

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam  
Mate Offshore Supply Vessels  
Q210 Deck Safety  
(Sample Examination)

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

**1.** Lifesaving regulations in Subchapter W require that a fire drill include \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) checking the operation of watertight doors
- (B) checking arrangements for abandon ship
- (C) starting the fire pumps
- (D) All of the above

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

**2.** When dry chemical extinguishers are used to put out class B fires, there is a danger of reflash because dry chemical \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) does little or no cooling
- (B) is not an effective agent on Class B fires
- (C) is rapidly absorbed by the liquid
- (D) dissipates quickly

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

**3.** The flag hoist 62.2 would be sent as pennant 6, pennant 2 followed by what?

- (A) space, second substitute
- (B) answering pennant, third substitute
- (C) answering pennant, first substitute
- (D) answering pennant, second substitute

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

**4.** The lights on the outside of the canopy on an inflatable liferaft operate \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) by a light sensor
- (B) by a switch at each light
- (C) by turning the globe clockwise
- (D) automatically when the raft is inflated

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

**5.** You are fighting a fire in a cargo hold on your vessel. Which action is most important concerning the stability of the vessel?

- (A) Removing burned debris from the cargo hold
- (B) Shutting off electricity to damaged cables
- (C) Maneuvering the vessel so the fire is on the lee side
- (D) Draining fire-fighting water and pumping it overboard

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

6. When a vessel signals her distress by means of a gun or other explosive signal, the firing should be at intervals of approximately \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) 10 minutes
- (B) 1 minute
- (C) 3 minutes
- (D) 1 hour

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

7. A fire in electrical equipment should be extinguished by using \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) low-velocity fog
- (B) salt water
- (C) CO<sub>2</sub>
- (D) foam

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

8. Signs of racking stresses generally appear at the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) junction of the frames with the beams and floors
- (B) garboard strake, at each side of the keel
- (C) bow and stern shell frames and plating
- (D) thrust bearing of the main shaft

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

9. 7) Upon hearing the abandon ship signal, you put on your life jacket and report to your station. After the cover is removed you board your open lifeboat. The FIRST thing to do is to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) put the cap on the drain
- (B) release tricing pendants
- (C) lift the brake handle
- (D) release the gripes

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

10. You are reading the draft marks as shown. The water level forward leaves about 4 inches of the 11 visible, and the water level aft is at the top of the 10. What is the mean draft? D032DG

- (A) 10'-06"
- (B) 10'-08"
- (C) 10'-10"
- (D) 11'-02"

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

**11.** Stable equilibrium for a vessel means that the metacenter is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) at amidships
- (B) at a lower level than the baseline
- (C) higher than the center of gravity
- (D) on the longitudinal centerline

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

**12.** What does a pyrometer measure on a diesel engine?

- (A) Water pressure
- (B) Exhaust temperature
- (C) Water temperature
- (D) Air box pressure

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

**13.** The operating cord on an inflatable liferaft should be renewed by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) cutting the line where it enters the case and replacing that portion
- (B) an approved servicing facility ashore
- (C) removing the top half of the shell, cutting the line at its source, and renewing completely
- (D) leaving the original line and tying another one to it so the two lines will take the strain

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

**14.** The welds used to attach stiffeners to a plate are known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) butt welds
- (B) fillet welds
- (C) seam welds
- (D) plate welds

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

**15.** If you are forced to abandon ship in a rescue boat, you should \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) head for the closest sea-lanes
- (B) vote on what to do, so all hands will have a part in the decision
- (C) remain in the immediate vicinity
- (D) head for the nearest land

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

**16.** Why should foam be banked off a bulkhead when extinguishing an oil fire?

- (A) To prevent agitation of the oil and spreading the fire
- (B) To coat the surrounding bulkheads with foam in case the fire spreads
- (C) To prevent any oil on the bulkheads from igniting
- (D) To cool the bulkhead closest to the fire

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

**17.** Strengthening damaged bulkheads by using wood or steel is called \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) battening
- (B) shoring
- (C) bracing
- (D) blocking

