

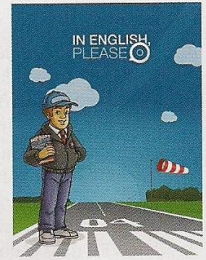
IN ENGLISH, PLEASE



L'anglais pour voler
disponible sur



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Now on the **Appstore**, the collection of "In English, please" articles from June 2007 to July 2015, with audio recordings when available.

Ditching Reading and listening comprehension quiz

www.pilotworkshop.com has been mentioned several times in this page as an interesting site to practice your aeronautical English. Once you have signed up on their homepage, you receive a free "Pilot's tip of the week" every Wednesday. These tips are on a variety of aviation-related subjects and, in most cases, the piece consists of a text with its recording, and from time to time a video.

Recently, one of these tips was about "water landings in a land plane". Now, you may think that you are not concerned because you NEVER fly over water, but consider this: there are no large bodies of water between La Guardia, New York's second-largest airport, and Charlotte in North Carolina and yet Captain Sullenberger ended up landing his A320 in the Hudson River on January 2009 (1). And then consider that: any flight to visit our British neighbors, oops sorry, neighbours (!) will involve some water crossing, even if it's only a short one.

First go to http://www.pilotworkshop.com/tips/ditching_airplane_water.htm and listen to the recording, preferably without reading the text at first to really test your listening comprehension skills.

1 - According to Wally, depending on the type of aircraft you are flying, what could be one of your biggest problems?

- a - finding a rescue vessel
- b - figuring out which way is up
- c - your sinking rate

Vocabulary

brackets: parenthesis
steadily: regularly
an egress: an escape
ditching: emergency water landing
a cold shock response: an immersion
..... syncope
to deal with: to handle
adamant: insistent
to inflate: to blow up
a glossary: a dictionary
an expanse: a large space

2 - POH stands for:

- a - possible Occurrence Handbook
- b - process On Help-request
- c - Pilot's Operating Handbook

Next, watch the video "Underwater escape". The number between brackets indicates the time where you'll find the answers to the questions below.

3 - The accident happened (02:00):

- a - at sunrise
- b - on the way back from an aerobatics training area
- c - in good visibility

4 - When Bryan Webster regained consciousness the aircraft was (04:00):

- a - not sinking
- b - sinking rapidly
- c - sinking steadily

5 - Underwater egress training (07:00):

- a - did not exist outside the military
- b - gives the tools to handle an underwater escape
- c - a and b

6 - You have a better chance of survival if you ditch your aircraft in Florida rather than in Canada because (08:00):

- a - rescue services are more efficient in Florida
- b - you have a high chance of being cold-shocked in Canada
- c - pilots are trained for it in Florida

7 - If you have two items to deal with when you are underwater, how long do you have before you go into total panic (10:00)?

- a - 15 seconds
- b - 50 seconds
- c - no time at all

8 - Steve Verbarendse could not remember (12:35):

- a - what he had learned in egress training
- b - what the door handle configuration was where his life vest was

Then, scroll all the way down the page to the comments posted by Mike and Schaz, who have been through some training.

9 - What do they suggest if hanging upside down?

- a - use parts of your body as references to regain some sense of direction
- b - inflate your life vest
- c - wait for a wave to roll the aircraft back in the upright position

10 - Kurt, Hank and Richard Weil are adamant about one point:

- a - open the doors before touching the water
- b - do not inflate your life vest while in the aircraft learn how to swim

Finally, in the comments section, find and click on the link <http://www.equipped.com/ditchingmyths.htm>. The article and the information date back to the 90s, but that does not mean the data is no longer valid!

11 - A blue water ditching happens:

- a - in the open sea or ocean, distant from land
- b - in a lake
- c - off the Caribbean islands

12 - Where in the FAA Aeronautical Information Manual can you find the paragraph on ditching procedures? (www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/media/aim.pdf)

- a - in chapter 6, section 3, sub-section 3
- b - in the pilot/controller glossary
- c - in the appendices

13 - According to Paul Bertorelli, what is the best option in the case of an emergency landing?

- a - a crowded beach
- b - a wooded area
- c - an expanse of open water

Answers: 1 - a; 2 - c; 3 - c; 4 - c; 5 - c; 6 - b; 7 - a; 8 - b; 9 - a; 10 - b; 11 - a; 12 - a; 13 - c