

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam
Operator Uninspected Passenger Vessel Near Coastal
Q170 Deck General – Safety
(Sample Examination)

Choose the best answer to the following Multiple-Choice Questions.

1. Which of the following is a rope ladder with wooden rungs?

- A. A jury ladder
- B. A drop ladder
- C. A Jacob's ladder
- D. A life ladder

Correct answer: C

2. When rigging a bosun's chair, a tail block or lizard is used to perform which function?

- A. To guide the bosun's chair down a stay when applying a protective coating
- B. To run paint or tools up to a sailor in a chair with a heaving line
- C. To reeve the gantline through from the deck to the chair
- D. To keep a bosun's chair from swinging with the ship's motion

Correct answer: C

3. Which describes the "lay" of a line?

- A. The manner in which it is coiled
- B. The direction of twist of the strands
- C. The manner in which it is rigged
- D. Its normal location of stowage

Correct answer: B

4. When a line is subject to wear where it passes through a mooring chock, which action should be taken?

- A. The line should be coated with grease
- B. The line should be wrapped with heavy tape
- C. The line should be wrapped with chafing gear
- D. The line should be wormed, parceled, and served

Correct answer: C

5. Which mooring line has the most elastic elongation?

- A. Dacron
- B. Nylon
- C. Manila
- D. Polypropylene

Correct answer: B

6. You are standing the wheel watch when you hear the cry, "Man overboard starboard side". What immediate order would you expect to receive?

- A. Give full right rudder
- B. Give full left rudder
- C. Throw a life ring to mark the spot
- D. Put the rudder amidships

Correct answer: A

7. You are on watch at night in clear visibility and the vessel has just been anchored. What is the first thing that you should do after the anchor has been let go?

- A. Lower the accommodation ladder and illuminate it
- B. Turn off the running lights and turn on the anchor lights
- C. Take bearings to obtain ship's position
- D. Stop the engines

Correct answer: C

8. You are on watch at sea and find it prudent to call the Master to the bridge due to traffic congestion. Which statement is TRUE concerning the moment that the Master officially relieves you of the conn?

- A. The moment you call the captain to the bridge in a traffic situation
- B. When the Master specifically informs you that he has the conn
- C. The moment the captain states the course being steered
- D. When a watchstander announces "Captain's on the bridge"

Correct answer: B

9. 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 continue in line with the bank
- B. The vessel will hug the bank
- C. The vessel will sheer away from the bank
- D. The vessel will increase speed

Correct answer: C

10. You observe a V-shaped ripple with the point of the V pointing upstream in a river. What may this indicate?

- A. A towed-under buoy
- B. A sunken wreck, not dangerous to navigation
- C. A submerged rock, not dangerous to navigation
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: A

11. Which type of bottom provides most anchors with the best holding ability?

- A. Clay and rocks
- B. Soft mud
- C. Sandy mud
- D. Soft sand

Correct answer: C

12. You are docking a vessel. When are the wind and current most favorable in this situation?

- A. When they are both parallel to the pier from ahead
- B. When they are crossing your course, in opposite directions to the other
- C. When they are crossing your course, both in the same direction
- D. When they are both setting you on the pier

Correct answer: A

13. After casting off moorings at a mooring buoy in calm weather, which action should you take?

- A. Go half ahead on the engines and put the rudder hard right
- B. Back away a few lengths to clear the buoy and then go ahead on the engines
- C. Go half ahead on the engines and pass upstream of the buoy
- D. Go full ahead on the engine(s)

Correct answer: B

14. Using a scope of 5, determine how many feet of cable you should put out to anchor in 5 fathoms of water.

- A. 100 feet
- B. 150 feet
- C. 200 feet
- D. 250 feet

Correct answer: B

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

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

Correct answer: B

16. Your vessel is running in a following sea. Which term defines the motion your vessel is experiencing?

- A. Yawing
- B. Heaving to
- C. Pounding
- D. Reduced speed

Correct answer: A

17. You are underway in heavy weather and your bow is into the seas. Which action should you take to prevent pounding?

- A. Decrease the speed of the vessel
- B. Increase the speed of the vessel
- C. Secure all loose gear on your vessel
- D. Put the seas on an 85 degree angle from the bow

