

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. For the purpose of regulating tank vessels, which defines the term flammable liquids?

- A. Liquids that give off flammable vapors at or below 80°F (27°C)
- B. Liquids that have a Reid vapor pressure of 18 pounds or more
- C. Liquids that give off flammable vapors only above 80°F (27°C)
- D. Liquids that sustain combustion at a temperature at or below 100°F (38°C)

Correct answer: A

2. You are docking an oceangoing single-screw vessel under normal circumstances with a single tug. Which is the usual function of the tug?

- A. To control the stern and is tied to the stern on the offshore side
- B. To push the ship bodily alongside and is tied to the offshore side on the stern
- C. To pull the vessel into the slip and is tied to the bow
- D. To control the bow and is tied to the offshore bow

Correct answer: D

3. In terms of vessel manning, which defines a watch?

- A. The performance of lookout duties
- B. The direct performance of cargo loading and discharge operations only
- C. The direct performance of deck or engine operations in a scheduled and fixed rotation
- D. The performance of maintenance work necessary for the vessel's safe operation, on a daily basis

Correct answer: C

4. 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 logbook
- C. Reduce speed and make a notation in the bell book
- D. Check the rudder several times while passing the vessel

Correct answer: C

5. A block and tackle is "rove to advantage". What does this mean?

- A. The hauling part leads through the standing block
- B. The hauling part leads through the movable block
- C. The hauling parts of two tackles are attached
- D. The blocks have been overhauled

Correct answer: B

6. Your twin-screw vessel is moving ASTERN with rudders amidships. The starboard screw suddenly stops turning. How will your vessel respond?
- A. The bow will go to port
 - B. The bow will swing from port to starboard
 - C. The bow will go to starboard
 - D. The bow will remain stationary

Correct answer: A

7. A shipper of cargo aboard your vessel offers a letter of indemnity for the cargo. This is done in order to obtain which document?
- A. Clean Bill of Lading
 - B. Straight Bill of Lading
 - C. Order Bill of Lading
 - D. Through Bill of Lading

Correct answer: A

8. A seaman deserts the vessel in a foreign port. What should the Master do with any of the deserter's personal effects remaining on board?
- A. Transfer them to the appropriate district court of the U.S. at the end of the voyage.
 - B. Sell them at auction and deposit the money in the ship's morale or welfare fund.
 - C. Inventory them, make an appropriate entry in the Official Logbook and dispose of them at sea.
 - D. Donate them to a local charity upon return to the United States.

Correct answer: A

9. Which document is NOT required by law to be posted aboard a vessel?
- A. Muster List
 - B. Official Crew List
 - C. Certificate of Inspection
 - D. Officer's licenses

Correct answer: B

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

Correct answer: B

- 11.** Your vessel is moored portside to and you are taking over the Deck Watch. Which item has the most impact on the safety of the vessel and crew?
- A. The API and Flash Point of the bunker fuel
 - B. The operational state of the main engine
 - C. The names of the visitors that have departed the vessel
 - D. The uncorrected local variation on the chart

Correct answer: B

- 12.** According to Pollution Prevention Regulations (33CFR), who is required to sign each completed page in the Oil Record Book?
- A. The master
 - B. The person(s) in charge of the operation
 - C. An oil terminal representative
 - D. Coast Guard representative designated by COTP

Correct answer: A

- 13.** What is a CORRECT reply to a pilot's request, "How's your head"?
- A. "Checked"
 - B. "Passing 50°"
 - C. "Steady"
 - D. "Eased to 10° rudder"

Correct answer: B

- 14.** Which statement about tunnel bow thrusters fitted to large vessels is TRUE?
- A. When going astern at slow speed, they provide effective steering control.
 - B. Because of their location, most modern installations have as much power as a tug.
 - C. They are effective on most vessels at speeds up to 10 knots.
 - D. They are fully effective at all drafts.

Correct answer: A

- 15.** Which topic is NOT required to be discussed at the pre-transfer conference?
- A. Identity of the product to be transferred
 - B. Details of transferring and receiving systems
 - C. Emergency shutdown procedures
 - D. Estimated time of finishing cargo

Correct answer: D

- 16.** 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. Blot out the error completely and rewrite the entry correctly.
 - B. Cross out the error with a single line, and write the correct entry, then initial it.
 - C. Remove this page of the logbook, and rewrite all entries on a clean page.
 - D. Carefully and neatly erase the entry and rewrite it correctly.

Correct answer: B

17. A seaman is entitled by law to a release from Foreign Articles when which situation has occurred?

- A. There is a change of home port
- B. The vessel is overloaded
- C. He/she is intoxicated
- D. There is a change of Master

Correct answer: B

18. No vessel may use or carry an oil transfer hose unless it meets certain requirements. Which of the following is NOT among those requirements?

- A. A bursting pressure that is at least four times the sum of the relief valve setting and the static head
- B. A working pressure that is more than the sum of the relief valve setting and the static head
- C. Metallic reinforcement
- D. Identification markings

Correct answer: C

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

- A. CO₂
- B. All the above
- C. Dry chemical
- D. Foam

Correct answer: B

20. Which is a predictable result of a vessel nearing a bank or edge of a steep banked channel?

- A. The stern is drawn to the bank as the bow sheers off
- B. The vessel continues in a straight line, but with greatly reduced maneuverability
- C. The bow sheers toward the bank
- D. The vessel will be drawn bodily into the bank unless the engines are stopped

Correct answer: A

21. You discharge food waste overboard at sea. You have recorded your vessel's position as required, what other items must be included in the report?

