

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. You are in charge of a towing vessel that operates exclusively on inland waters. You regularly tow barges that provide services (cargo lighters, fuel barges, etc.) to foreign flag vessels in port. What will be accepted as proper credentials for you and your crew?
- A. Social Security card
 - B. No credentials are required since you operate on inland waters only
 - C. Merchant Mariner Credential
 - D. State driver's license with photo ID

Correct answer: C

2. In writing up the logbook at the end of your watch, you make an error in writing an entry. What is the proper means of correcting this error?
- A. Carefully and neatly erase the entry and rewrite it correctly.
 - B. Cross out the error with a single line, and write the correct entry, then initial it.
 - C. Blot out the error completely and rewrite the entry correctly.
 - D. Remove this page of the log book, and rewrite all entries on a clean page.

Correct answer: B

3. 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 is required to take the seaman under any circumstance.
 - C. He may refuse to take the seaman if the ship will not stop at a U.S. port within 30 days.
 - D. He is required to accept the seaman only if the seaman is medically unfit.

Correct answer: A

4. Firefighting equipment requirements for a particular vessel may be found on which document?
- A. Certificate of Registry
 - B. Certificate of Inspection
 - C. Classification Certificate
 - D. Certificate of Seaworthiness

Correct answer: B

5. Each crewmember has an assigned firefighting station. Where is this assignment listed?
- A. On the firefighting plan
 - B. In the shipping articles
 - C. On the Certificate of Inspection
 - D. On the muster list

Correct answer: D

6. Which statement concerning an accidental oil spill in the navigable waters of the U.S. is TRUE?
- A. A warning broadcast must be made by radiotelephone.
 - B. The Corps of Engineers is responsible for the cleanup of the spill.
 - C. The person in charge must report the spill to the Coast Guard.
 - D. The Department of Interior is responsible for the cleanup of the spill.

Correct answer: C

7. Which term defines when a vessel is swinging from side to side off course due to quartering seas?
- A. Yawing
 - B. Rolling
 - C. Pitchpoling
 - D. Broaching

Correct answer: A

8. On the cargo manifest, which term is used to describe the weight of the cargo inside a box?
- A. Light weight
 - B. Net weight
 - C. Rate weight
 - D. Gross weight

Correct answer: B

9. 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

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

Correct answer: A

11. A vessel puts into the port of Kobe, Japan to discharge cargo. While awaiting completion of the cargo operation, the vessel contracts with a local shipyard to have the hull chipped, scaled, and painted. How is the cost of this maintenance handled with the Collector of Customs?
- A. A declaration is made and duty is charged on the materials only.
 - B. A declaration is made, but duty is charged on the labor only.
 - C. A declaration is required and duty is involved on the total cost.
 - D. No declaration is required since this is considered routine maintenance.

Correct answer: C

12. Your vessel is disabled and in imminent danger of grounding on a lee shore. The Master agrees to salvage services using Lloyd's Open Form of Salvage Agreement. Which is TRUE?

- A. The salvage service is on a "no cure-no pay" basis.
- B. The salvage award will be decided by suit in Admiralty Court.
- C. Underwriters will repudiate the agreement if it is unsuccessful, due to their increased liability.
- D. The salvor becomes the owner of the vessel until the salvage award, if any, is paid.

Correct answer: A

13. A vessel proceeding to London, England, from New York makes an unscheduled call at the port of Hamilton, Bermuda. What term is used to denote the voluntary departure from the usual course?

- A. Deviation
- B. Alteration
- C. Liberty
- D. Unscheduled stop

Correct answer: A

14. What is the difference between net tonnage and gross tonnage?

- A. Net tonnage is the gross tonnage less certain deductible spaces.
- B. Net tonnage is the net weight of the ship.
- C. Net tonnage is gross tonnage minus engine and bunker spaces.
- D. Net tonnage is tonnage of cargo compared to tonnage of whole ship.

