

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam  
Operator Uninspected Passenger Vessels  
Q356 Deck General - Deck Safety  
(Sample Examination)

**Choose the best answer to the following Multiple Choice Questions.**

1. To launch a liferaft by hand, you should \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) throw the liferaft over the side and pull the operating cord
- (B) cut the casing bands, throw the raft over the side and it will inflate by itself
- (C) cut the casing bands, throw the raft over the side and pull the operating cord
- (D) detach the operating cord, throw the liferaft over the side and it will then inflate

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

2. The external inflation bladder on an immersion suit should be inflated \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) after one hour in the water
- (B) after you enter the water
- (C) after you notice that your suit is losing buoyancy
- (D) before you enter the water

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

3. When approaching a fire from leeward you should shield fire fighters from the fire by using \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) low-velocity fog
- (B) foam spray
- (C) a straight stream of water
- (D) high-velocity fog

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

4. Leeway is the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) difference between the true course and the compass course
- (B) lateral movement of a vessel downwind of her intended course
- (C) displacement of a vessel multiplied by her speed
- (D) momentum of a vessel after her engines have been stopped

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

5. In order to reduce your wake in a narrow channel you should \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) apply enough rudder to counter the effect of the current
- (B) reduce your speed
- (C) shift the weight to the stern
- (D) change your course to a zigzag course

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

6. Fire in an engine compartment is best extinguished with carbon dioxide gas (CO<sub>2</sub>) and by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) closing the compartment except for the ventilators
- (B) leaving the compartment open to the air
- (C) increasing the air flow to the compartment by blowers
- (D) completely closing the compartment

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

7. A fire in a pile of canvas is classified as class \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) A
- (B) B
- (C) C
- (D) D

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

8. What is the minimum size required before a vessel can be documented?

- (A) 5 net tons
- (B) 26 feet between perpendiculars
- (C) 100 gross tons
- (D) 26 feet; end-to-end over the deck excluding sheer

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

9. Which effect does speed through the water have on a vessel which is underway in shallow water?

- (A) A decrease in the speed results in a decrease in steering response and maneuverability.
- (B) A decrease in speed results in the vessel sucking down on an even plane.
- (C) An increase in speed results in the stern sucking down lower than the bow.
- (D) An increase in speed results in the vessel rising on an even plane.

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

10. As a rule, ships of most configurations, when drifting in calm water with negligible current, will lie \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) stern to the wind
- (B) beam to the wind
- (C) with the wind on the quarter
- (D) bow to the wind

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**11.** Which will most likely occur when entering shallow water?

- (A) The vessel's trim will change.
- (B) An increase in speed will occur.
- (C) The vessel's list will change.
- (D) Rudder action will become more effective.

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**12.** You are docking a vessel. If possible, you should \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) go in against the current
- (B) approach the dock at a 90° angle and swing to
- (C) pass a mooring line to the dock with a heaving line and let the crew pull the vessel in
- (D) go in with the current

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**13.** You are the Master of a single-screw vessel. You are docking at a port which has no tugs available. You decide to drop the offshore anchor to help in docking. The amount of chain you should pay out is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) equal to the depth of the water
- (B) 1 1/2 to 2 times the depth of the water
- (C) 5 to 7 times the depth of the water
- (D) you should NEVER use the anchor to help in docking

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**14.** You are anchoring in a river where the current is from one direction only. The best way to lay out two anchors is to have them \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) so that their lines form an angle
- (B) directly in line with the bow
- (C) on top of one another
- (D) side by side, with their lines on the port and starboard side

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**15.** You are at sea and not in a special area as defined in ANNEX V of MARPOL. How many nautical miles from land must you be to discharge ground garbage that will pass through a one-inch (25 mm) screen into the sea?