Correct answer: A

18. As a general rule, how will your vessel lie when it is drifting in a locale where there is no current?

- A. With the wind on the quarter
- B. The beam to the wind
- C. The bow to the wind
- D. The stern to the wind

Correct answer: B

19. When passing a moored vessel in a narrow channel which actions will help minimize wake damage?

- A. Reduce speed and make a notation in the bell book
- B. Stay on outside of channel and make a notation in the log book
- C. Check the rudder several times while passing the vessel
- D. Go half astern when abeam of the moored vessel

Correct answer: A

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

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

Correct answer: D

21. Which statement is TRUE concerning fuel vapors on a vessel?

- A. Vent outlets should be located above the level of the carburetor air intake.
- B. Fuel vapors gather in the lowest portions of the vessel.
- C. Fuel vapors can only be ignited by an open flame.
- D. None of the above

Correct answer: B

22. Upon completion of fueling a gasoline driven vessel it is necessary to perform which task?

- A. Start the engines immediately
- B. Keep ports, doors, windows, and hatches closed
- C. Ventilate before starting engine
- D. None of the above

Correct answer: C

23. All of the following are part of the fire triangle EXCEPT _____.

- A. fuel
- B. electricity
- C. heat
- D. oxygen

Correct answer: B

24. Which causes spontaneous combustion?

- A. The conduction of heat through a wall of material to the substance
- B. A chemical action within a substance
- C. An outside heat source heating a substance until it ignites
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: B

25. Which may ignite fuel vapors?

- A. An open and running motor
- B. Static electricity
- C. Loose wiring
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: D

26. When flammable liquids are handled in a compartment on a vessel, which is TRUE concerning the ventilation for that area?

- A. It should be shut down if an explosive mixture is present
- B. It should be only operated intermittently to remove vapors
- C. It should be available on standby for immediate use
- D. It should be operated continuously while vapors may be present

Correct answer: D

27. What is the main advantage of a steady stream of water on a class "A" fire?

- A. It protects the firefighting crew
- B. It removes the oxygen
- C. It breaks up and cools the fire
- D. It washes the fire away

Correct answer: C

28. Fires which occur in energized electrical equipment, such as switchboard insulation, are which classification?

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D

Correct answer: C

29. There is a fire in the crew's quarters of your vessel. Which action should you take FIRST?

- A. Attempt to put the fire out yourself before sounding the alarm
- B. Prepare to abandon ship
- C. Close all ventilation to the quarters if possible
- D. Ventilate the quarters as much as possible

Correct answer: C

30. When fighting a fire using a portable carbon dioxide extinguisher, where should the stream be directed to extinguish the fire?

- A. At the center of the flaming area, moving the horn vertically from top to bottom
- B. At the base of the flames, moving the horn from side to side
- C. At the bottom of the flaming area, moving the horn vertically to the top following the flames upward as they diminish
- D. At the top of the flaming area, moving the horn from side to side

Correct answer: B

31. Which is an advantage of an ABC dry chemical over a carbon dioxide extinguisher?

- A. Greater multipurpose extinguishing ability
- B. Lack of toxicity
- C. Burn-back protection
- D. Less damage to electrical components

Correct answer: A

32. If you must enter water on which there is an oil fire, you should _____.

- A. protect your life preserver by holding it above your head
- B. enter the water on the windward side of the vessel
- C. keep both hands in front of your face to break the water surface when diving head first
- D. wear very light clothing

Correct answer: B

33. Which maneuver will return your vessel to a person who has fallen overboard in the shortest time?

- A. Make two 180° turns
- B. Put the engine(s) crash astern, no turn
- C. A Williamson Turn
- D. A single turn with hard rudder

Correct answer: D

34. A situation has occurred where it becomes necessary for you to be towed. What action should be taken to prevent your vessel from yawing?

