

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam
Master/Chief Mate of Unlimited Tonnage
Q101 Deck General – Part I
(Sample Examination)

Choose the best answer to the following multiple-choice questions.

1. When is the best time to work a boat into a slip?
- A. At slack water
 - B. When the current is setting against you
 - C. When the wind is against you
 - D. When there is a cross current

Correct answer: A

2. You are proceeding along the right bank of a narrow channel aboard a right-handed single-screw vessel. The vessel starts to sheer due to bank suction/cushion effect. Which action should you take?
- A. Increase speed and put the rudder hard right
 - B. Back full with rudder amidships
 - C. Decrease speed and put the rudder hard right
 - D. Stop engines and put the rudder hard left

Correct answer: A

3. When oil is accidentally discharged overboard, an entry is required to be made in which log?
- A. The engine rough log
 - B. The deck rough log
 - C. The Oil Record Book
 - D. The Deck Maintenance Logbook

Correct answer: C

4. SOLAS requires Emergency Instructions be posted in conspicuous places throughout the vessel. On a passenger vessel what language shall these instructions be posted in?
- A. The language required by the ship's flag State and in English
 - B. English, Spanish, French and German
 - C. The principal language of the passengers and in English
 - D. English because it is the international language

Correct answer: A

5. The American Consul has asked the Master of a vessel bound for a port in the U.S. to transport a destitute seaman back to the U.S. Which action may the Master take?
- A. He may refuse to take the seaman if the seaman has a contagious disease.
 - B. He may refuse to take the seaman if it will violate the Certificate of Inspection.
 - C. He is normally required to take the seaman.
 - D. All of the above

Correct answer: D

6. When taking a Pilot from a pilot vessel in a seaway, which way should you head your vessel if the ladder is on the leeward side?
- A. Bow to the sea and no way on your vessel
 - B. Sea on the quarter with sternway on the ship
 - C. Sea on the weather bow and ship moving ahead slowly
 - D. Sea on the lee quarter with ship moving ahead slowly

Correct answer: C

7. Your vessel is at a dock taking bunkers. If oil begins to flow out of a tank vent, what should you do FIRST?
- A. Open the intake valve to an adjacent tank.
 - B. Signal the shore control point to shut down.
 - C. Set out drip pans and sawdust and begin to mop up the spill.
 - D. Close the valve on the tank vent line.

Correct answer: B

8. When oil is accidentally discharged into the water, what should you do after reporting the discharge?
- A. Throw chemical agents on the water to disperse the oil.
 - B. Obtain your permit from the Corps of Engineers
 - C. Contain the oil and remove as much of it as possible from the water.
 - D. Throw sand on the water to sink the oil.

Correct answer: C

9. On a voyage charter, when a vessel is ready to load cargo, the Master should render to the charterer which document?
- A. Shipmasters Declaration
 - B. Notice of Readiness
 - C. Master Certificate of Service
 - D. Vessel Utilization and Performance Report

Correct answer: B

10. Which group is sighted as being the originator of the Safety of Life at Sea Convention?
- A. International Maritime Organization
 - B. American Institute of Maritime Shipping
 - C. U.S. Coast Guard
 - D. American Bureau of Shipping

Correct answer: A

11. After your vessel has been involved in a casualty, who are you required to make your logbooks, bell books, etc., available to?
- A. U.S. Coast Guard officials
 - B. Attorneys for opposition parties
 - C. Marine surveyors
 - D. All of the above

Correct answer: A

12. What is the period of validity of a Merchant Mariner Credential?

- A. 3 years
- B. 1 year
- C. 2 years
- D. 5 years

Correct answer: D

13. Which type of ice is the most difficult to combat and presents the greatest hazard to shipping on the Great Lakes during the winter months?

- A. Slow ice
- B. Fast ice
- C. Pack slush ice
- D. Icebergs

Correct answer: C

14. Which is the root cause of wake damage to a vessel or structure in a narrow channel?

- A. Improper steering of the vessel
- B. Excessive speed
- C. Trim of the vessel
- D. Slack mooring lines

Correct answer: B

15. What is the period of validity of a Safety Management Certificate?

- A. 60 months
- B. 48 months
- C. 42 months
- D. 36 months

Correct answer: A

16. Your enrolled vessel is bound from Baltimore, MD, to Norfolk, VA, via Chesapeake Bay. Which statement about the required Pilot is TRUE?

