A Language Training Model for Pilots in Training

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Abstract : This study analyzes the possible causes of miscommunication between pilots and air traffic controllers by looking into a number of variables such as pronunciation, L1 interference, use of non-standard vocabulary. The purpose of this study is to enhance the knowledge of the aviation LSP instructors and to apply this knowledge to the design of new curriculum. A 16-item questionnaire was administered to 60 Turkish pilots who work for commercial airlines in Turkey. The questionnaire consists of 7 open-ended and 9 Likert-scale type questions. The analysis of data shows that there are certain pit holes that may cause communication problems for pilots that can be avoided through proper English language training. The findings of this study are expected to contribute to the development of new materials and to develop a language training model that is tailored to the needs of students of flight training department at the Faculty of Aeronautics and Astronautics. The results are beneficial not only to the instructors but also to the new pilots in training. Specific suggestions for aviation students' training will be made during the presentation.