

# Speaking: Task design



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# For a good test:

- Good test = fair, efficient, valid, reliable
- ‘Only’ sample those permutations that are relevant for your purpose:
  - Your test takers current actions/functions
  - Your test takers future actions/functions

# Four purposes of (speaking parts of) tests of English:

1. Testing health practitioners
2. Testing applicants for Canadian citizenship
3. Testing pilots and air traffic controllers in aviation
4. Testing applicants for MA-program Epidemiology at Utrecht University

# Four purposes of (speaking parts of) tests of English:

1. Testing health practitioners

2. Testing applicants

3. Testing pilots and cabin crew members in aviation

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**There is no such thing as "Speaking"**

# What is the test supposed to measure?

- For each test, answer the following:
  - Who are the test takers?
  - Who are the test makers?
  - Who are the other agents involved in the test?
  - What is the purpose of the test for each of these stakeholders?

- <http://www.occupationalenglishtest.org/>
- E.g., dentistry: <https://www.occupationalenglishtest.org/test-information/healthcare-professions/dentistry/>
- <http://www.eurocontrol.int/services/english-language-proficiency-aeronautical-communication-elpac>

<http://www.liveatc.net/search/?icao=ams>



<https://adaptit.enovate.no/base/t-app>

- <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/citizenship/become-eligibility.asp#language>
- <http://www.uu.nl/masters/en/epidemiology/admission-and-application/non-eu/ndu#quicklinks>

<https://www.occupationalenglishtest.org/test-information/speaking/>

- “The role-plays are based on typical workplace situations and reflect the demands made on the professional in those situations. Different role-plays are used for different candidates at the same test administration. The interlocutor follows a script so that the Speaking test structure is similar for each candidate. The interlocutor also has detailed information to use in each role-play.”

# Next: tasks

- Tasks must sample current and future language functions of the test takers
- Tasks depend on purpose