

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam

Master Less than 500-1600 Gross Registered Tons

Q387 Deck Safety

(Sample Examination)

Choose the best answer to the following Multiple Choice Questions.

1. For the purpose of training and drills, if reasonable and practicable, how frequently should rescue boats be launched with their assigned crew?
- (A) once a year
 - (B) once a week
 - (C) once a month
 - (D) twice a year

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

2. You have carbon tetrachloride as part of the cargo. If a fire breaks out in the general area, what is the major danger from the carbon tetrachloride?
- (A) Phosgene gas may be formed if it comes in contact with hot metal.
 - (B) You cannot use water to fight the fire because it will react with the carbon tetrachloride.
 - (C) It will explode if exposed to a flame.
 - (D) It will burn rapidly once ignited.

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. Recharging a previously used cartridge-operated dry-chemical extinguisher is accomplished by _____.

- (A) recharging the cartridge and refilling it with powder
- (B) authorized fire equipment servicing personnel only
- (C) replacing the propellant cartridge and refilling with powder
- (D) puncturing the cartridge seal after installation

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

7. In weighing CO2 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.

8. 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.

9. 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) If on a coastwise voyage along the east coast of the U.S., you should put into the nearest port.
- (B) You should only enter a port in the danger zone during hours of darkness.
- (C) You should attempt to submit an AMVER report to NSA.
- (D) When over 200 hundred miles from a port in the danger zone, you should not darken ship.

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

10. You have abandoned ship and are in charge of a liferaft. How much water per day should you permit each occupant to drink after the first 24 hours?

- (A) 1 pint
- (B) 1 can
- (C) 1 quart
- (D) 1 gallon

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. 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.

14. Fire in an engine compartment is best extinguished with carbon dioxide gas (CO₂) 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.

15. A person has fallen overboard and is being picked up with a lifeboat. If the person appears in danger of drowning, the lifeboat should make _____.

- (A) an approach across the wind
- (B) an approach from windward
- (C) the most direct approach
- (D) an approach from leeward

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

16. When a man who is conscious has fallen overboard is being picked up by a lifeboat, the boat should approach with the wind _____.

- (A) ahead and the victim just off the bow
- (B) just off the bow and the victim to leeward
- (C) just off the bow and the victim to windward
- (D) astern and the victim just off the bow

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

17. While you are on watch, you learn that a crewman has not been seen on board for the past three hours. Which type of turn is best in this man-overboard situation?

- (A) Scharnow
- (B) Racetrack
- (C) Round
- (D) Single turn of 180°

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

18. 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.

19. A situation has occurred in which your vessel must be towed. When the towing vessel passes the towing line to you, you should secure the line _____.

- (A) to the forward part of the deckhouse
- (B) to the forward-most bitts
- (C) to the base of the foremast
- (D) at the stern

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

20. 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.

21. 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.

22. 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.

23. 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.

24. By day, what is the signal meaning, "This is the best place to land"?

- (A) white smoke signal
- (B) vertical motion of a red flag
- (C) white star rocket
- (D) vertical motion of a white flag or the arms

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

25. The ceiling is _____.

- (A) a wooden protection placed over the tank top
- (B) material driven into seams or cracks to prevent leaking
- (C) the overhead in berthing compartments
- (D) None of the above are correct

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

26. The wooden planking that protects the tank top from cargo loading is called _____.

- (A) toms
- (B) ceiling
- (C) frames
- (D) shores

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

27. A vessel's "quarter" is that section which is _____.

- (A) on either side of the stern
- (B) abeam
- (C) just aft of the bow
- (D) dead astern

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

28. The distance between the waterline of a vessel and the main deck is called _____.

- (A) freeboard
- (B) camber
- (C) buoyancy
- (D) draft

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

29. The term that indicates how many tons of cargo a vessel can carry is _____.

- (A) bale cubic
- (B) deadweight
- (C) loaded displacement
- (D) gross tonnage

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

30. A negative metacentric height _____.

- (A) will always cause a vessel to capsize
- (B) should always be immediately corrected
- (C) always results from off-center weights
- (D) All of the above are correct

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

31. The enclosed area defined as the intersection of the surface of the water and the hull of a vessel is the _____.

- (A) amidships plane
- (B) longitudinal reference plane
- (C) waterplane
- (D) baseline

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

32. The forward draft of your ship is 27'-11" and the after draft is 29'-03". The draft amidships is 28'-05". Your vessel is _____.

- (A) listed
- (B) hogged
- (C) sagged
- (D) trimmed by the head

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

33. The greatest effect on stability occurs from loose liquids flowing _____.

- (A) from fore to aft in the tanks of a vessel
- (B) from side to side in the tanks of the vessel
- (C) in and out of a vessel that is holed in a wing tank
- (D) in and out of a vessel that is holed in a peak tank

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

34. Progressive flooding is controlled by securing watertight boundaries and _____.

- (A) transferring water ballast
- (B) abandoning ship
- (C) pumping out flooded compartments
- (D) jettisoning cargo

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

35. Free communication will adversely affect transverse stability only when the flooded space is _____.

- (A) completely flooded
- (B) open to the sea above and below the waterline
- (C) off-center
- (D) on the centerline

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

36. What type of stern tube bearing has the least friction?

- (A) Bronze bushings
- (B) Lignum vitae
- (C) Oil-lubricated bearings
- (D) Hard rubber

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

37. What is the purpose of a vent header?

- (A) Combines individual vent lines into a main
- (B) Prevents passage of flame into fuel tanks
- (C) Catches overflow
- (D) Prevents entry of water into vent systems

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

38. What is the purpose of a striker plate?

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

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

39. The brickwork surrounding the firebox of a boiler is known as _____.

- (A) the water wall
- (B) refractory
- (C) the screen wall
- (D) fire plate

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

40. In a water-tube marine type boiler, after the steam leaves the generating tubes, in what part of the boiler is temperature of the steam increased?

- (A) Superheater
- (B) Economizer
- (C) Mud drum
- (D) Firebox

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

41. The quickest method to stop a small diesel engine whose throttle or governor has become stuck open is to _____.

- (A) drain the fuel tank
- (B) turn off the ignition switch
- (C) apply the shaft brake
- (D) close the fuel supply valve

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

42. Your vessel has gone aground in waters where the tide is falling. The BEST action you can take is to _____.

- (A) shift the vessel's load aft and repeatedly surge the engine(s) astern
- (B) shift the vessel's load forward and wait until the next high tide
- (C) slowly bring the engine(s) to full speed astern
- (D) set out a kedge anchor

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

43. 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.

44. Number 3 lifeboat would be _____.

- (A) the forward boat on the starboard side
- (B) behind boat number 2 on the port side
- (C) behind boat number 1 on the starboard side
- (D) behind boat number 1 on the port side

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

45. To disengage a survival craft suspended from the cable above the water, you must pull the safety pin and _____.

- (A) pull the hook release handle and use the ratchet bar
- (B) pull the hook release handle
- (C) use the ratchet bar and depress the retainer
- (D) pull the hook release handle and depress the retainer

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

- 46.** Inflatable liferafts shall be serviced at an approved servicing facility every 12 months or not later than the next vessel inspection for certification. However, the total elapsed time between servicing cannot exceed _____.
- (A) 12 months
 - (B) 15 months
 - (C) 17 months
 - (D) 18 months

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

- 47.** What size bilge pump is required for a lifeboat which has a capacity of 675 cubic feet?
- (A) 1
 - (B) 2
 - (C) 3
 - (D) 4

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- 48.** 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.

- 49.** 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.

50. 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.