

## IN ENGLISH, PLEASE



L'anglais pour voler  
disponible sur



par **DOMINIQUE DEFOSSEZ**

Author of *L'anglais pour voler*

• [www.anglais-pour-voler.com](http://www.anglais-pour-voler.com)



Now available on the Appstore, the collection of "In English, please" articles from June 2007 to December 2016, with audio recordings when available.

## LISTENING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE TRANSMISSION OF LETTERS, NUMBERS AND FREQUENCIES

Following last month's practice of standard words and phrases, let's continue the review of basic phraseology, again with the CAA's CAP 413 as the support document<sup>(1)</sup>. This reference book, also known as the **UK Radiotelephony Manual**, details in chapter 2 - pages 5 to 8 - the rules for the transmission of letters and numbers.

The transmission of individual letters is quite straightforward, with the universal use of the ICAO alphabet. It gets trickier when it comes to the transmission of numbers. The general rule is to transmit each digit separately. The two paragraphs below are excerpts from the CAP 413 that deal with exceptions:

- "All numbers used in the transmission of altitude, height, cloud height, visibility and runway visual range information which contain whole hundreds and whole thousands shall be transmitted by pronouncing each digit in the number of hundreds or thousands followed by the word HUNDRED or TOUSAND as appropriate. Combinations of thousands and whole hundreds shall be transmitted by pronouncing each digit in the number of thousands followed by the word TOUSAND and the number of hundreds followed by the word HUNDRED"

- "all six figures shall be used when identifying frequencies irrespective of whether they are 25 kHz or 8.33 kHz spaced. Exceptionally, when the final two digits of the frequency are both zero, only the first four digits need be given." Sounds complicated? Well, not so much with some practice! Below is a transcript of live recordings containing letters, numbers and frequencies, which have been removed, along with some of last month's standard words and phrases. Listen to the audio version at [www.anglais-pour-voler.com](http://www.anglais-pour-voler.com),

"In English, please" page, and fill in the gaps. A dash represents either a word, a letter, a number, or a frequency.

### Altitudes and heading

**PIL** (a -) (b - - - -), we need to take a right turn about (c -) or (d -) degrees

**CTL** (e -) and (a -) (f -)

**CTL** (g - -) radar contact (h - -) feet and (I -) intentions

**CTL** (j -) to altitude (k - -) feet

**CTL** Turn left heading (l - - -)

**PIL** Approach, helicopter rescue (m -), maintaining (n - -) with information (o -)

### Frequencies

**CTL** Hold position, (a -) ground on (b - - - - -)

**CTL** (c -) the tower (d - - - - -), bye bye

**CTL** You are cleared to destination on a LIFFIE (e - -) departure, squawk (f - - - -) and the airborne frequency (g - - - - -)

**CTL** (a -) approach (h - - - - -) good night

### Runways and taxiways

**ATIS** Departing runway (a - -) left intersection (b - -) (c - - - - -) feet available

**ATIS** Landing distance available (d - - - - -) feet

**ATIS** Taxiway (e -) closed between taxiway (f -) and taxiway (g - -)

**ATIS** Taxiway (h -) closed between taxiway (i -) and taxiway (j -)

### ATIS

This is **Jersey** information (a -) at time (b - - - -)

Runway in use (c - -)

Surface wind (d - - -) degrees (e - -)

knots gusting (f - -) knots

Visibility (g -) kilometers or more

Clouds scattered at (h - - - -) feet, broken at (I - - - -) feet

Temperature (j - -), dewpoint (k - -)

QNH (l - - - -) hectopascals

...

**Atlanta** airport arrival information (a -) (b - - - -) (c -)

Wind (d - - -) at (e -), visibility (f - -) (g - -) scattered, (h - - - -) scattered, ceiling (I - - - -) broken

Temperature (j - -) dewpoint (k - -)

Altimeter (l - - - -)

...

**Amsterdam** at (a -)

Wind (b - - -) degrees (c - -) knots gusting (d - -); visibility (e - -) kilometers or more

Clouds few at (f - - - -) feet, scattered at (g - - - -) feet, broken at (h - - - -) feet

Temperature (I - -); dewpoint (j - -)

Qnh (k - - -)

(1) <https://publicapps.caa.co.uk/docs/33/CAP413%20MAY16.2.pdf>

### ANSWERS

Altitudes and headings: a - maintain; b - 2 thousand 5 hundred; c - 5; d - 10; e - climb; f - 4 thousand; g - Sierra Charlie; h - 3 thousand; I - report; j - descend; k - 2 thousand; l - 190; m - 5; n - 5 thousand; o - Tango.

Frequencies: a - contact; b - 121 decimal; c - monitor; d - 118 decimal; e - 2 Echo; f - 057; g - 132 decimal; h - 123; i - 11; j - k - 990.

Runways and taxiways: a - 31; b - Juliet Bravo; c - 13 thousand 8 hundred; d - 11 thousand 2 hundred 48; e - Sierra; f - Juliet; g - Bravo 4; h - Lima; I - Foxtrot; j - Tango.

ATIS Jersey: a - Romeo; b - 0550; c - 26; d - 270; e - 24; f - 35; g - 10; h - 1 thousand 8 hundred; I - 2 thousand 5 hundred; j - 15; k - 12; l - 1006; Atlanta: a - Juliet; b - 0582; c - Zulu; d - 120; e - 6; f - 10; g - 7 hundred; h - 3 thousand 8 hundred; I - 5 thousand 5 hundred; j - 16; k - 15; l - 286; Amsterdam: a - 0625; b - 240; c - 28; d - 44; e - 10; f - 1 thousand 5 hundred; g - 3 thousand 2 hundred; h - 4 thousand 2 hundred; I - 16; j - 11; k - 990.