cadets' English levels and divide theory teaching into different layers. For this aspect, on the basis of English levels, understanding capability and knowledge requirements, teaching should be carried out from shallow layer to the depth, then make a comprehensive and objective evaluation, so that no cadets is left behind.

#### **4.6 Give Priority to English Teaching and Avoid Chinese as Backup**

Although full English teaching is difficult for every participate to understand the contents, teachers should bear in mind that English teaching must be used as much as possible in the classroom so as to train the cadets' English ability. Sometimes, the use of Chinese in due course, such as flight principles, weight and balance, flight performance and formula theorem, can improve the students' learning efficiency and help students understand the complicated explanation, but the use of Chinese is not a good choice in full English teaching model. On one hand, the cadets may take Chinese as a backup and give themselves a way out; On the other hand, it is not helpful for upgrading the cadets' understanding capability. Thus, even the Chinese has positive effect in assisting full English teaching, the teachers should always take English teaching as priority and avoid using Chinese, including the evaluation process. Meanwhile, the teachers should create more ways of English teaching in order to make the classroom always full of vitality.

## **CONCLUSION**

Aviation theory is a comprehensive practical subject. Using the full English teaching model can effectively improve the flight cadets' enthusiasm for learning and is of significant value for cultivating the flight cadets' sense of language understanding, which plays an critical role in the abroad study of flight training. Therefore, the aviation colleges and universities should actively introduce advanced teaching methods, forwardly change the present teaching situation, comprehensively improve the flight cadets' enthusiasm in classroom learning, energetically promote the teaching reform and constantly upgrade the flight cadets' comprehensive learning capability. By this way, the pilot training quality can be continuously improved and more international pilots can be cultivated.

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