- A. The Pilot must be credentialed by Virginia, Maryland and the Coast Guard.
- B. The Pilot must be credentialed by Virginia and Maryland.
- C. The Pilot must be credentialed by either Virginia or Maryland.
- D. The Pilot need only be credentialed by the Coast Guard.

Correct answer: D

17. Which item indicates the maximum draft to which a vessel can legally be submerged?

- A. The Net Tonnage Certificate
- B. The load line mark
- C. The tonnage mark
- D. The Muster List ("Station Bill")

Correct answer: B

18. Which describes how flanking rudders effect a vessel's heading when going astern?

- A. The water flow due to the vessel's movement through the water
- B. The discharge current being channeled to impinge on the vessel's deadwood
- C. The tunnel effect of the water flow past opposing rudders
- D. The effect of the propeller flow on the rudders

Correct answer: D

19. In the event of an oil spill a report must be made to which of the following entities?

- A. The local police
- B. U.S. Corps of Engineers
- C. U.S. Coast Guard
- D. The local fire department

Correct answer: C

20. Which is a common occurrence when a vessel is running into shallow water?

- A. The vessel is more responsive to the rudder
- B. The wake is less pronounced
- C. "Squat" will cause a decrease in bottom clearance and an increase in draft
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: C

21. You are shifting a gas free tank barge to dry dock for repairs. The barge must have onboard which document?

- A. A valid Certificate of Inspection
- B. A Gas Free Certificate
- C. A Permit to Proceed and Hot Work Permit
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: A

22. While assigned to a 90 GRT vessel, you are required to sign "foreign" articles on a voyage from Philadelphia to which port?

- A. San Francisco, CA
- B. Montreal, Canada
- C. Tampico, Mexico
- D. Baltimore, MD

Correct answer: A

23. Which cargo would require a dangerous cargo manifest?

- A. Cotton
- B. Sugar
- C. Lumber
- D. Wheat

Correct answer: A

24. Pollution of the waterways may result from the discharge of which item(s)?

- A. The galley trash can
- B. An oily mixture of one part per million
- C. Sewage
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: D

25. Which statement about tunnel bow thrusters fitted to large vessels is TRUE?

- A. They are fully effective at all drafts.
- B. When going astern at slow speed, they provide effective steering control.
- C. They are effective on most vessels at speeds up to 10 knots.
- D. Because of their location, most modern installations have as much power as a tug.

Correct answer: B

26. The terminology "able to understand any order spoken by the officers" refers to all of the following situations EXCEPT _____.

- A. when in response to a man overboard
- B. in response to a fire
- C. when directing the use of lifesaving equipment
- D. for deck department crew members to understand the terminology used in the engine room

Correct answer: D

27. What part of the ground tackle is the most likely to develop fractures due to extensive anchor use?

- A. Anchor shank
- B. Swivel
- C. Anchor Ring
- D. Fluke

Correct answer: C

28. Where would you find a list of the lifesaving equipment onboard your supply boat?

- A. Certificate of Inspection
- B. Muster List ("Station Bill")
- C. Ship's Articles
- D. U.S. Coast Guard Regulations

Correct answer: A

29. On an inspected vessel, when may a stability test be dispensed with?

- A. Coast Guard has the approved stability test results of a sister vessel
- B. Coast Guard does not have a qualified inspector available
- C. The vessel is of a proven design
- D. The projected cost is unreasonable

Correct answer: A

30. What affect does shallow water have on a vessel's stopping distance?

- A. The stopping distance is shorter.
- B. There is no difference in the stopping distance.
- C. The propeller is more effective when going astern in shallow water.
- D. The stopping distance is longer.

Correct answer: D

31. As a ship moves through the water, it causes a wake, which is also moving forward relative to the sea. In addition to a fore and aft motion, which direction will the wake flow?

- A. Upward and inward flow
- B. Downward and inward flow
- C. Upward and outward flow
- D. Downward and outward flow

Correct answer: A

32. A vessel arrives in the port of Los Angeles from a foreign port and discharges some of its inward foreign cargo. What additional manifest is required?

- A. Inward Foreign Manifest
- B. Discharge Manifest
- C. Pro Forma Manifest
- D. Traveling Manifest

Correct answer: D

33. You are the Chief Mate of a 30,000-DWT tankship. The vessel is engaged in trade with another country signatory to MARPOL 73/78. Which statement is TRUE?

