

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam  
Limited Operator Uninspected Passenger Vessels  
Q361 Navigation General  
(Sample Examination)

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

1. As a vessel changes course to starboard, which is TRUE concerning the compass card in a magnetic compass?
- A. The card also turns to starboard
  - B. It first turns to starboard then counterclockwise to port
  - C. The card turns counterclockwise to port
  - D. The card remains aligned with compass north

Correct answer: D

2. A magnetic compass card is marked in how many degrees?
- A. 90
  - B. 180
  - C. 360
  - D. 400

Correct answer: C

3. What benefit is a weather bulletin to a mariner?
- A. It is of little benefit since the weather changes frequently and rapidly.
  - B. It allows the mariner to make long term weather forecasts.
  - C. It gives the mariner time to prepare for weather changes.
  - D. It provides a legal reason to cancel a projected voyage.

Correct answer: C

4. Which is TRUE concerning weather information?
- A. Weather information is available on scheduled marine information broadcasts
  - B. Weather information is available through commercial radio broadcasts
  - C. It is available through VHF-FM continuous marine weather broadcasts provided by the National Weather Service
  - D. All of the above

Correct answer: D

5. Weather warnings such as gale, storm and hurricane warnings are based on which criteria?
- A. The wind speed forecasted
  - B. The wave heights forecasted
  - C. The amount of rain forecasted
  - D. The amount of cloud cover forecasted

Correct answer: A

**6.** Which type of cloud formation should be of immediate concern to small craft operators?

- A. Altostratus
- B. Cumulonimbus
- C. Cirrus
- D. Nimbostratus

Correct answer: B

**7.** From which type of cloud can a tornado or waterspout develop?

- A. Cumulonimbus
- B. Cirrus
- C. Altostratus
- D. Nimbostratus

Correct answer: A

**8.** Which is TRUE as the temperature of the air reaches the dew point?

- A. Fog may form
- B. Rain must develop
- C. Water freezes
- D. It begins to snow

Correct answer: A

**9.** Fog is formed when which condition exists?

- A. The clouds are middle altitude
- B. When air is cooled to its dew point
- C. When there is moisture in the air
- D. When the land is cooled to its dew point

Correct answer: B

**10.** As a high-pressure system approaches, which is TRUE concerning the barometer reading?

- A. The reading stays the same
- B. The reading falls
- C. The reading falls rapidly
- D. The reading rises

Correct answer: D

**11.** When observing a rapid rise in barometric pressure, what may you expect?

- A. Deteriorating weather with rain or snow
- B. Clearing weather, possibly accompanied by high winds
- C. Heavy rain or severe thundershowers
- D. Clear weather with no wind, but the possibility of rain or snow within 24 hours

Correct answer: B

**12.** Which term refers to the direction a current is flowing?

- A. Drift
- B. Vector direction
- C. Set
- D. Stand

Correct answer: C

**13.** What is the proper name given to the movement of water away from the shore or downstream?

- A. A slack current
- B. A reversing current
- C. A flood current
- D. An ebb current

Correct answer: D

**14.** Which refers to the period at high or low tide during which there is no change in the height of the water?

- A. Range of the tide
- B. Stand of the tide
- C. Reversing of the tide
- D. Plane of the tide

Correct answer: B

**15.** Which defines the height of tide?

- A. The depth of water at a specific time due to tidal effect
- B. The difference between the depth of the water and the area's tidal datum
- C. The difference between the depth of the water and the high-water tidal level
- D. The difference between the depth of the water at high tide and the depth of the water at low tide

Correct answer: B

**16.** Which term defines the difference between the heights of low and high tide?

- A. Tidal Distance
- B. Tidal Period
- C. Tidal depth
- D. Tidal range

Correct answer: D

**17.** What does a white buoy with an orange circle marked on it indicate?

- A. Danger
- B. A mooring buoy
- C. Operating restrictions are in effect
- D. Vessels are excluded from the area

Correct answer: C

**18.** Which topmark shown in illustration D023NG below identifies an isolated danger?

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

Correct answer: B

**19.** Which buoy may be odd numbered?

- A. A spherical buoy
- B. An unlighted can buoy
- C. A red buoy
- D. A yellow buoy

Correct answer: B

**20.** When entering from seaward, what does a buoy displaying a single-flashing red light indicate?

- A. A junction with the preferred channel to the left
- B. A sharp turn in the channel to the right
- C. The starboard side of the channel
- D. A wreck to be left on the vessel's port side

Correct answer: C



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