

## Section 10

### Operating practices

#### Demonstrate making on-air calling procedures for HF and VHF or UHF

**Task 1** Candidate is provided with a ready to use Amateur Radio station. Candidate is to demonstrate, preferably on-air, the procedure for making a call on HF and VHF or UHF. The call should be to a specific station. This activity may be simulated using a dummy load between candidates or between a candidate and assessor or another radio amateur. This task should be completed on HF and VHF or UHF at least three times. This task can include other elements of competency e.g. Demonstrate protocols prior to transmitting Demonstrated the correct procedure for calling a specific station. Candidate completes three on-air contacts (may be with the same participating station) or simulated on air contacts using the correct protocols.

**Task 2.** Demonstrate the use of a Signal Strength meter in conjunction with a signal report.

The calling convention is that when making a call on HF, you announce the call signs three (3) times. On UHF and VHF, you announce the call signs once. Check with the assessor how many times should you announce the call signs during the test.

#### Transmitting

Always check that the frequency is not in use before transmitting.

1. Calling a known station on a predetermined frequency.

“VK2XYZ VK2XYZ VK2XYZ this is VK1ABC VK1ABC VK1ABC over”.

Identify your station at least every 10 minutes.

Close your over with: “VK2XYZ this is VK1ABC over”.

2. A general call.

“CQ CQ CQ this is VK1ABC VK1ABC VK1ABC over”.

3. Distant station

“CQDX CQDX CQDX this is VK1ABC VK1ABC VK1ABC over”.

4. Specific area

DX can be substituted for a specific area, such as Japan or USA.

“CQJapan CQJapan CQJapan this is VK1ABC VK1ABC VK1ABC over”.

**FYI:** The abbreviation CQ, comes from the desire to “seek you”. The term DX is the telegraphic shorthand for “distance” or “distant”.

### Receiving

Give a signal report on the received message in accordance with the Readability and Signal strength.

### Readability

- 1—unreadable
- 2—readable now and then
- 3—readable with difficulty
- 4—readable
- 5—perfectly readable.

### Signal strength.

Read from the dial.



“VK2XYZ this is VK1ABC. Your signal is 5 and 9 over”.

### Action:

1. Ensure you include the actions in Section 9.
2. Know this routine and apply this routine when tested.
3. Three calls for HF but only one is needed if operating on UHF or VHF.
4. [If unsure, revise Chapter 11-1 of the Foundation material.](#)
5. Give a signal report.
6. [If unsure, revise Chapter 11-2 of the Foundation material.](#)

*Have fun and stay safe.*