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

**18.** What is the spoken emergency signal for a distress signal over a VHF radio?

- (A) Mayday
- (B) Red Alert
- (C) Security
- (D) Pan

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

**19.** The terms "ceiling" and "margin plate" are associated with the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) main deck
- (B) engine room
- (C) crew's quarters
- (D) tank top

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

**20.** A spark arrestor \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) prevents sparks from getting out of an engine's exhaust system
- (B) secures covers on ullage openings
- (C) grounds static electricity
- (D) keeps sparks from falling into an open tank

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

**21.** A partial deck in a hold is called a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) shelter deck
- (B) main deck
- (C) weather deck
- (D) orlop deck

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

**22.** For an upright vessel, draft is the vertical distance between the keel and the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) amidships section
- (B) freeboard deck
- (C) Plimsoll mark
- (D) waterline

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

**23.** What is required in addition to the heat, fuel, and oxygen of the fire triangle to have a fire?

- (A) Chain reaction
- (B) Pressure
- (C) Smoke
- (D) Electricity

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

**24.** The BEST information on the nature and extent of damage to the vessel is obtained from \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) alarms and monitoring devices
- (B) the engine room watch
- (C) the bridge watch
- (D) personnel at the scene of the damage

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

**25.** What must be accurately determined to assess the potential for progressive flooding after a vessel has been damaged?

- (A) The operation of the machinery space bilge level alarms
- (B) The integrity of the water tight boundaries
- (C) The capacity of the water sprinkler systems
- (D) All of the above

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

**26.** When a vessel is stationary and in a hogging condition, the main deck is under \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) racking stress
- (B) compression stress
- (C) tension stress
- (D) shear stress

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

**27.** The moment created by a force of 12,000 tons and a moment arm of 0.25 foot is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) 48,000 ft-tons
- (B) 6,000 ft-tons
- (C) 3,000 ft-tons
- (D) 0 ft-tons

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

**28.** The "trimming arm" of a vessel is the horizontal distance between the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) LCB and LCF
- (B) LHA and LCG
- (C) LCB and LCG
- (D) LCF and LCG

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

**29.** You have just abandoned ship and boarded a raft. After the raft is completely inflated you hear a whistling noise coming from a safety valve. You should \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) unscrew the deflation plugs
- (B) remove the safety valve and replace it with a soft patch
- (C) not become alarmed unless it continues for a long period of time
- (D) plug the safety valve

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

**30.** Which would NOT provide extra buoyancy for a vessel with no sheer?

- (A) Raised fo'c'sle head
- (B) Lighter draft
- (C) Higher bulwark
- (D) Raised poop

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

**31.** Traditionally, the signal for fire aboard ship is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) alternating short and long blasts on the ship's whistle
- (B) 1 short blast on the whistle
- (C) more than 6 short blasts and 1 long blast on the whistle, and the same signal on the general alarm
- (D) continuous sounding of the ship's whistle and the general alarm for at least 10 seconds

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

**32.** Horizontal fore or aft motion of a vessel is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) sway
- (B) roll
- (C) pitch
- (D) surge

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

**33.** Pitching is angular motion of the vessel about what axis?

- (A) Centerline
- (B) Longitudinal
- (C) Transverse
- (D) Vertical

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

**34.** After each reading of an oxygen indicator, the instrument should be purged with \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) fresh air
- (B) CO<sub>2</sub>
- (C) the tested compartment's air
- (D) water

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

**35.** The most detrimental effect on initial stability is a result of liquids \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) flowing from fore to aft within a vessel
- (B) pocketing in a slack tank as a vessel heels
- (C) flowing from side to side within the vessel
- (D) flowing in and out of a holed wing tank

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

**36.** What is the purpose of a striker plate?

- (A) Provides landing surface for the sounding bob
- (B) Provides surface for applying force on machinery
- (C) Prevents valve stem over-travel
- (D) Absorbs machinery vibration

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

**37.** According the Lifesaving regulations in Subchapter W, fire and abandon ship drills must be held within 24 hours of leaving port if the percentage of the crew that has not participated in drills aboard that particular vessel in the prior month exceeds \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) 5%
- (B) 10%
- (C) 25%
- (D) 40%

