

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam

Mobile Offshore Drilling Units

Q440 Ballast Control Operator - Deck General - Safety

(Sample Examination)

Choose the best answer for the following Multiple Choice Questions.

1. Temperature and moisture characteristics are modified in a warm or cold air mass due to _____.

- (A) upper level atmospheric changes
- (B) the heterogeneous nature of the air mass
- (C) movement of the air mass
- (D) pressure changes in the air mass

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

2. The size of fire hydrant hose connections must be either 1-1/2 inches or _____.

- (A) 3-1/2 inches
- (B) 1 inch
- (C) 3 inches
- (D) 2-1/2 inches

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

3. A fire in a ballast pumproom can be brought under control with minimal impact on stability by _____.

- (A) flooding the compartment with salt water
- (B) cooling the outside bulkheads with water
- (C) closing the sea chest
- (D) shutting all sources of air into the compartment

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

4. How many fireman's outfits are required on a MODU?

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

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

5. On offshore drilling units, each fire station is required to be fitted with at least one spanner and at least one _____.

- (A) hose rack
- (B) scupper
- (C) sandbag
- (D) fire axe

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

6. Automatic mechanical ventilation shutdown is required for CO2 systems protecting the _____.

- (A) machinery spaces
- (B) galley
- (C) cargo compartments
- (D) living quarters

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

7. Smoking in bed on a MODU is prohibited _____.

- (A) during evening hours
- (B) during drilling operations
- (C) unless another person is present
- (D) at all times

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

8. Clean air standards referred to as "Grade D" apply to compressed air for use in _____.

- (A) driving air-powered plunger pumps
- (B) bladder-type accumulators
- (C) filling open-circuit breathing systems
- (D) high pressure fluid accumulators

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

9. The record of tests and inspection of fire fighting equipment on board a MODU must include _____.

- (A) the weight of the charge
- (B) recommendations for the next test
- (C) the name of the person conducting the test
- (D) All of the above

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

10. Each part of the fire-main system located on an exposed deck must be _____.

- (A) protected against freezing
- (B) pressurized at all times
- (C) locked to prevent theft
- (D) numbered sequentially

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

11. After using a CO2 extinguisher on a MODU, it should be _____.

- (A) put back in service if some CO2 remains
- (B) recharged
- (C) hydrostatically tested
- (D) retagged

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

12. When a person is in shock, how will their skin appear?

- (A) warm and dry
- (B) warm and damp
- (C) cold and dry
- (D) cold and damp

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

13. A patient in shock should NOT be placed in which position?

- (A) Head down and feet up, no injuries to face or head
- (B) On their side if unconscious
- (C) Flat on their back with head and feet at the same level
- (D) Arms above their head

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

14. Why should a person being treated for shock should be wrapped in warm coverings?

- (A) to avoid self-inflicted wounds caused by spastic movement
- (B) to protect the person from injury during transportation
- (C) to increase body heat
- (D) to preserve body heat

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

15. If a person is unconscious from electric shock, the first action is to remove him from the electrical source. What is the secondary action?

- (A) check for serious burns on the body
- (B) massage vigorously to restore circulation
- (C) determine if he is breathing
- (D) administer ammonia smelling salts

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

16. For small, first-degree burns, what is the quickest method to relieve pain?

- (A) apply a bandage to exclude air
- (B) immerse the burn in cold water
- (C) apply petroleum jelly
- (D) administer aspirin

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

17. What are the symptoms of a fractured back?

- (A) vomiting and involuntary urination or bowel movement
- (B) leg cramps in the muscles in one or both legs
- (C) pain at the site of the fracture and possible numbness or paralysis below the injury
- (D) pain and uncontrolled jerking of the legs and arms

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

18. What should you do if a crew member is unconscious and the face is flushed?

- (A) lay the crew member down with the head and shoulders slightly raised
- (B) attempt to stand the crew member upright to restore consciousness
- (C) lay the crew member down with the head lower than the feet
- (D) administer a liquid stimulant

