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The place of language teaching in training aviation personnel in the field of aviation safety

The safety of civil aviation is an issue of international nature. In recent years, aviation safety has benefited greatly from the development of advanced technology, but it is still highly dependent on the human factor. Thus, proper organization of personnel training can promote the formation of an effective and sustainable aviation safety culture worldwide. Hence, teaching Aviation English to aviation personnel plays a key role in safety improvement by making aviation personnel able to conduct clear and effective communication in Aviation English.

Air transport remains one of the safest modes of transport worldwide. A high level of aviation transport security requires constant safety control, analysis of trends, and timely implementation of measures to prevent aviation incidents [1, p. 315]. The Air Code of Ukraine, which establishes the legal basis of activities in the aviation field, defines "aviation safety" as the state of the industry of civil aviation when the risk of causing damage to people or property is reduced to an acceptable level as a result of a continuous process of determining and managing the level of hazard and is maintained at this level, or is decreased in the fields of flight safety, aviation safety, environmental protection, economic security, and information security [2].

The safety of civil aviation is of an international nature, and it was defined right after the founding of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and adoption of the Chicago Convention in 1944. In recent years, ICAO has paid increased attention to the issue of aviation safety, especially to the culture of aviation safety.

The culture of aviation safety is an organizational culture that contributes to the achievement of optimal results in the field of ensuring aviation safety and includes a set of norms, beliefs, principles, social attitudes, and assumptions that are an integral part of the daily activities of units and employees of the subject of aviation activity.

Although the culture of aviation safety is a purely organizational phenomenon, the aspects of its formation confuse the aviation community at the global level of the civil aviation industry. In recent years, aviation safety has benefited greatly from the development and use of advanced technology, but ultimately the reliability of safety measures is still highly dependent on the human factor. If managers and employees have an inadequate attitude, the effectiveness of every aviation safety measure decreases even if it uses the latest technologies. By improving the culture of aviation safety, it is possible to make the human factor an additional strength in the field of aviation, instead of its weak point [3].

In November 2020, the International Civil Aviation Organization announced the following priority areas to increase the level of aviation safety due to joint global efforts of the states:

- implementation of strategies and plans for the dissemination of information about the culture of aviation safety in order to raise awareness of aviation safety in the field of aviation and conduct relevant campaigns at airports;
- ensuring a wider dissemination of information about the culture of aviation safety in the aviation community, in which ensuring aviation safety is everyone's responsibility;
- organization of personnel training and development of tools to promote the formation of an effective and sustainable culture of aviation safety in the field of aviation worldwide [3]

According to the abovementioned, training of aviation personnel is one of the most important directions in ensuring the culture of aviation safety. Language occupies a key place in educating aviation personnel since the field of aviation is international and requires the cooperation of various states worldwide. Thus, Aviation English is an international language for civil aviation [4, p.32]. This means that Aviation English is the recommended standard for airlines' employees in civil aviation who are engaged in international flights [5]. Language courses, which are an integral part of aviation personnel training, do not provide the students with the knowledge of how to fly or how to manage traffic, however, they teach how to conduct effective communication in the English language environment [6]. To maintain the necessary level of language proficiency aviation personnel have to obtain their English language communication skills at high school. After graduation, specialists have to practice their language skills regularly to be successful in their job. This is the reason why aviation companies around the world organize language retraining programs for their personnel every year [4, p. 32]. The structure of professional training of aviation flight personnel according to the requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) includes professional levels of professional training of the flight crew, which legally take effect after obtaining the appropriate certificate, namely: amateur pilot, sports pilot, private pilot, commercial pilot, airline line pilot and qualified pilot instructor [7]. For example, in Ukraine, according to L. Nemlii [4], some organizations provide effective language training for aviation personnel under modern scientific and methodological standards. Up-to-date to train aviation personnel's English communication skills and competence, interactive methods are used. In these classes, students practice communicative situations based on topics dealing with routine and non-routine or emergencies [4, p. 32].

Aviation English is important for pilots, air traffic controllers, crew members, and ground staffs, as proficiency in language skills greatly contributes to safety, security, clear communication, and efficient operations. Effective communication is principal to avoid misunderstanding, delays, and conflicts between numerous parties involved in flight operations.

Safety has always been the priority in aviation, and effective language skills are a contributing factor. It should be noted that proficiency in Aviation English is not static. It is a constant process that greatly depends on comprehensive training and regular practice [8]. All the parties involved (pilots, air traffic controllers, and ground personnel) must have an aeronautical vocabulary, which consists of certain technical terminology and specific phrases, to conduct communication regardless of the

interlocutor's nationality and for a flight to be successful. [9]. Pilots' professional language skills are important and sufficient for flight safety [10].

Undoubtedly, Aviation English skills lie at the core of aviation operations, ensuring safety and security across international borders. While modern technology and software play a great role and take a notable part in aviation, language skills certainly create the foundation for conducting clear and effective communication. The interplay of language proficiency and technologies is what makes aviation a truly exceptional industry [8].

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