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

**38.** Which substance might be subject to spontaneous combustion?

- (A) Leather
- (B) Coal
- (C) Scrap rubber
- (D) All of the above

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

**39.** Which type of fire is the foam (stored-pressure type) fire extinguisher effective on?

- (A) Classes B & C
- (B) Classes A & C
- (C) Classes A & B
- (D) All of the above

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

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

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

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

**41.** Which portable fire extinguisher should be used on a class C fire on board a vessel?

- (A) Carbon tetrachloride
- (B) Water (stored pressure)
- (C) Foam
- (D) Carbon dioxide

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

**42.** You are tending the lifeline of a man who entered a compartment using a breathing apparatus. How many tugs on the lifeline indicate the man should advance?

- (A) 1
- (B) 2
- (C) 3
- (D) 4

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

**43.** A combination or all-purpose nozzle produces \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) low-velocity fog only
- (B) a solid stream only
- (C) a solid stream and fog
- (D) a solid stream and foam

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

**44.** In illustration D039SA below, which fire control plan symbol designates a space or compartment protected by Halon 1301?

- (A) 10
- (B) 11
- (C) 12
- (D) 44

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

**45.** On the fire control plans, in illustration D039SA below, the CO<sub>2</sub> bottle room is designated by which symbol?

- (A) 42
- (B) 9
- (C) 8
- (D) 7

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

- 46.** When fighting a large fire on your vessel and attacking it from ABOVE the space on fire, it is important to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) stand erect, to avoid the heat of the deck
  - (B) station personnel on the hot deck, immediately above the fire, to observe for its potential spread
  - (C) not rotate personnel, as the consistent attack can extinguish the fire quickly.
  - (D) All of the above

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

- 47.** When fighting fires in spaces containing bottles of LPG (liquefied petroleum gas), you should \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) attempt to isolate the fire from the LPG
  - (B) cool the bottles or remove them from the fire area
  - (C) see that the valves on all LPG bottles are closed
  - (D) place insulating material over the bottles

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

- 48.** To keep injured survivors warm in the water after abandoning ship, they should \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) be placed in the middle of a small circle formed by the other survivors in the water
  - (B) remove their life preservers and hold on to the uninjured survivors
  - (C) float on their backs with their arms extended for maximum exposure to the air
  - (D) sip water at intervals of fifteen minutes

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

- 49.** You are at sea and have received a General Emergency message announcing the outbreak of war in Europe. You are directed to comply with the instructions in NGA (NIMA) PUB 117, Chapter Eight. Which statement is TRUE?
- (A) When over 200 hundred miles from a port in the danger zone, you should not darken ship.
  - (B) You should attempt to submit an AMVER report to NSA.
  - (C) If on a coastwise voyage along the east coast of the U.S., you should put into the nearest port.
  - (D) You should only enter a port in the danger zone during hours of darkness.

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

**50.** Which statement about AMVER reports is TRUE?

- (A) In the body of the sailing plan report, the letter G is used to indicate a great circle course.
- (B) Distress messages should be sent to the AMVER center.
- (C) The sailing plan may be sent in any reasonable time before departure, but not later than 12 hours after departure.
- (D) There are four different message reports in the AMVER system.

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

**51.** What is the report identifier code for an AMVER deviation report?

- (A) DR
- (B) FR
- (C) PR
- (D) DV

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

**52.** The key to rescuing a man overboard is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) good communication
- (B) a dedicated crew
- (C) well-conducted drills
- (D) good equipment

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

**53.** You are attempting to take a dead ship in tow. All lines have been passed and secured. How should you get underway?

- (A) Order minimum turns until the towing hawser is just clear of the water, then reduce speed to that necessary to keep the line clear of the water.
- (B) Order minimum turns until the towing hawser is taut and then continue at that speed until towing speed is attained.
- (C) Gradually apply power until catenary almost breaks the water, but keep the catenary in the water.
- (D) If the towline is properly adjusted and weighted you can order slow or dead slow and the towline will act as a spring to absorb the initial shock.

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

**54.** If the situation arose where it became necessary to tow a disabled vessel, which statement is TRUE concerning the towing line?