- (A) 3 nm
- (B) 25 nm
- (C) 6 nm
- (D) 12 nm

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**16.** When anchoring a vessel, it is best to release the anchor when \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) going full ahead
- (B) going slow astern
- (C) dead in the water
- (D) going full astern

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**17.** A sufficient amount of chain must be veered when anchoring a vessel to ensure \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) there is more chain out than there is in the chain locker
- (B) the vessel has enough room to swing while at anchor
- (C) there is a sufficient scope of chain to keep the anchor on the bottom
- (D) the anchor flukes bite into the ocean bottom

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**18.** After casting off moorings at a mooring buoy in calm weather, you should \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) go half ahead on the engines and put the rudder hard right
- (B) back away a few lengths to clear the buoy and then go ahead on the engines
- (C) go full ahead on the engine(s)
- (D) go half ahead on the engines and pass upstream of the buoy

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**19.** Your vessel is broken down and rolling in heavy seas. You can reduce the danger of capsizing by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) moving all passengers to the stern
- (B) moving all passengers to one side of the boat
- (C) rigging a sea anchor
- (D) constantly shifting the rudder

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**20.** Before starting any diesel or gasoline engine, which of the following must be checked?

- (A) Exhaust discharge
- (B) Flow of cooling water
- (C) Oil level
- (D) All of the above

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**21.** To find the cause of a gasoline engine's failure to start, you should \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) break the joint in the fuel line at the engine and let the gas run in the bilges
- (B) ventilate the space, then check the battery, spark plugs, carburetor, and fuel line
- (C) prime the engine with ether through spark plug openings
- (D) disconnect the wires at the spark plugs and make the spark jump the gap

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**22.** A fire hose with a nozzle attached must be connected to each hydrant except when exposed to heavy weather or when the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) fire hose might be damaged by cargo operations
- (B) vessel is in port
- (C) fire pumps are used for purposes other than supplying water to the fire main
- (D) fire-main system is not charged

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**23.** The spread of fire is prevented by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) removing combustibles from the endangered area
- (B) cooling surfaces adjacent to the fire
- (C) shutting off the oxygen supply
- (D) All of the above

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**24.** You are approaching a ship that is broken down and are preparing to take her in tow. BEFORE positioning your vessel to pass the towline, you must \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) compare the rate of drift between the ships
- (B) install chafing gear on the towline
- (C) secure the bitter end of the towing hawser to prevent loss if the tow is slipped
- (D) have traveling lizards rigged to guide the towline while it is paid-out

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**25.** The extinguishing agent most effective for combating wood fires is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) foam
- (B) dry chemical
- (C) carbon dioxide
- (D) water

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**26.** Ventilation systems connected to a compartment in which a fire is burning are normally closed to prevent the rapid spread of the fire by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) spontaneous combustion
- (B) conduction
- (C) radiation
- (D) convection

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**27.** In weighing CO<sub>2</sub> cylinders, they must be recharged if weight loss exceeds \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) 15% of weight of full bottle
- (B) 10% of weight of charge
- (C) 10% of weight of full bottle
- (D) 20% of weight of charge

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**28.** Carbon dioxide as a fire fighting agent has which advantage over other agents?

- (A) It is cheaper.
- (B) It is safer for personnel.
- (C) It is most effective on a per unit basis.
- (D) It causes minimal damage.

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**29.** The outlet at a fire hydrant may be positioned anywhere from horizontal to pointing \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) vertically upward
- (B) 45° upward
- (C) vertically downward
- (D) all of the above

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**30.** If help has not arrived in 10-12 hours after abandoning a vessel in a rescue boat, you should \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) go in one direction until the fuel runs out
- (B) shut down the engines if installed and put out the sea anchor
- (C) steer a course for the nearest land
- (D) steer a course for the nearest sea lane

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**31.** What is the MOST important consideration when determining how to fight an electrical fire?

- (A) Whether the fire is in machinery or passenger spaces
- (B) Maintaining electrical power
- (C) The amount of toxic fumes created by the extinguisher
- (D) Danger of shock to personnel

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**32.** You are on watch and see a man fall overboard. Which man overboard turn should NOT be used in this situation?

- (A) Racetrack
- (B) Scharnow
- (C) Single turn
- (D) Williamson

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**33.** What is the minimum number of B-II hand portable fire extinguishers required on board a 105 GT uninspected towboat with a 7500 B.H.P. plant (including the machinery space)?

- (A) 6
- (B) 8
- (C) 9
- (D) 11

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**34.** Which personal lifesaving device(s) is(are) approved for use on an uninspected towboat 150 feet in length?