- A. The Certificate of Inspection serves as prima facie evidence of complying with MARPOL 73/78
- B. An IOPP Certificate is invalidated if the ship carries multiple classes of cargoes
- C. The IOPP Certificate for an inspected vessel is valid for 5 years
- D. An IOPP Certificate is renewed at each inspection for certification

Correct answer: C

34. Ice concentration is measured in tenths. What concentration range of ice corresponds to 1- 3 tenths?

- A. Very Open Pack
- B. Close Pack
- C. Very Close Pack
- D. Open Pack

Correct answer: A

35. Why are the anchors dropped well out from the pier while at a Mediterranean moor?

- A. It eliminates navigational hazards by allowing the chain to lie along the harbor bottom
- B. It permits the ship to maneuver in the stream while weighing anchors
- C. It increases the anchor's reliability by providing a large catenary in the chain
- D. It will prevent damage to the stern caused by swinging against the pier in the approach

Correct answer: B

36. For insurance purposes, which is a requirement for a general average act?

- A. It must be a successful venture
- B. There are no losses
- C. There must be no imminent peril
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: A

37. Which U.S. agency assigns an official number to a vessel?

- A. Collector of Customs
- B. American Bureau of Shipping
- C. Coast Guard
- D. Treasury Department

Correct answer: C

38. You discharge food waste overboard at sea. You have recorded your vessel's position as required, what other items must be included in the report?

- A. The vessel's latitude, longitude, course, speed, and a copy of that day's noon position slip
- B. The vessel's latitude and longitude is all that is required
- C. The vessel's latitude, longitude, date and time of the discharge
- D. The vessel's latitude, longitude and approximate depth of water

Correct answer: C

39. Which action reduces the yawing of a vessel in a following sea?

- A. Shifting weights to the bow
- B. Increasing GM
- C. Shifting weights to the stern
- D. Pumping out tanks aft

Correct answer: C

40. Periodic surveys to renew the load line assignment must be made at which interval?

- A. 18 months
- B. Two years
- C. Three years
- D. Five years

Correct answer: D

41. Failure to notify the Coast Guard of an oil spill can carry a prison sentence of what duration?

- A. Not more than 1 year
- B. Not more than 2 years
- C. Not more than 3 years
- D. Not more than 5 years

Correct answer: D

42. In a following sea, a wave has overtaken your vessel and thrown the stern to starboard. To continue along your original course, which action should you take?
- A. Use more left rudder
 - B. Use more right rudder
 - C. Increase speed
 - D. Decrease speed

Correct answer: B

43. You are docking a vessel starboard side to with the assistance of two tugs. You are attempting to hold the vessel off by operating both tugs at right angles to the vessel and at full power. Which statement is TRUE?
- A. The ship has no headway at the time
 - B. The bow closes the dock first
 - C. The bow doesn't close the dock first
 - D. Steerageway is never taken off

Correct answer: A

44. Your vessel is backing on the starboard screw, and going ahead on the port screw. How will the vessel react?
- A. It will move ahead on a straight line
 - B. It will back on a straight line
 - C. It will swing the bow to starboard
 - D. It will swing the bow to port

Correct answer: C

45. When an azimuth of the Sun has been taken and the deviation of the standard magnetic compass computed, the watch officer should record the results _____.
- A. on the compass deviation card
 - B. on a Napier diagram
 - C. in the compass deviation log
 - D. in the vessel's Official Logbook

Correct answer: C

46. When running before a heavy sea, what will moving weights aft on the vessel accomplish?
- A. Reduce the yawing of the vessel
 - B. Reduce the rolling of the vessel
 - C. Increase the yawing of the vessel
 - D. Increase the rolling of the vessel

Correct answer: A

47. In some cases, the 50% duty on all foreign repairs made to American flag merchant vessels may be remitted. Which work does NOT come under the remitting policy of U.S. Customs?
- A. Chipping, painting, and scaling by foreign labor
 - B. Repairs due to damage done by heavy weather
 - C. Repairs to hull structural damage
 - D. Repairs to the main propulsion machinery

Correct answer: A

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Illustrations: 0

48. The official identification of a vessel is found in which document?

- A. Certificate of Documentation
- B. Certificate of Inspection
- C. Classification Certificate
- D. Load Line Certificate

Correct answer: A

49. What is NOT considered maritime property in a salvage claim?

- A. Sea plane
- B. Cargo
- C. Semi-submerged shipwreck
- D. Buoys

Correct answer: D

50. Which agency deals with stowaways?

- A. Public Health
- B. Immigration
- C. U.S.D.A.
- D. Customs

Correct answer: B