- (A) The towing line should be taut at all times between the vessels.
- (B) There should be a catenary so the line dips into the water.
- (C) The towing line between the two vessels should be clear of the water.
- (D) None of the above

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

**55.** You are on a ship that has broken down and are preparing to be taken in tow. You will use your anchor cable as part of the towline. Which statement is TRUE?

- (A) The strain of the tow is taken by the riding pawl, chain stopper, and anchor windlass brake.
- (B) The anchor cable should be veered enough to allow the towline connection to be immediately astern of the towing vessel.
- (C) The anchor cable should be led out through a chock, if possible, to avoid a sharp nip at the hawsepipe lip.
- (D) The anchor cable should be veered enough to allow the towline connection to be just forward of your bow.

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

**56.** One of the signals, other than a distress signal, that can be used by a rescue boat to attract attention is a/an \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) orange smoke signal
- (B) burning barrel
- (C) searchlight
- (D) red star shell

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

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

- (A) Water pockets
- (B) Sea anchor
- (C) Strikes
- (D) A keel

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

**58.** If an inflatable liferaft is overturned, it may be righted by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) filling the stabilizers on one side with water
- (B) pushing up from under one end
- (C) standing on the inflating cylinder and pulling on the straps on the underside of the raft
- (D) releasing the CO2 cylinder

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

**59.** If water is rising in the bilge of a survival craft, you should first \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) abandon the survival craft
- (B) check the bilge drain plug
- (C) shift all personnel to the stern
- (D) check for cracks in the hull

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

**60.** Steering a motor lifeboat broadside to the sea could cause it to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) run smoother
- (B) capsize
- (C) run faster
- (D) sink

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

**61.** An inflatable liferaft is thrown into the water from a sinking vessel. What should occur after the painter trips the CO2 bottles to inflate the raft?

- (A) If upside down, the craft will right itself.
- (B) The sea anchor should be deployed as soon you are away from the vessel.
- (C) The floor will automatically inflate.
- (D) The painter will detach from the raft.

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

**62.** You have abandoned ship in tropical waters. Which procedure should be used during a prolonged period in a liferaft?

- (A) Wet clothes during the day to decrease perspiration.
- (B) Keep the entrance curtains open.
- (C) Get plenty of rest.
- (D) All of the above

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

**63.** On an oceangoing vessel, for each person a lifeboat (without desalting kits) is certified to carry, the boat must be supplied with \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) 3 liters of water
- (B) a signaling whistle
- (C) a life preserver
- (D) 2 pounds of condensed milk

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

**64.** Where, due to the arrangement of the vessel, lifejackets may become inaccessible, additional lifejackets shall be carried \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) for 50% of the crew of the vessel, not including those assigned to engineering duties
- (B) for the people on bridge watch
- (C) as determined by the OCMI
- (D) for the forward lifeboats

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

**65.** The breaking strength of the service lines of the rockets used with an impulse-projected, rocket type line throwing appliances is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) 300 lbs
- (B) 500 lbs
- (C) 1000 lbs
- (D) 1500 lbs

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

**66.** While in port, what signal flag would inform the vessel's crew to report on board because the vessel was about to proceed to sea?

- (A) "A"
- (B) "U"
- (C) "H"
- (D) "P"

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

**67.** You have called another vessel by flashing light and he has answered your call properly. You now send your call sign "DE KLIS". What should he respond with?

- (A) his own call letters
- (B) TTTT
- (C) R
- (D) KLIS, DE, his own call letters

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

**68.** Which statement is TRUE concerning radiotelephones on board towing vessels?

- (A) The officer in charge of the wheelhouse is considered to have the radiotelephone watch.
- (B) Only the Master of the vessel is allowed to speak over the radiotelephone.
- (C) There cannot be a radiotelephone located anywhere except in the wheelhouse.
- (D) Only distress messages may be transmitted over channel 13.

