

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam  
Master Unlimited Tonnage Rivers  
Q380 Deck General  
(Sample Examination)

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

1. While taking on fuel oil from an offshore supply vessel, the transfer hose leaks, causing a sheen in the water. Which action should you take FIRST?
- A. Immediately shut down operations
  - B. Reduce the rate of transfer
  - C. Continue transfer operations
  - D. Repair the leak with duct tape

Correct answer: A

2. Which statement is TRUE concerning the vessel's slipstream?
- A. The propeller gives it a helical motion.
  - B. It has no effect on the rudder when the helm is amidships.
  - C. Its velocity is the same as that of the wake.
  - D. It has no effect on the steering of the vessel.

Correct answer: A

3. When observed, which item indicates a snag or other underwater obstruction in a river?
- A. A small patch of smooth water on a windy day
  - B. A smoothing out of the vessel's wake
  - C. V-shaped ripple with the point of the V pointing upstream
  - D. V-shaped ripple with the point of the V pointing downstream

Correct answer: C

4. A breeches buoy is being rigged from the shore to a stranded vessel. The initial shot line passed to the vessel is normally made fast to a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. hawser which should be made fast to the vessel below the intended location of the tail-block
  - B. tail-block and whip which may be used to pass a hawser to the vessel
  - C. hawser with breeches buoy and harness attached
  - D. hawser which is used to pass a tail-block and whip to the vessel

Correct answer: B

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

Correct answer: D

6. A vessel has arrived in a U.S. port from a foreign voyage. Preliminary entry has been made. Formal entry must be made within how many hours after arrival (Sundays and holidays excepted)?
- A. 12
  - B. 24
  - C. 48
  - D. 72 without exception

Correct answer: C

7. Which term describes the force exerted by a propeller which tends to throw the stern right or left?
- A. Slip
  - B. Sidewise force
  - C. Rotational force
  - D. Thrust

Correct answer: B

8. You have determined the maneuvering characteristics of your vessel by taking the radar ranges and bearings of an isolated light while making a turn. The results are listed in illustration D035DG. Based on this data what is the tactical diameter of the turning circle? D035DG
- A. 755 yards
  - B. 780 yards
  - C. 820 yards
  - D. 880 yards

Correct answer: D

9. Who must approve the vessel's trim and stability booklet?
- A. United States Coast Guard
  - B. Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers
  - C. International Maritime Organization
  - D. National Cargo Bureau

Correct answer: A

10. You are on a single-screw vessel with a left-handed propeller making no way in the water. How will your vessel react when you apply right rudder?
- A. Stern will kick to port, then slowly swing to starboard
  - B. Bow will kick to starboard
  - C. Bow will kick to port
  - D. Rudder alone has no effect on the vessel

Correct answer: D

11. When underway and proceeding ahead, as the speed increases, what happens to the pivot point?

- A. The pivot point will remain stationary
- B. The pivot point will move aft
- C. The pivot point will move lower
- D. The pivot point will move forward

Correct answer: D

12. When shall an Operator of an Uninspected Passenger Vessel be required to produce his/her MMC?

- A. An Operator of an Uninspected Passenger Vessel is not required to carry his/her MMC
- B. Only when the vessel has at least 6 passengers for hire and requested by a USCG boarding officer
- C. Only when the vessel is involved in a marine accident
- D. Immediately, when requested by a USCG boarding officer

Correct answer: D

13. What is a CORRECT reply to a pilot's request, "How's your head"?

- A. "Checked"
- B. "Eased to 10° rudder"
- C. "Passing 50°"
- D. "Steady"

Correct answer: C

14. Your containership has a container displaying a hazardous cargo placard. The placard has the number 2206 on it. This indicates that it is carrying what cargo?

- A. Propadiene, inhibited
- B. Xylenol
- C. Isocyanates, n.o.s.
- D. Hexanols

Correct answer: C

15. An International Tonnage Certificate will be issued to a vessel when it meets several requirements. Which is one of the requirements?