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

19. What is the primary use of antiseptics?

- (A) reduce inflammation
- (B) speed healing
- (C) prevent infection
- (D) increase blood circulation

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

20. While carrying out artificial respiration how should rescuers be changed out?

- (A) at ten-minute intervals
- (B) by not stopping the respiration for more than 5 minutes
- (C) only with the help of two other people
- (D) without losing the rhythm of respiration

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

21. What is the FIRST thing the rescuer must do if the patient vomits during mouth-to-mouth resuscitation?

- (A) turn the patient's body to the side, sweep out the mouth and resume mouth-to-mouth ventilation
- (B) pause for a moment until the patient appears quiet again, then resume ventilation mouth-to-mouth
- (C) switch to mouth-to-nose ventilation
- (D) ignore it and continue mouth-to-mouth ventilation

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

22. During the required periodic abandon ship drill aboard a MODU, each person not assigned duties in the muster list is _____.

- (A) instructed in the use of life jackets
- (B) instructed in the use of portable fire extinguishers
- (C) shown a video demonstrating lifeboat launching
- (D) not required to attend the boat drill

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

23. A life preserver or buoyant work vest is required to be worn on a MODU when a person is _____.

- (A) working on the rig floor
- (B) operating line throwing equipment
- (C) working over water
- (D) working on the pipe racks

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

24. The instructions for launching lifeboats and liferafts on a MODU must be approved by the _____.

- (A) person-in-charge of the unit
- (B) lease operator
- (C) Minerals Management Service
- (D) Coast Guard

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

25. What is the primary advantage of a davit-launched liferaft in comparison to an inflatable liferaft?

- (A) The davit-launched liferaft enables personnel to enter the raft without having to enter the water.
- (B) The davit-launched liferaft has a built-in sprinkler system for fire protection.
- (C) The davit-launched liferaft is made of fire-retardant material.
- (D) The davit-launched liferaft is easier to maintain.

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

26. The muster list shows each rig hand's muster station, his duties during abandonment, basic instructions, and _____.

- (A) instructions for lowering the survival craft
- (B) work schedule
- (C) the time each weekly drill will be held
- (D) all emergency signals

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

27. On offshore drilling units each inflatable liferaft that is not intended for davit launching must be stowed so as to float free or be _____.

- (A) equipped with a hydrostatic release
- (B) located above the main deck area
- (C) replaced every 12 months
- (D) stowed in approved racks

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

28. The person assigned to command a lifeboat or inflatable liferaft on a MODU shall have a list of the persons assigned to the lifeboat or liferaft. The list shall include each person's _____.

- (A) duties
- (B) nearest relative's address
- (C) home phone number
- (D) home address

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

29. The limit switches on a MODUs survival-craft winch system _____.

- (A) stop the winch in case the craft weighs too much
- (B) stop the winch just before the craft reaches the final stowage position
- (C) limit the ascent rate
- (D) limit the amount of cable on the drum

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

30. When a davit-launched raft is lowered from a MODU, upon becoming waterborne, the raft is released by _____.

- (A) the effects of buoyancy removing the weight of the raft from the hook
- (B) activating the release lock of the hook
- (C) releasing the boarding flap and the bousing lines
- (D) pulling smartly on the knobbed cocking lanyard

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

31. On offshore drilling units, the lifeboat motors shall be operated in the ahead and astern position at least once each _____.

- (A) day
- (B) week
- (C) month
- (D) year

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

32. A MODU must have on board a first-aid kit that is approved by the _____.

- (A) Mine Safety and Health Administration
- (B) Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- (C) Minerals Management Service
- (D) American Bureau of Shipping

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

33. Offshore drilling units must have at least two ring buoys with water lights that, when released from the mounting rack, activate a _____.