- A. Shift weight to the bow
- B. Shift weight to the stern
- C. Shift weight to the center of the boat
- D. Throw excess weight overboard

Correct answer: B

35. Which letter shown in illustration D030DG below represents a clove hitch?

- A. T
- B. U
- C. R
- D. X

Correct answer: D

36. What is a "bowline" used for?

- A. Keep a line from fraying
- B. Form a temporary eye (loop) at the end of a line
- C. Join lines of equal size
- D. Be a stopper

Correct answer: B

37. Which is the requirement for the name and hailing port of a documented commercial vessel?

- A. It is required to be marked on the keel, stern, and both bows
- B. It is required to be marked on both bows and on the keel
- C. It is required to be marked on the stern with the name of the vessel marked on both bows
- D. It is not required to be marked anywhere on the vessel

Correct answer: C

38. Which type of fixed fire-extinguishing system is approved for use on board uninspected vessels?

- A. Steam smothering
- B. Carbon dioxide
- C. Chemical foam
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: B

39. What is the number of fire extinguishers required on an uninspected "Motor vessel" based on?

- A. The number of crew members
- B. The vessel's gross tonnage
- C. The vessel's draft
- D. The vessel's length

Correct answer: B

40. Which term(s) are in the category of "oil" as used in the Oil Pollution Regulations?

- A. Sludge
- B. Oil refuse
- C. Fuel oil
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: D

41. Regardless of local requirements, when in a U.S. port, all oil spills must be reported to which of the following agencies?

- A. Minerals Management Service
- B. National Response Center (USCG)
- C. Environmental Protection Agency
- D. All of the Above

Correct answer: B

42. You operate a harbor craft on inland waters exclusively. If you regularly service or contact foreign flag vessels in the course of business, which statement is TRUE?

- A. Your crew must have identification credentials.
- B. All contacts with a foreign flag vessel must be reported to the U.S. Coast Guard.
- C. Your vessel must be inspected.
- D. A customs official must be on board when contacting a foreign flag vessel.

Correct answer: A

43. Normally, where is the potable water systems directly connected to?

- A. The potable water tank
- B. A freshwater sanitary system
- C. The feed-water system
- D. The vessel's fire-main system

Correct answer: A

44. When making VHF radio calls to nearby stations, what level of transmitting power should you use?

- A. Medium power
- B. High power
- C. Extra high power
- D. Low power

Correct answer: D

45. All VHF marine band radios operate in the simplex mode. Which is an example of the operation of a radio in simplex mode?

- A. Only two persons may talk at the same time
- B. Only one person may talk at a time
- C. The radio only receives
- D. The radio only transmits

Correct answer: B

46. What is the expected range of a VHF radio transmission from a vessel to a shore station?

- A. About 20 miles
- B. 50 - 100 miles
- C. 100 - 150 miles
- D. 150 - 200 miles

Correct answer: A

47. What is the lifesaving signal for "You are seen - Assistance will be given as soon as possible"?

- A. Red star rocket
- B. Vertical motion of a flag
- C. Orange smoke signal
- D. Green star rocket

Correct answer: C

48. Which statement is TRUE concerning life preservers (Type I personal flotation devices)?

- A. Lightly stained or faded life jackets will fail in the water and should not be used.
- B. Life preservers must always be worn with the same side facing outwards to float properly.
- C. Buoyant vests may be substituted for life jackets.
- D. Life preservers are designed to turn an unconscious person's face clear of the water.

Correct answer: D

49. Which is TRUE concerning the stowage of life jackets?

- A. They are always locked in watertight containers
- B. They are required to be stowed in a central location
- C. They must be stowed in readily accessible locations
- D. They are required to be stowed in messrooms

Correct answer: C

50. Where should the life jackets be stowed?

- A. In readily accessible locations
- B. Locked in watertight containers
- C. In each of the messrooms
- D. Only in the survival crafts

Correct answer: A

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