

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam
Limited Operator Uninspected Passenger Vessels
Q361 Navigation General
(Sample Examination)

Choose the best answer to the following Multiple Choice Questions.

1. Which type of cloud formation should be of immediate concern to small craft operators?

- (A) nimbostratus
- (B) cirrus
- (C) cumulonimbus
- (D) altostratus

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

2. Static on your AM radio may be _____.

- (A) of no meteorological significance
- (B) an indication of "clearing" weather
- (C) an indication of nearby thunderstorm activity
- (D) a sign of strong winds

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

3. What benefit is a weather bulletin to a mariner?

- (A) It provides a legal reason to cancel a projected voyage.
- (B) It gives the mariner time to prepare for weather changes.
- (C) It allows the mariner to make long term weather forecasts.
- (D) It is of little benefit since the weather changes frequently and rapidly.

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

4. Weather information provided by the National Weather Service (NWS) advisories should be used along with _____.

- (A) weather maps and local knowledge
- (B) the local Notice to Mariners
- (C) any U.S. Coast Pilot
- (D) the Tide Tables and Tidal Current Tables

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

5. Weather information is available from _____.

- (A) VHF-FM continuous marine weather broadcasts provided by the National Weather Service
- (B) the Coast Guard on scheduled marine information broadcasts
- (C) commercial radio broadcasts
- (D) All of the above

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

6. The National Weather Service differentiates between small craft, gale, whole gale, and hurricane warnings by the _____.

- (A) wind speed forecasted
- (B) amount of rain forecasted
- (C) wave heights forecasted
- (D) amount of cloud cover forecasted

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

7. Fog generally clears when the _____.

- (A) wind direction changes
- (B) temperature increases
- (C) wind speed increases
- (D) All of the above

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

8. The draw span of a floating drawbridge may be marked with _____.

- (A) flashing blue lights
- (B) a yellow and white diamond
- (C) a yellow light showing Morse Code (B)
- (D) three red lights on each side of the draw

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

9. A slow rise in the barometric pressure forecasts _____.

- (A) deteriorating weather conditions
- (B) rainy weather for the next 48 hours
- (C) high seas
- (D) improving weather conditions

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

10. Fog is formed when _____.

- (A) air is cooled to its dew point
- (B) the base of a cloud is on the ground
- (C) the moisture in the air is condensed into small droplets
- (D) All of the above

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

11. When a tornado moves over the water from land it is called a _____.

- (A) hurricane
- (B) cyclone
- (C) waterspout
- (D) tornado

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

12. Which type of cloud is the classic "thunderhead"?

- (A) Cirrus
- (B) Altostratus
- (C) Stratus
- (D) Cumulonimbus

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

13. Cumulonimbus clouds can produce _____.

- (A) a rapid drop in barometric pressure followed by darkness
- (B) dense fog and high humidity
- (C) gusty winds, thunder, rain or hail, and lightning
- (D) clear skies with the approach of a cold front

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

14. If you count 20 seconds between seeing lightning and hearing the thunder, how far is the storm away from you?

- (A) 2 miles
- (B) 4 miles
- (C) 6 miles
- (D) 8 miles

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

15. Hot air can hold _____.

- (A) the same amount of moisture as cold air
- (B) less moisture than cold air
- (C) more moisture than cold air
- (D) moisture independent of air temperature

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

16. In a weather report, the term "visibility" expresses _____.

- (A) how far you can see with the "naked eye"
- (B) how well you can identify an object at night
- (C) the distance in miles at which prominent objects are identifiable
- (D) how far you can see with a telescope or binoculars

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

17. A barometer showing falling pressure indicates the approach of a _____.

- (A) low dew point
- (B) high dew point
- (C) low pressure system
- (D) high pressure system

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

18. Which would influence a magnetic compass?

- (A) Iron pipe
- (B) Radio
- (C) Electrical wiring
- (D) All of the above

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

19. A sign of thunderstorm development is a cumulus cloud _____.

- (A) darkening, growing in size and forming an anvil top
- (B) creating cold downdrafts that are felt on the ground
- (C) that shows extensive vertical development
- (D) All of the above

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

20. As the temperature of the air reaches the dew point, _____.

- (A) water freezes
- (B) it begins to snow
- (C) fog may form
- (D) rain must develop

If choice C is selected set score to 1.