Correct answer: A

15. What do the York-Antwerp Rules relate to?

- A. The ship owner's responsibilities to provide a well-found vessel in a charter party
- B. The settlement of general average claims
- C. Clearly state the minimum required number of officers and crew
- D. The navigation regulations that apply in the English Channel

Correct answer: B

16. Which part of a windlass physically engages the chain during hauling or paying out?

- A. The cat head
- B. The devil's claw
- C. The wildcat
- D. The bull gear

Correct answer: C

17. 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 principal language of the passengers and in English
- B. English because it is the international language
- C. The language required by the ship's flag State and in English
- D. English, Spanish, French and German

Correct answer: C

18. Your vessel is broken down and rolling in heavy seas. How can you reduce the danger of capsizing?

- A. Move all passengers to the stern
- B. Move all passengers to one side of the boat
- C. Rigging a sea anchor
- D. Constantly shifting the rudder

Correct answer: C

19. What will NOT be found on the Certificate of Inspection of an oceangoing tankship?

- A. Manning requirements
- B. Waters upon which the vessel may be operated
- C. Minimum freeboard permitted
- D. Grade(s) of cargoes that the vessel may carry

Correct answer: C

20. You are Master of a U.S. flag vessel which was dry docked for bottom cleaning in Rotterdam, Netherlands. Upon return to a U.S. port, which action is required?

- A. You must file a report of the dry docking with the U.S.C.G. Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection
- B. You must file a customs' form for duty on this repair
- C. You are not required to file any reports for the bottom cleaning
- D. You must obtain a U.S. Coast Guard diver to certify the work

Correct answer: B

21. Which is the best method to stop a vessel from dragging anchor in a sand bottom?

- A. Back the engines
- B. Pay out more anchor cable
- C. Swing the rudder several times to work the anchor into the bottom
- D. Reduce the length of the cable

Correct answer: B

22. Which document is NOT required by law to be posted aboard a vessel?

- A. Officer's licenses
- B. Certificate of Inspection
- C. Official Crew List
- D. Muster List

Correct answer: C

23. On which form do you provide a written report of Marine Casualty to the nearest Coast Guard Marine Safety Office?

- A. CG 2692
- B. CG 5511
- C. DOT 211
- D. DD 214

Correct answer: A

24. A seaman dies during a voyage. What is NOT required to be entered into the Official Log?

- A. Statement as to the total deductions to be made from the wages
- B. Statement of the wages due
- C. Statement that the Master has taken custody of the deceased's MMD and passport
- D. An inventory of the money and property

Correct answer: C

25. Your vessel is a single-screw ship with a right-hand propeller. There is no current. Which is the easiest way to make a landing?

- A. Either port or starboard side to, there is no difference in degree of difficulty
- B. The vessel port side to
- C. The vessel starboard side to
- D. By dropping anchor and swinging the ship in to the pier

Correct answer: B

26. What is the name of the mark indicated by the letter E in illustration D003DG below?

- A. Winter water line
- B. Fresh water line
- C. Summer water line
- D. Tropical water line

Correct answer: C

27. Which is the BEST way to reduce your wake in a narrow channel?

- A. Reduce your speed
- B. Change your course to a zigzag course
- C. Apply enough rudder to counter the effect of the current
- D. Shift the weight to the stern

Correct answer: A

28. What is the minimum number of bolts required in a permanently connected flange oil hose coupling?

- A. A bolt must be used in every hole.
- B. 6
- C. 4
- D. 3

Correct answer: A

29. How long must a "Declaration of Inspection" be kept on board?

- A. One week
- B. Two weeks
- C. One month
- D. Three months

Correct answer: C

30. Which document will describe lifesaving equipment located aboard your vessel?

- A. Forecastle Card
- B. Clearance Papers
- C. Muster List ("Station Bill")
- D. Certificate of Inspection

Correct answer: D

31. You are arriving in port and are assigned to anchor in anchorage circle B-4. It has a diameter of 500 yards and your vessel's LOA is 484 feet. If you anchor in 8 fathoms at the center of the circle, what is the maximum number of shots of chain you can use and still remain in the circle?

- A. 6 shots
- B. 5 shots
- C. 4 shots
- D. 3 shots

Correct answer: D

32. Under U.S. law, what is the penalty for assaulting the Master?

- A. Fine of not more than \$1000
- B. Fine of not more than \$500 and/or imprisonment for not more than 1 year
- C. Revocation of the Merchant Mariner Credential
- D. Imprisonment for not more than 2 years

Correct answer: D

33. When running before a heavy sea, what will moving weights aft on the vessel accomplish?

- A. Increase the yawing of the vessel
- B. Reduce the yawing of the vessel
- C. Increase the rolling of the vessel
- D. Reduce the rolling of the vessel

Correct answer: B

- 34.** Your ship is in shallow water and the bow rides up on its bow wave while the stern sinks into a depression of its transverse wave system. What is this called?
- A. Parallel sinkage
 - B. Broaching
 - C. Fish tailing
 - D. Squatting