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

**69.** You are piloting a vessel, which is required to have a radiotelephone, on the navigable waters of the United States. You must \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) maintain a listening watch and communicate in English
- (B) use the bridge-to-bridge VHF-FM designated frequency only to exchange navigational information or necessary tests
- (C) have on board an operator who holds a restricted radiotelephone operator permit or higher license, as well as a FCC ship station license
- (D) All of the above

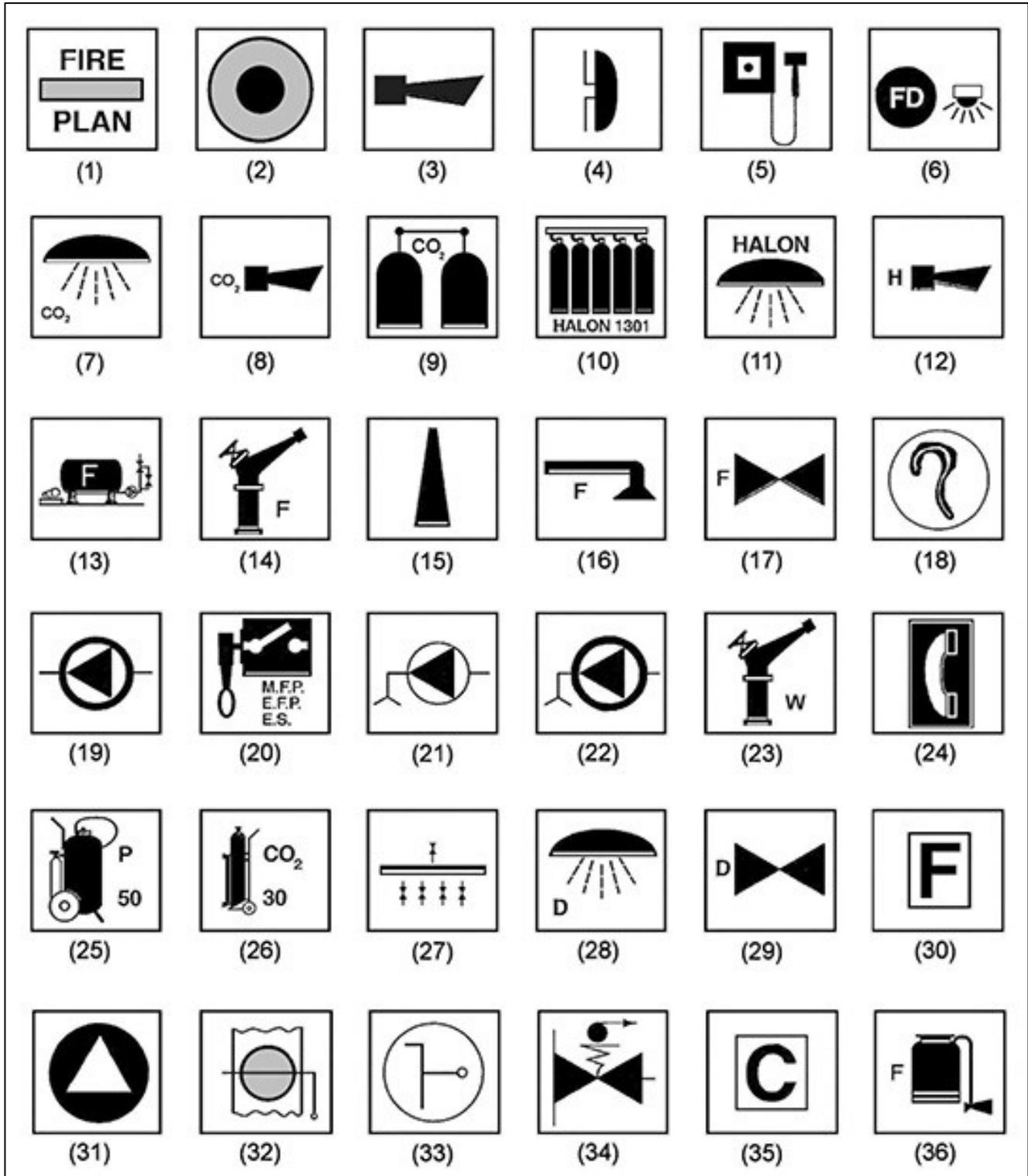
*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**70.** A message warning of a tropical storm should be sent as a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) urgent message
- (B) safety message
- (C) distress message
- (D) routine message