- A. Has been issued a Certificate of Inspection
- B. Will engage in intercoastal trade
- C. Must be 79 or more feet in length
- D. Admeasure over 100 GT

Correct answer: C

16. When a tug makes up to a large vessel, why should the spring line be led from as far forward as possible on the tug?
- A. To ensure the friction on the spring line is minimized
  - B. To ensure that the tug can pivot freely
  - C. To keep the length of the spring line minimized
  - D. So that the head line and spring line can be worked simultaneously

Correct answer: B

17. Static electricity may be built up by the \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. flow of petroleum through pipes
  - B. settling of solids or water in petroleum
  - C. spraying or splashing of petroleum
  - D. All of the above

Correct answer: D

18. Which of the signals listed is required to be displayed at night while bunkering at a dock?
- A. One red light over a white light
  - B. Two red lights
  - C. One red light over a yellow light
  - D. One red light

Correct answer: D

19. Severe exposure to chlorine gas can be fatal. Chlorine gas is primarily a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. nerve paralyzing irritant
  - B. skin burning agent
  - C. respiratory irritant
  - D. blood poisoning agent

Correct answer: C

20. A seaman may have all or part of his wages deposited by allotment to a bank or savings institution. Which of the following is NOT a requirement for this type of allotment?
- A. The account must be either a checking or savings account.
  - B. The account must be opened by the seaman and maintained in the seaman's name.
  - C. The institution must be insured by the FSLIC or FDIC.
  - D. All of the above are requirements.

Correct answer: A

21. You are proceeding at a slow speed with your starboard side near the right bank of a channel. If your vessel suddenly sheers toward the opposite bank, which would be the BEST action to take?
- A. Put engine full astern, hard right rudder
  - B. Put engine full astern, hard left rudder
  - C. Put engine full ahead, hard left rudder
  - D. Put engine full ahead, hard right rudder

Correct answer: D

22. According to Pollution Prevention Regulations (33CFR), who is required to sign the entry in the Oil Record Book after every designated operation?
- A. The master
  - B. Any credentialed officer present at the operation designated by the master
  - C. The person(s) in charge of the operation and a credentialed officer present at the operation
  - D. The person(s) in charge of the operation

Correct answer: D

23. Which of the following statement(s) is/are TRUE regarding lashing requirements to secure vehicles aboard Ro-Ro vessels?
- A. The movements experienced by road borne cargo differ significantly from the roll and sway movements of a ship at sea.
  - B. It is necessary for adequate number and strength of securing points on the vehicles themselves in order that lashings may be properly and safely utilized.
  - C. It is imperative that the securing of cargo on flats and trailers and in containers be adequate for both road and sea motions.
  - D. All the above

Correct answer: D

24. When steering a vessel, which of the following will an effective helmsman do?
- A. Repeat back to the watch officer any rudder commands before executing them
  - B. Apply rudder to move the compass card towards the lubber's line when off course
  - C. Keep the rudder amidships except when changing course
  - D. Use as much rudder as possible to keep the vessel on course

Correct answer: A

25. Providing you are not sailing in the Red Sea or another special area as listed in ANNEX V of MARPOL, how many miles from land must you be to throw garbage including bottles, rags, and glass that has not been ground up into the sea?
- A. 3nm
  - B. 6nm
  - C. 12nm
  - D. It is Prohibited to discharge bottles, rags, and glass into the sea

Correct answer: D

26. When do the pollution prevention regulations in MARPOL apply to U. S. flag vessels that are certified for ocean service?
- A. Only when the vessel is on the western rivers and international waters
  - B. Only when the vessel is on international voyages outside U.S. territorial waters
  - C. When the vessel is on all international and inland waters
  - D. Only when the vessel is on the Great Lakes and international waters

Correct answer: C

27. In special cases, the Commandant of the Coast Guard may permit cargo piping to pass through machinery spaces, what are the type(s) of cargo permitted to be carried through such piping?

