

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam  
Master Uninspected Fishing Vessels  
Q181 Deck Safety  
(Sample Examination)

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

1. You abandoned ship in the North Atlantic and one of the crew members is hypothermic. During a SAR helicopter extraction which lifting device should be avoided when hoisting this patient to the aircraft?
- A. The rescue litter
  - B. The rescue basket
  - C. The rescue net
  - D. The rescue sling

Correct answer: D

2. Which statement is TRUE concerning carbon dioxide?
- A. It is used on class B and C fires.
  - B. It is heavier than air.
  - C. It is non-conductive.
  - D. All of the above are true.

Correct answer: D

3. How should the letter "D" be pronounced when spoken on the radiotelephone?
- A. DOG
  - B. DELL TAH
  - C. DA VID
  - D. DUKE

Correct answer: B

4. You are at sea and have received a General Emergency message announcing the outbreak of war in Europe. You are directed to comply with the instructions in NGA (NIMA) PUB 117, Chapter Eight. Which statement is TRUE?
- A. You should only enter a port in the danger zone during hours of darkness
  - B. When over 200 miles from a port in the danger zone, you should not darken ship
  - C. You should attempt to coordinate with the Shipping Control Team
  - D. If on a coastwise voyage along the east coast of the U.S., you should put into the nearest port

Correct answer: C

5. When patching holes in the hull, how can pillows, bedding, and other soft materials be used?
- A. As strongbacks
  - B. As gaskets
  - C. As wedges
  - D. As shores

Correct answer: B

6. Fire in an engine compartment is best extinguished with carbon dioxide gas (CO<sub>2</sub>) and by which action?
- A. Increasing the air flow to the compartment by blowers
  - B. Closing the compartment except for the ventilators
  - C. Completely closing the compartment
  - D. Leaving the compartment open to the air

Correct answer: C

7. The self-contained breathing device should not be used in which situation?
- A. Fighting fires that produce heavy smoke
  - B. Underwater search
  - C. Compartments containing poisonous vapors
  - D. Oxygen deficient spaces

Correct answer: B

8. An aluminum powder fire is in which fire classification category?
- A. Class A
  - B. Class B
  - C. Class C
  - D. Class D

Correct answer: D

9. Which is TRUE when making a Scharnow turn?
- A. The rudder must be put over towards the side the man went over
  - B. The rudder is put hard over and the initial turn is maintained until about 240° from the original course
  - C. The man overboard must be not more than 300 feet astern when starting the turn
  - D. The initial turn direction is away from the side the man went over

Correct answer: B

10. How may the change in trim of a vessel be found?
- A. By looking at the Hydrostatic Properties Table for the draft of the vessel
  - B. By subtracting the LCF from the LCB
  - C. By dividing longitudinal moments by the displacement
  - D. By dividing the trim moments by MT1

Correct answer: D

11. A yellow signal, floating in the air from a parachute, about 300 feet above the water, indicates what about a submarine?
- A. It will be coming to periscope depth
  - B. It will be coming to the surface
  - C. The submarine is on the bottom in distress
  - D. The submarine is in distress and will try to surface

Correct answer: A

**12.** You have taken another vessel in tow. Which is an indicator that the towing speed is too fast?

- A. The tow line feels like it is "jumping" when touched
- B. The catenary comes clear of the water
- C. The vessels are not in step
- D. The towed vessel goes "in irons"

Correct answer: B

**13.** What factor is essential to the proper operation of a radiator cooled engine?

- A. Jacket water treatment
- B. Air flow through the radiator
- C. Cooling water pressure
- D. Low heat of combustion

Correct answer: B

**14.** For the purpose of training and drills, if reasonable and practicable, how frequently should rescue boats be launched with their assigned crew?

- A. Once a week
- B. Twice a year
- C. Once a year
- D. Once a month

Correct answer: D

**15.** Which technique could be used to give a more comfortable roll to a stiff vessel?

- A. Concentrate weights on upper decks
- B. Ballast the peak tanks
- C. Add weight near the centerline of the lower hold
- D. Move weights lower in the ship

Correct answer: A

**16.** Which of the following describes the function of a sea anchor when utilized as a tool for beaching a lifeboat through surf?