- (A) Life preserver
- (B) Buoyant vest or cushion
- (C) Special purpose safety device
- (D) All of the above

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**35.** On uninspected vessels which statement is TRUE concerning work vests?

- (A) They need not be of an approved type.
- (B) They must be stowed separately from approved life preservers.
- (C) They may be worn during drills.
- (D) They may be substituted for up to 10% of the required lifesaving gear aboard.

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**36.** On uninspected vessels when may U. S. Coast Guard approved work vests may be substituted life jackets?

- (A) aboard sailing vessels
- (B) aboard towing vessels
- (C) under no circumstances
- (D) aboard work vessels

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**37.** According to U.S. regulations, which of the following describes the declaration of inspection?

- (A) paper issued by the Coast Guard marine inspector which allows you to conduct a transfer operation
- (B) application you must complete and submit to the Coast Guard to have an inspector visit your vessel
- (C) document signed by vessel and shore facility persons-in-charge declaring that all transfer requirements have been met
- (D) annual report submitted by vessel personnel to the Coast Guard declaring that all transfer equipment has been inspected

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**38.** Fuel for use on a vessel (300 GT or more constructed before July 1, 1974) may be carried in independent tanks forward of a collision bulkhead if the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) tanks were designated, installed, or constructed for fuel oil carrying before July 1, 1974
- (B) shell of the tank is of the same thickness or greater than that of the vessel's hull
- (C) fuel has a flash point above 180°F
- (D) tank is 18 inches inboard of the hull structure

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**39.** Providing you are not sailing in the Red Sea or another special area as listed in ANNEX V of MARPOL, how many miles from land must you be to throw garbage including bottles, rags, and glass that has not been ground up into the sea?

- (A) 3 nm
- (B) 6 nm
- (C) 12 nm
- (D) 25 nm

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**40.** How many months after its expiration date may a Coast Guard credential be renewed without retaking the complete exam?

- (A) 1 month
- (B) 6 months
- (C) 12 months
- (D) 24 months

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**41.** Normally It is desirable to have screens on the vents of potable water tanks to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) prevent backups
- (B) prevent explosions
- (C) filter the incoming air
- (D) stop insects from entering

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**42.** Normally Before taking drinking water on board in the U.S. or its possessions, the responsible person from the vessel should determine that the source \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) is used by a city
- (B) is approved by the Public Health Service
- (C) is not from surface water
- (D) has been treated with chlorine

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**43.** You are the first vessel to arrive at the scene of a distress. Due to the volume of traffic on the radio, you are unable to communicate with the vessel in distress. Which action should you take?

- (A) Broadcast "Charlie Quebec-Mayday-Quiet".
- (B) Switch to flag hoists.
- (C) Key the microphone three times in quick succession.
- (D) Broadcast "Seelonce Distress".

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**44.** You see an iceberg that has not been reported. What kind of radio message do you transmit to warn others?

- (A) Routine message
- (B) Safety message
- (C) Distress message
- (D) Urgency message

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**45.** Which task is NOT the responsibility of the GMDSS Radio Operator?

- (A) Placing the SART in the test mode and verifying that the nearby PPI shows concentric circles.
- (B) Inspecting and cleaning the SART's container, and clearing the immediate storage area of any debris or obstacles.
- (C) Measuring the SART's transmitted frequency.
- (D) Ensuring the SART's batteries are replaced before their expiration date.

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**46.** The color of rockets, shells, or rocket parachute flares used to indicate that the vessel is in distress and requires immediate assistance is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) white
- (B) green
- (C) yellow
- (D) red

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**47.** Life jackets should be marked with the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) stowage space assigned
- (B) vessel's name
- (C) maximum weight allowed
- (D) vessel's home port

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**48.** In illustration D014SA below, which item number correctly identifies the sea anchor?

- (A) 1
- (B) 12
- (C) 14
- (D) 18

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**49.** What is placed on the underside of an inflatable liferaft to help prevent it from being skidded by the wind or overturned?