- A. grades D or E
- B. grades A or B
- C. LFG
- D. grade E

Correct answer: D

28. On the cargo manifest, which term is used to describe the weight of the cargo inside a box?

- A. Gross weight
- B. Net weight
- C. Rate weight
- D. Light weight

Correct answer: B

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

Correct answer: C

30. Which statement is TRUE when an anchor is used to assist in turning the vessel in restricted waters?

- A. Turning on the anchor is to be used only with a single-screw vessel
- B. Having to use the aid of an anchor is the sign of a novice shiphandler
- C. Deploying the anchor underfoot shifts the pivot point forward
- D. This technique should only be used as a last resort

Correct answer: C

31. When several salvors are on-scene at the same time to assist a vessel that has not been abandoned, which principal governs the decision as to which one's services will be accepted?

- A. The salvors must agree to a division of any salvage among themselves with the major share allotted to those doing the most work.
- B. The first salvor on-scene has the absolute right to provide assistance; however, he is liable if the ship is lost due to his lack of experience, equipment, etc.
- C. The first salvor on-scene has the prior claim providing he has adequate facilities to assist the vessel needing assistance.
- D. The Master of the ship needing assistance has the absolute right to decide.

Correct answer: D

32. Regulations require which action to be performed prior to the vessel departing on a voyage more than 48 hours long?
- A. The emergency generator and lighting system be tested by starting and operating within 12 hours prior to departure
  - B. The entire steering gear be tested within 12 hours prior to departure
  - C. The fire pumps be tested by starting within 12 hours prior to departure
  - D. A lifeboat drill be held within 12 hours prior to departure

Correct answer: B

33. Which item is a journal kept by the officer of the watch in which day to day happenings are recorded regarding the deck department?
- A. The deck log
  - B. A cargo record book
  - C. The Official Logbook
  - D. The bell book

Correct answer: A

34. Which agency must approve the safety equipment on board inspected vessels?
- A. The U.S. Coast Guard
  - B. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
  - C. The National Safety Council
  - D. The Safety Standards Bureau

Correct answer: A

35. A U.S. or foreign flag vessel that does not comply with the Officers Competency Certificates Convention of 1936 may be detained by certain designated officials. These officials include all of the following EXCEPT a/an \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. State Police officer
  - B. officer of the U.S. Customs Service
  - C. Coast Guard petty officer
  - D. Coast Guard officer

Correct answer: A

36. Which knot in illustration D030DG below is secure only when there is a strain on the line?
- A. H
  - B. I
  - C. L
  - D. P

Correct answer: C



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

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

Correct answer: B

38. You are operating a 1,000 GT non-oceangoing tankship. It must be equipped with or capable of which of the following?

- A. A means on the weather deck to stop each pump used to discharge oily waste overboard
- B. Be capable of retaining all oily mixtures onboard in the ship's bilges or sludge tank
- C. Shall have a fixed piping system for bilge slops with one outlet on each side of the weather deck
- D. Must maintain two pumps for discharging oily bilge slops

Correct answer: B

39. Which document shows a vessel's nationality, ownership, and tonnage?

- A. Manifest Certificate
- B. Certificate of Documentation
- C. Bill of Lading Certificate
- D. Official Logbook

Correct answer: B

40. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act requires the person in charge of a vessel to immediately notify the Coast Guard as soon as he knows of any oil discharge. Failure to notify the Coast Guard can lead to a monetary fine and imprisonment up to what duration?

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

Correct answer: A

41. Which type of carrier accepts without discrimination all legal cargoes of a shipper?

- A. Industrial
- B. Common
- C. Private
- D. Tramp

Correct answer: B

42. Which extinguishing agent is effective in combating an isoprene fire?

- A. All the above
- B. CO<sub>2</sub>
- C. Foam
- D. Dry chemical

Correct answer: A

43. Who is responsible for seeing that all hands are familiar with their duties, as specified in the muster list, and that the muster list is correct?