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

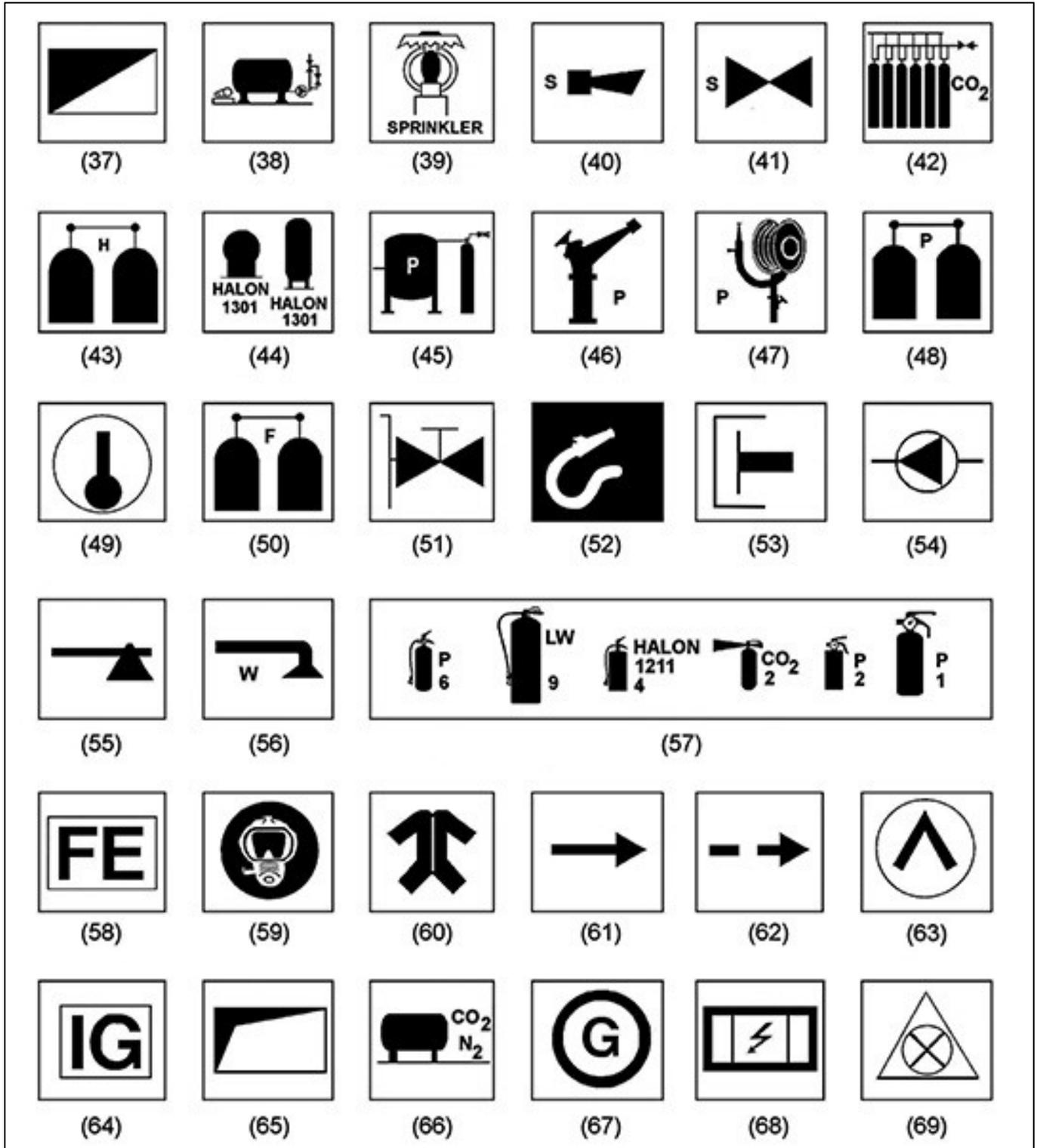
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