

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam

Master or Mate Less than 200 Gross Registered Tons

Q398 Navigation Problems - Mississippi River

(Sample Examination)

Choose the best answer to the following Multiple Choice Questions.

1. The following questions (1-10) are based on the Army Corps of Engineers Mississippi River Maps (Cairo to the Gulf) and the Light List.

AHP = Above Head of Passes
LMR = Lower Mississippi River
UMR = Upper Mississippi River
OHR = Ohio River
ACOE = Army Corps of Engineers

At 0630, on 15 March, you are upbound on the Lower Mississippi River passing Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp, (mile 234.0 AHP).

What is the horizontal clearance of the center span on the Baton Rouge RR and Highway Bridge, (mile 233.9 AHP)?

- (A) 623
- (B) 748
- (C) 443
- (D) 500

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

2. You are upbound approaching Springfield Bend Lt. (mile 244.8 AHP) downriver from Profit Island. Which of the following statements is TRUE?

- (A) Profit Island Chute is open to navigation and is a shortcut for single-barge tows.
- (B) Tow length must not exceed 600 feet to use Profit Island Chute.
- (C) Profit Island Chute is closed to navigation.
- (D) Tows must navigate towards right descending bank when passing Profit Island Chute.
- (E) C

If choice E is selected set score to 1.

3. At 1042, on 16 March, you are passing the Vicksburg Gage (mile 437.0 AHP). What has been the average current since 0630, 15 March, if you have been making turns for 8.0 mph?

- (A) 0.8 mph
- (B) 1.2 mph
- (C) 0.5 mph
- (D) 0.2 mph

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

4. Which of the following statements regarding buoys on the Mississippi River is TRUE?

- (A) The buoys do not shift positions due to permanent moorings.
- (B) The buoys are maintained on station year round.
- (C) The positions of river buoys can be found in the latest edition of Light List-Vol. V.
- (D) Buoy positions on the chart are approximate.

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

5. What is the mile point of the Arkansas City Gage?

- (A) 556.8 AHP
- (B) 554.1 AHP
- (C) 560.0 AHP
- (D) 562.8 AHP

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

6. The highest point on your towboat is 53 feet above the water, and the Helena Gage (mile 663 AHP) reads 6.7 feet. What is the vertical clearance when you pass under the Helena Highway Bridge in Helena?

- (A) 65.5 feet
- (B) 59.9 feet
- (C) 62.5 feet
- (D) 64.1 feet

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

7. You are passing the Memphis Gage at 0405, 18 March. If you are turning for 8 mph and estimate the current at 0.9 mph, what is your ETA at Cairo Point, IL (mile 954.5 AHP)?

- (A) 1052, 19 Mar
- (B) 0447, 19 Mar
- (C) 1518, 19 Mar
- (D) 1808, 19 Mar

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

8. At what time would you listen to VHF Channel 22 (157.1 MHz) for information concerning the stage of the river between Memphis and Cairo?

- (A) 1815
- (B) 1300
- (C) 1115
- (D) 1235

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

9. What type of daymark will you see as you approach Gold Dust Bar Light (mile 793.3 AHP)?

- (A) Green diamond
- (B) Red triangle
- (C) Green square
- (D) Red diamond

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

10. What is the distance from Cairo Point, IL, to Arkansas City?

- (A) 28 miles
- (B) 110 miles
- (C) 400 miles
- (D) 292 miles

If choice C is selected set score to 1.