- A. The safety officer
- B. The Master
- C. The department heads
- D. The Chief Mate

Correct answer: B

44. According to regulations, how many portable fire extinguishers are required in the cargo tank area of an unmanned, cargo pump-equipped tank barge engaged in transferring grade B flammable liquids?

- A. One B-I extinguisher or post 2017 One 40-B extinguisher
- B. Three B-II extinguishers or post 2017 Three 40-B extinguishers
- C. Two B-II extinguishers or post 2017 Two 40-B extinguishers
- D. None are required in the tank area of a tank barge

Correct answer: C

45. You are backing on twin engines with rudders amidships. Your starboard engine stalls. To continue backing on course, which action should you take?

- A. Increase your engine speed
- B. Apply left rudder
- C. Apply right rudder
- D. Keep your rudder amidships

Correct answer: B

46. Your vessel is preparing to proceed up a river. Which of the following is true concerning the handling of the vessel in shallow water?

- A. Steering will be more responsive in shallow water as opposed to deep water
- B. There will be no difference in the steering of the vessel
- C. Steering will be sluggish in shallow water as opposed to deep water
- D. The steering is sluggish in deep water as opposed to shallow water

Correct answer: C

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

Correct answer: B

48. How many fire axes should be carried by a 700 GT cargo vessel, navigating the Great Lakes?
- A. 2
  - B. 6
  - C. 8
  - D. 4