- A. it can be used to pull a survival craft ashore if deployed during an ebb tide
- B. it can be used to steady the survival craft while the crew members disembark
- C. sea anchors are never deployed when beaching a survival craft
- D. it can be used to control the speed of a survival craft while maintaining the heading

Correct answer: D

**17.** What is the function of wearing rings found on some centrifugal pumps?

- A. Seal pump shaft against entry of air
- B. Isolate the outlet side from the inlet side
- C. Dampen the turbulent discharge flow
- D. Absorb erosion of high-velocity discharge stream

Correct answer: B

**18.** When the height of the metacenter is greater than the height of the center of gravity, the upright equilibrium position is stable and stability is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. unstable
- B. positive
- C. neutral
- D. negative

Correct answer: B

**19.** Which causes spontaneous combustion?

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

Correct answer: A

**20.** If you have to jump in the water when abandoning ship, your legs should be in which position?

- A. Your legs should be spread apart as far as possible
- B. Your legs should be held as tightly against your chest as possible
- C. Your legs should be extended straight down and crossed at the ankles
- D. Your legs should be in a kneeling position

Correct answer: C

**21.** A man who is conscious has fallen overboard is being picked up by a lifeboat. In a mild breeze how should the boat approach the person in the water?

- A. With the wind just off the bow and the victim to windward
- B. With the wind just off the bow and the victim to leeward
- C. With the wind ahead and the victim just off the bow
- D. With the wind astern and the victim just off the bow

Correct answer: B

**22.** If an inflatable liferaft inflates upside down, you can right it by taking which action?

- A. Getting at least three or four men to push down on the side containing the CO2 cylinder
- B. Standing on the CO2 bottle, holding the bottom straps, and throwing your weight backwards
- C. Pushing up on one side of the raft
- D. doing nothing; it will right itself after the canopy supports inflate

Correct answer: B

**23.** Your vessel has been damaged and is taking on water, but you do not require immediate assistance. How would you preface a message advising other vessels of your situation?

- A. Pan-Pan (3 times)
- B. SOS-SOS-SOS
- C. Mayday-Mayday-Mayday
- D. Securite-Securite-Securite

Correct answer: A

**24.** When electrical equipment is involved in a fire, where should the stream of dry chemicals be directed?

- A. Aimed at the source of the flames
- B. Shot off a flat surface onto the flames
- C. Fogged above the equipment
- D. Used to shield against electrical shock

Correct answer: A

**25.** According to the Lifesaving regulations in Subchapter W, fire and abandon ship drills must be held within 24 hours of leaving port if the percentage of the crew that has not participated in drills aboard that particular vessel in the prior month exceeds which percentage?

- A. 5%
- B. 10%
- C. 25%
- D. 40%

Correct answer: C

**26.** When should you be most concerned about a possible explosion or fire in fuel tanks?

- A. When underway as the fuel is moved by wave action
- B. Shortly after fueling when fuel vapors gather
- C. During fueling when the fuel strikes fuel already in the tank
- D. During fueling when the fuel first strikes the tank bottom

Correct answer: D

**27.** Oily rags stored in a pile that is open to the atmosphere are a hazard because they may \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. spontaneously heat and catch fire
- B. deteriorate and give off noxious gasses
- C. attract lice and other vermin and serve as a breeding ground
- D. None of the above

Correct answer: A

**28.** How is the external flotation bladder of an immersion suit inflated?

- A. It is inflated by a small CO2 bottle that is automatically tripped when the front zipper is at the top of the zipper track.
- B. It is inflated by blowing through an inflation tube.
- C. It is inflated by a small CO2 bottle that is manually tripped.
- D. It inflates by sea water bleeding into the flotation bladder and reacting with a chemical therein.

Correct answer: B

**29.** The vessel shown in illustration D025DG has broken down and you are going to take her in tow. The wind is coming from her starboard beam. You are making more leeway than she. Where should you position your vessel when you start running lines?

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

Correct answer: A

**30.** The single turn method of returning to a man overboard should be used ONLY if which condition exists?

- A. A boat will be used to recover the man
- B. The conning officer is inexperienced
- C. The vessel is very maneuverable
- D. The man is reported missing rather than immediately seen as he falls overboard

Correct answer: C

**31.** To lubricate the swivel or remove corrosion from a fire hose coupling, which should be used?

- A. Graphite
- B. Fresh water and soap
- C. Glycerine
- D. Kerosene

Correct answer: B

**32.** During cargo operations, your vessel develops a list due to the center of gravity rising above the transverse metacenter. Which is the most prudent action to correct the list?

- A. Add weight in the center line lower holds or double bottoms
- B. Remove weight from the lower holds or double bottoms
- C. Shift weight to the high side
- D. Shift weight to the centerline

Correct answer: A

**33.** When a ship is abandoned and there are several liferafts in the water, which task must be done to aid in your rescue?

