

Examiner Report for Part-BFCL Balloon Pilot Licence (BPL) Skill Test (Gas Balloon Class)



Please complete this form in BLOCK CAPITALS using black or dark blue ink.

FALSE REPRESENTATION STATEMENT

It is an offence under the UK Air Navigation Order to make, with intent to deceive, any false representation for the purpose of procuring the grant, issue, renewal or variation of any certificate, licence, approval, permission or other document. This offence is punishable on summary conviction by a fine and on conviction on indictment with an unlimited fine or imprisonment or both.

1. APPLICANT DETAILS To be completed by the Examiner and signed by the Applicant

CAA Personal reference number:

Title: Forename: Surname:

Skill Test Proficiency Check

Series: Attempt: Date: Place of Test:

I confirm I have requested the Test as detailed above (applicant's signature)

2. FLIGHT TEST To be completed by the Examiner

Route:					
Aircraft Type and Reg:		Take Off Time:	Landing Time:	Flight Time:	
Test Sections:	1	2	3	4	5
Sections to be taken:					
Result:					
(a)					
(b)					
(c)					
(d)					
(e)					
(f)		N/A			N/A
(g)		N/A			N/A
(h)		N/A	N/A		N/A
(i)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Re-test Sections:					
Test Sections incomplete due:					
Items not completed:					
Re-training required/recommended:					
Pass	Partial Pass		Fail		
I have received information from the applicant regarding their experience and instruction and certify that this complies with the requirements of Part-BFCL.					
Examiner's Name:			Examiner's No:		
Examiner's Signature:			Date:		
Received by Applicant (signature):			Date:		

Copies of the report shall be submitted to:

(1) The Applicant
(3) The Examiner

(2) The CAA

Civil Aviation Authority Regulation 6

Regulation 6(5) of the Civil Aviation Authority Regulations 1991 provides as follows: Any person who has failed any test or examination which he is required to pass before he is granted or may exercise the privileges of a personnel licence may within 14 days of being notified of his failure request that the Authority determine whether the test or examination was properly conducted.

Skill test contents for the issue of a BPL with privileges for the gas balloon class (AMC1 BFCL.145 (c)(2))

Note: Use of checklist(s), airmanship, control of balloon by external visual reference, look-out procedures, etc. apply in all sections.

SECTION 1: PRE-FLIGHT OPERATIONS, INFLATION AND TAKE-OFF	
a	Pre-flight documentation (licence, medical certificate, permits to take off, insurance certificate, aeronautical charts, aircraft flight manual (AFM), logbook, technical logbook, checklists, etc.), flight planning, NOTAM(s) and weather briefing
b	Balloon inspection and servicing
c	Suitability of launch site
d	Load calculation
e	Crowd control, crew and passenger briefings
f	Assembly and layout
g	Inflation and pre-take-off procedures
h	Take-off
i	ATC compliance (if applicable)

SECTION 2: GENERAL AIRWORK	
a	Climb to level flight
b	Level flight
c	Descent to level flight
d	Operating at low level
e	ATC compliance (if applicable)

SECTION 3: EN-ROUTE PROCEDURES	
a	Dead reckoning and map reading
b	Marking positions and time
c	Orientation and airspace structure
d	Maintenance of altitude
e	Ballast management
f	Communication with retrieve crew
g	ATC compliance (if applicable)

SECTION 4: APPROACH AND LANDING PROCEDURES	
a	Approach from low level, missed approach and fly on
b	Approach from high level, missed approach and fly on
c	Pre-landing checks
d	Passenger pre-landing briefing
e	Selection of landing field
f	Landing, dragging and deflation
g	ATC compliance (if applicable)
h	Actions after flight (recording of the flight, closing flight plan (if applicable), briefing passengers for packing balloon, contact landowner)

SECTION 5: ABNORMAL AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURES	
This section may be combined with Sections 1 through 4.	
a	Simulated closed appendix during take-off and climb
b	Simulated parachute or valve failure
c	Other abnormal and emergency procedures as outlined in the appropriate flight manual
d	Simulated passenger health problems
e	Oral questions

BFCL.145 BPL – Practical skill test

- (a) Applicants for a BPL shall demonstrate through the completion of a skill test the ability to perform, as PIC on a balloon, the relevant procedures and manoeuvres with competency appropriate to the privileges sought.
- (b) Applicants shall complete the skill test in the same class of balloons in which the training course has been completed in accordance with point BFCL.130 and, in case of hot-air balloons, in a balloon that represents group A of that class.
- (c) To take a skill test for the issue of a BPL, the applicant shall first pass the required theoretical knowledge examination.
- (d) Pass standards
 - (1) The skill test shall be divided into different sections, representing all the different phases of a balloon flight.
 - (2) Failure in any item of a section shall cause the applicant to fail the entire section. If the applicant fails in only one section, he or she shall repeat only that section. Failure in more than one section shall require the applicant to retake the entire test.
 - (3) If the applicant needs to retake the test in accordance with paragraph (2) and fails in any section, including those sections that have been passed at a previous attempt, the applicant shall retake the entire test.
- (e) If the applicant fails to achieve a pass in all sections of the test within two attempts, he or she shall receive further practical training.

Note: if the skill test is for the extension of privileges to another balloon class (BFCL.150(c)(2)), an adequate level of theoretical knowledge for the other class must be demonstrated, as per AMC4 BFCL.150(c)(2).