Correct answer: B

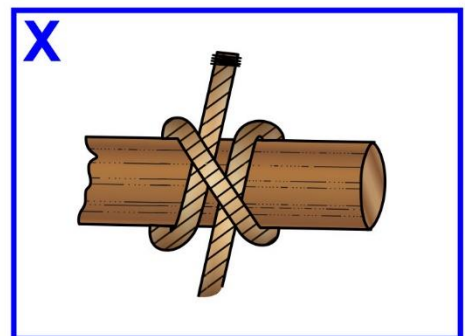
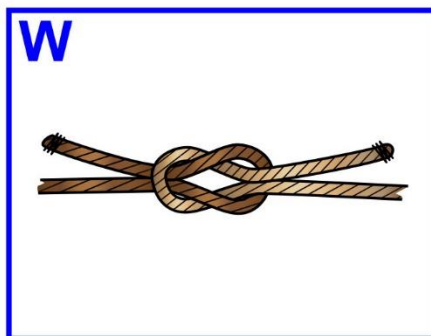
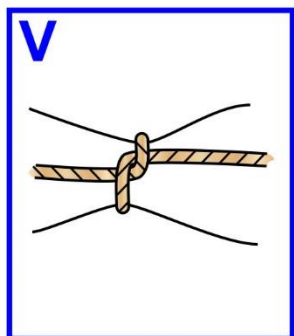
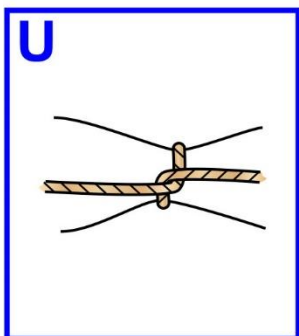
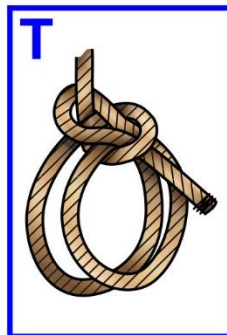
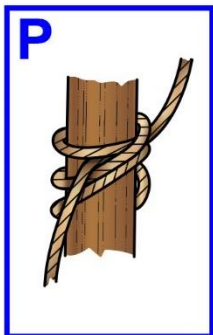
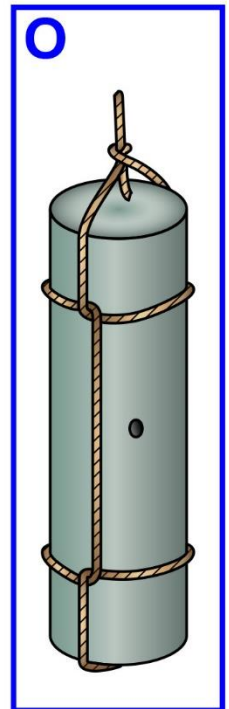
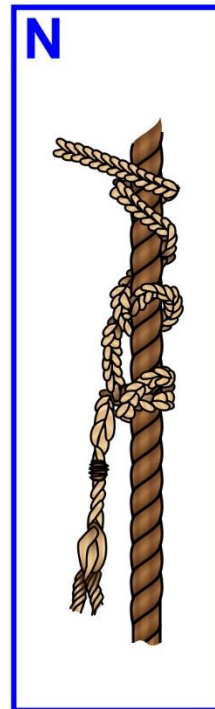
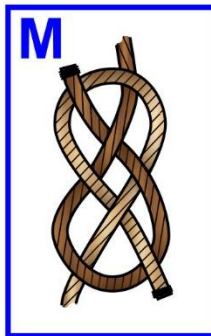
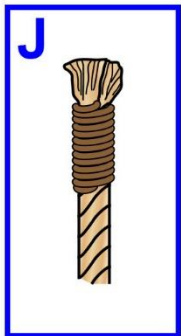
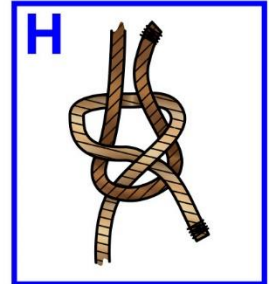
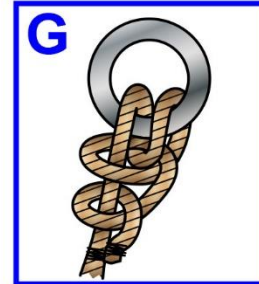
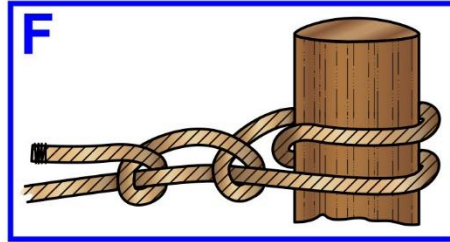
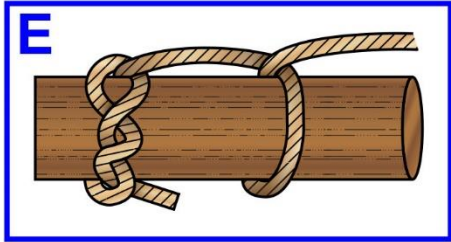
49. For insurance purposes, which is a requirement for a general average act?
- A. There are no losses
  - B. There must be no imminent peril
  - C. It must be a successful venture
  - D. All of the above

Correct answer: C

50. The scuppers had been plugged as required at the time a small oil spill occurs on deck from a leaking dresser coupler. After shutting down the transfer, the engine room should first be informed and then which action should be taken?
- A. Remove the plugs from the scuppers
  - B. Rig a fire hose to wash down the deck
  - C. Spread an absorbent material, such as sawdust
  - D. Sound the general alarm

Correct answer: C

## D030DG



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## D035DG

HEADING (TRUE)	BEARING (TRUE)	RANGE (YDS)	REMARKS
333°			INITIAL HEADING
333°	315°	2125	ON INITIAL COURSE
333°	310°	1650	LEFT FULL RUDDER ORDERED
327°	307°	1475	
310°	303°	1250	
278°	302°	1050	
268°	305°	900	
236°	318°	750	
196°	337°	800	
157°	344°	1100	
113°	340°	1350	
079°	332°	1525	
050°	324°	1575	
022°	318°	1550	
343°	308°	1400	RUDDER AMIDSHIPS
333°	302°	1175	STEADY ON 333°