Correct answer: D

- 35.** A Temporary Certificate of Inspection is effective until which time period?
- A. Once the SOLAS Certificate is issued
 - B. When the permanent Certificate of Inspection is issued and delivered
 - C. When the classification society approval is issued
 - D. When Load Line Certificate is renewed and posted on the vessel

Correct answer: B

- 36.** 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

- 37.** Small floes of rough, hummocky sea ice are capable of damaging a vessel. Which statement is TRUE?
- A. They are indistinguishable from sea return on the PPI
 - B. The floes are usually seen at night before they are close enough to provide a radar echo
 - C. The floes are invisible to radar when covered with a thick layer of snow
 - D. They can usually be detected by radar in a smooth sea at a range of 2 to 4 miles

Correct answer: D

- 38.** Which international body is responsible for drafting the MARPOL convention prohibiting marine pollution?
- A. The Maritime Advisory Council
 - B. The International Maritime Organization
 - C. The Association of Seafaring Nations
 - D. The International Association of Shipping

Correct answer: B

- 39.** An icebreaker assisting a vessel through an ice field would display a visual signal consisting of the code letter "E" (Echo). What does this signal indicate?
- A. I am altering my course to port
 - B. My vessel is stopped and making no way through the water
 - C. I am altering my course to starboard
 - D. I am operating astern propulsion

Correct answer: C

40. U.S. regulations require all tankships of 150 GT and above and all other ships of 400 GT and above, to prepare and maintain which of the following?

- A. A USCG approved shipboard oil pollution emergency plan
- B. A USCG approved oil discharge plan
- C. A USCG approved vapor recovery procedures plan
- D. A USCG approved synthetic plastic discharge plan

Correct answer: A

41. 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. Sea on the weather bow and ship moving ahead slowly
- B. Sea on the lee quarter with ship moving ahead slowly
- C. Bow to the sea and no way on your vessel
- D. Sea on the quarter with sternway on the ship

Correct answer: A

42. How does the effect known as "bank suction" act on a single-screw vessel proceeding along a narrow channel?

- A. It heels the vessel toward the bank.
- B. It pulls the stern toward the bank.
- C. It pushes the entire vessel away from the bank.
- D. It pulls the bow toward the bank.

Correct answer: B

43. Which statement is TRUE of a gasoline spill?

- A. It is not covered by the pollution laws.
- B. It will sink more rapidly than crude oil.
- C. It does little harm to marine life.
- D. It is visible for a shorter time than a fuel oil spill.

Correct answer: D

44. Which document lists all the lifesaving equipment required for a vessel?

- A. Certificate of Registry
- B. International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea Certificate
- C. American Bureau of Shipping Classification Certificate
- D. Certificate of Inspection

Correct answer: D

- 45.** Which action has a tendency to happen to a vessel proceeding along the bank of a river or channel with steep banks?
- A. The vessel will increase speed
 - B. The vessel will continue in line with the bank
 - C. The vessel will sheer away from the bank
 - D. The vessel will hug the bank

Correct answer: C

- 46.** As the propeller turns, voids are formed on the trailing and leading edges of the propeller blades causing a loss of propulsive efficiency, pitting of the blades, and vibration. Which term defines this effect?
- A. Advance
 - B. Edging
 - C. Slip
 - D. Cavitation

Correct answer: D

- 47.** What speed do most bow thrusters generally become ineffective?
- A. At any speed ahead
 - B. Over 1 knot sternway
 - C. At any speed astern
 - D. Over 3 knots headway

Correct answer: D

- 48.** When passing a moored vessel in a narrow channel which actions will help minimize wake damage?
- A. Go half astern when abeam of the moored vessel
 - B. Stay on outside of channel and make a notation in the log book
 - C. Reduce speed and make a notation in the bell book
 - D. Check the rudder several times while passing the vessel

Correct answer: C

- 49.** The forecastle card is a copy of which document?
- A. Unlicensed shipping card from the union
 - B. Muster List ("Station Bill")
 - C. Quarters allocation
 - D. Shipping agreement

Correct answer: D

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Illustrations: 1

- 50.** While heaving in the anchor prior to entering the wildcat you observe four white links on each side of a red link. What does this indicate?
- A. There are four shots on deck
 - B. There are eight shots in the chain locker
 - C. There are four shots in the chain locker
 - D. There are eight shots on deck

Correct answer: A



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