- A. Secure the rafts together to keep them from drifting apart
- B. Transfer all supplies to one raft and post a guard
- C. Transfer all the injured to one raft
- D. Separate the rafts by drifting away to increase chances of detection

Correct answer: A

**34.** Angular motion about the longitudinal axis of a vessel is known by which term?

- A. Sway
- B. Surge
- C. Pitch
- D. Roll

Correct answer: D

**35.** Why is it desirable to have screens on the vents of potable water tanks?

- A. To stop insects from entering
- B. To prevent explosions
- C. To prevent backups
- D. To filter the incoming air

Correct answer: A

**36.** In a water-tube marine type boiler, after the steam leaves the generating tubes, in what part of the boiler is temperature of the steam increased?

- A. Economizer
- B. Firebox
- C. Superheater
- D. Mud drum

Correct answer: C

**37.** With the sprinkler system and air system on and all hatches shut, what will the survival craft provide protection from?

- A. Hurricanes
- B. A nuclear fallout environment
- C. A fire and toxic environment
- D. A drop greater than 10 feet

Correct answer: C

**38.** What is the purpose of rigging frapping lines on lifeboat falls?

- A. To reduce the violent swing of the lifeboat at the embarkation level when the tricing pendants are released
- B. To bring the lifeboat close alongside the rail in the embarkation position in order for passengers and crew to board
- C. To secure the lifeboat in the davits when in the stowed position
- D. To give the occupants a safety line when the boat is being lowered from the embarkation level

Correct answer: A

**39.** How does good housekeeping prevent fires on a vessel?

- A. Allowing better access in an emergency
- B. Eliminating potential fuel sources
- C. Improving personnel qualifications
- D. Eliminating trip hazards

Correct answer: B

**40.** Heave is motion along which axis?

- A. The vessel's centerline axis
- B. The vessel's transverse axis
- C. The vessel's longitudinal axis
- D. The vessel's vertical axis

Correct answer: D

**41.** What does the air spaces in the floor of an inflatable liferaft provide protection against?

- A. Asphyxiation from CO<sub>2</sub>
- B. Cold water temperatures
- C. Loss of air in the sides of the raft
- D. Rocks when landing

Correct answer: B

**42.** Which item of the listed survival craft equipment would be the most suitable for night signaling to a ship on the horizon?

- A. A red parachute flare
- B. A flashlight
- C. A red handheld flare
- D. An orange smoke flare

Correct answer: A

**43.** What must be accurately determined to assess the potential for progressive flooding after a vessel has been damaged?

- A. The integrity of the watertight boundaries
- B. The operation of the machinery space bilge level alarms
- C. The capacity of the water sprinkler systems
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: A

**44.** Your stability calculations indicate your vessel has a marginal GM. Which of the following is the most effective way to increase the stability of the vessel?

- A. Raise the center of buoyancy and reduce freeboard
- B. Lower the center of gravity and raise reserve buoyancy
- C. Raise the center of gravity and raise the center of buoyancy
- D. Lower the center of buoyancy and raise the center of gravity

Correct answer: B

**45.** When is it recommended that seawater be used for drinking?

- A. Under no conditions should seawater be drunk
- B. If gathered during or immediately after a hard rain
- C. Only at a maximum rate of two ounces per day
- D. After mixing with an equal quantity of fresh water

Correct answer: A

**46.** What is the purpose of a striking plate?

- A. It provides a surface for applying force on machinery
- B. It prevents valve stem over-travel
- C. It provides a landing surface for the sounding bob
- D. It absorbs machinery vibration

Correct answer: C

**47.** When fighting a fire in an enclosed space, why should the hose team crouch as low as possible?

- A. To maneuver with the hose more easily
- B. To allow the heat and steam to pass overhead
- C. To obtain the best available air for breathing
- D. None of the above

Correct answer: B

**48.** Inflatable liferafts are provided with which item?

- A. A compass
- B. Canned milk
- C. An oil lantern
- D. A towing bridle

Correct answer: D

**49.** You have sent a visual signal to an aircraft. The aircraft then flies over your position on a straight course and level altitude. What should you do?

- A. Prepare for a helicopter pickup
- B. Send more signals
- C. Repeat your signal
- D. Change course to follow the airplane

Correct answer: C

**50.** Which statement about damage control is TRUE?

- A. Water flowing over the fo'c'sle bulwark is more dangerous than a hole in the hull at the waterline.
- B. Water flowing into a lower compartment on a ship is more dangerous than water on deck or flowing into an upper compartment.
- C. A hole in the hull at the waterline is more dangerous than a hole below the inner bottom.
- D. The amount of water entering a ship through a hole varies inversely to the area of the hole.

Correct answer: C



**D025DG**