- (A) Strikes
- (B) Sea anchor
- (C) A keel
- (D) Ballast bags

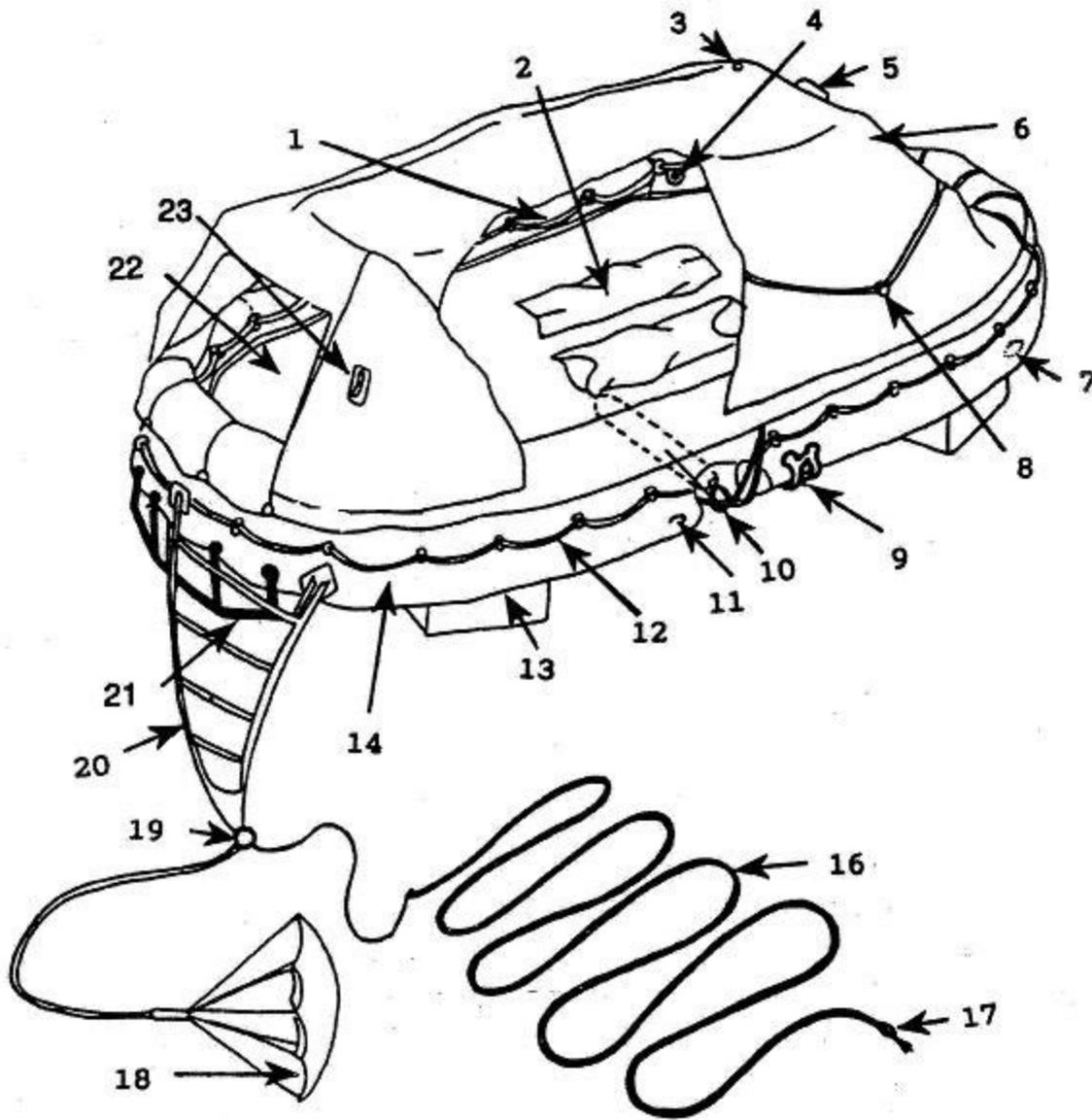
*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**50.** An inflatable liferaft can be launched by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) the float-free method ONLY
- (B) throwing the entire container overboard and then pulling on the operating cord to inflate the raft
- (C) breaking the weak link on the painter
- (D) removing the securing straps

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

## D014SA



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