- (A) smoke signal
- (B) battery powered horn
- (C) radio signal
- (D) steam whistle

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

34. On a MODU, the locker or space containing the self-contained breathing apparatus must _____.

- (A) be equipped with battery powered emergency lighting
- (B) be located in close proximity to the main control station
- (C) be marked "SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS"
- (D) All of the above

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

35. The routes to be used during evacuation of the MODU are shown in the _____.

- (A) Muster List ("Station Bill")
- (B) official log
- (C) posted Fire Control/Lifesaving Plan
- (D) control room under glass

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

36. The muster list must be posted in conspicuous locations and signed by the _____.

- (A) safety officer
- (B) Coast Guard Officer approving the bill
- (C) owner
- (D) Master

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

37. What is the international calling and distress channel found on all VHF-FM equipped drilling rigs?

- (A) Channel 1
- (B) Channel 10
- (C) Channel 16
- (D) Channel 68

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

38. The generators on your rig have shut down, leaving you without navigation lights. Which emergency signal would you transmit over the VHF radio to alert vessels in the area of your predicament?

- (A) Pan, Pan, Pan
- (B) Lights out, Lights out, Lights out
- (C) Security, Security, Security
- (D) Mayday, Mayday, Mayday

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

39. You are standing a radio watch aboard the rig. A crew boat calls you on VHF channel 16. When you reply with your vessel name and call letters, you should request the crew boat to switch to which of the following channels?

- (A) 6
- (B) 10
- (C) 12
- (D) 14

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

40. Where would you find the "call sign" or "call letters" of the radio station on your rig?

- (A) On the Certificate of Inspection
- (B) In the rig safety manual
- (C) On the rig Watch Bill
- (D) On the Ship Station License

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

41. You are standing radio watch and monitoring VHF Channel 16 when you receive a call to your rig, TEXAS STAR, from a supply boat. What is the proper way to answer this call?

- (A) 'This is TEXAS STAR, WSR 1234, reply Channel 10.'
- (B) 'This is TEXAS STAR on Channel 16. Come back.'
- (C) 'This is TEXAS STAR. Pick a channel.'
- (D) 'Please stand by. We're busy right now.'

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

42. What should you do if you have transmitted a distress call a number of times on channel 16 and have received no reply?

- (A) Repeat the message using any other channel on which you might attract attention.
- (B) Report the problem to the head electrician.
- (C) Key the microphone several times before transmitting again.
- (D) Turn up the volume on the receiver before transmitting again.

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

43. You are underway in mid-ocean when you hear a distress message. The position of the sender is 150 miles away. No other vessel has acknowledged the distress. Your maximum speed is 5 knots and due to the seriousness of the distress, you cannot arrive on scene to provide effective assistance. What action should you take?

- (A) Do not acknowledge the distress message.
- (B) Transmit a message as though your vessel was in distress.
- (C) Use the signal MAYDAY RELAY and transmit the distress message.
- (D) Send an urgency message about the distress.

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

44. You can indicate that your vessel is in distress by _____.

- (A) displaying three black balls in a vertical line
- (B) displaying a large red flag
- (C) sounding five or more short and rapid blasts on the whistle
- (D) continuously sounding the fog whistle

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

45. Distress signals may be _____.

- (A) smoke signals
- (B) sound signals
- (C) red flares
- (D) Any of the above

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

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

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

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

47. 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) red star shell
- (C) searchlight
- (D) burning barrel

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

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

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

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

49. A distress signal _____.

- (A) is used to indicate doubt about another vessel's intentions
- (B) may be used individually or in conjunction with other distress signals
- (C) consists of the raising and lowering of a large white flag
- (D) consists of 5 or more short blasts of the fog signal apparatus

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- 50.** You are underway in mid-ocean, when you hear a distress message over the VHF radio. The position of the sender is 20 miles away. What action should you take?
- (A) Do not acknowledge because you are too far away to take action.
 - (B) Do not acknowledge receipt until other ships nearer to the distress have acknowledged.
 - (C) Immediately acknowledge receipt of the distress message.
 - (D) Defer acknowledgment for a short interval so that a coast station may acknowledge receipt.

If choice C is selected set score to 1.