- A. The vessel's latitude, longitude and approximate depth of water
- B. The vessel's latitude, longitude, course, speed, and a copy of that days noon position slip
- C. The vessel's latitude, longitude, date and time of the discharge
- D. The vessel's latitude and longitude is all that is required

Correct answer: C

22. You are docking a vessel starboard side to with the assistance of two tugs. You are attempting to hold the vessel off by operating both tugs at right angles to the vessel and at full power. Which statement is TRUE?

- A. The ship has no headway at the time
- B. Steerageway is never taken off
- C. The bow closes the dock first
- D. The bow doesn't close the dock first

Correct answer: A

- 23.** 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. Sound the general alarm
 - B. Remove the plugs from the scuppers
 - C. Rig a fire hose to wash down the deck
 - D. Spread an absorbent material, such as sawdust

Correct answer: D

- 24.** You are ordering ships' stores that are NOT consumer commodities labeled in accordance with the Federal Hazardous Substances Act Regulations. Which statement is TRUE?
- A. All flammable liquids must be stowed in the paint locker or specially constructed integral tanks.
 - B. Replacement CO2 cylinders for the fixed firefighting system must have been tested within 8 years of receipt.
 - C. Cartridges for the line throwing appliance must be stored in the portable magazine chest after receipt.
 - D. They must be labeled with first aid instructions in the event of personnel contact.

Correct answer: D

- 25.** Which statement is FALSE concerning precautions during fueling operations?
- A. A fire extinguisher should be kept nearby.
 - B. All engines, motors, fans, etc. should be shut down when fueling.
 - C. Fuel tanks should be topped off with no room for expansion.
 - D. All windows, doors, hatches, etc. should be closed.

Correct answer: C

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

Correct answer: C

- 27.** In accordance with U.S. regulations which signal is required to be displayed during hours of darkness if a vessel is handling Class 1 explosive materials?
- A. One all-round fixed red light
 - B. Two all-round fixed red lights
 - C. One all-round flashing red light
 - D. No special signal is required during darkness

Correct answer: A

- 28.** 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. The salvor becomes the owner of the vessel until the salvage award, if any, is paid.
 - D. Underwriters will repudiate the agreement if it is unsuccessful, due to their increased liability.

Correct answer: A

- 29.** You are preparing to lubricate standing rigging on your vessel. Which is TRUE when rigging a bosun's chair on a stay with a shackle?
- A. Tie the bitter end of the gantline to the shackle before shackling it to the bosun's chair
 - B. Run the gantline through the shackle and then make fast to the bosun's chair
 - C. Never allow the shackle pin to ride on the stay
 - D. Connect the shackle to the bosun's chair with a hook

Correct answer: C

- 30.** What type of information is found in 33 CFR part 156?
- A. Vessel construction and design
 - B. Operation of nautical school ships
 - C. Oil and hazardous material transfer operations
 - D. Lifesaving and firefighting equipment

Correct answer: C

- 31.** You are preparing to load fuel oil on a vessel of 300 gross tons constructed after June 30, 1974. Before loading, which statement is TRUE concerning fuel oil tank vents?
- A. Each vent is required to have a fire extinguisher within the immediate area
 - B. All vents are opened and the flame screen removed for efficient flow
 - C. The vents are not obstructed by on-deck cargo in a ten-foot radius
 - D. Each vent must have a fixed containment with a capacity for at least one-half barrel

Correct answer: D

- 32.** 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 ahead, hard left rudder
 - B. Put engine full astern, hard left rudder
 - C. Put engine full ahead, hard right rudder
 - D. Put engine full astern, hard right rudder

Correct answer: C

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

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

Correct answer: C

34. On an inspected vessel, when may a stability test be dispensed with?

- A. The projected cost is unreasonable
- B. The vessel is of a proven design
- C. Coast Guard has the approved stability test results of a sister vessel
- D. Coast Guard does not have a qualified inspector available

Correct answer: C

35. Your vessel is in Charleston, S.C. Which situation does NOT require you to clear Customs?

- A. You took on no new cargo in Charleston, S.C. and are bound for a foreign port
- B. All the cargo on board is of U.S. origin and destined for New York
- C. You did not discharge any cargo in Charleston and are bound for Panama
- D. You did not load any cargo in Charleston and are bound for Halifax

Correct answer: B

36. Instructions to the crew in the use of all the ship's fire-extinguishing and lifesaving equipment shall be completed within which time frame?

- A. Before sailing
- B. Within one week of sailing
- C. Within one month and repeated quarterly
- D. Within any two-month period

Correct answer: D

37. In relation to the turning circle of a ship, which describes the term "kick"?

- A. The distance gained at right angles to the original course
- B. The distance gained in the direction of the original course when the helm is hard over
- C. The lateral slide away from the direction of turn upon putting the helm hard over
- D. The distance around the circumference of the turning circle

Correct answer: C

38. What is the Reid vapor pressure of allyl chloride?

- A. 16.5 (psia)
- B. 14.0 (psia)
- C. 12.9 (psia)
- D. 10.3 (psia)

Correct answer: D

39. When a vessel with a single right-hand propeller backs to port which statement is TRUE?

- A. The bow falls off to starboard
- B. The vessel moves bodily to port without changing heading
- C. The vessel moves bodily to starboard without changing heading
- D. The bow swings to port

Correct answer: A

40. Which is TRUE concerning the official number of a documented vessel?

- A. It is not required to be marked anywhere on the vessel
- B. It is required to be permanently marked on the vessel's structure
- C. It is required to be painted on the vessel's stern
- D. It is required to be painted on the vessel's bow

Correct answer: B

41. In insurance terms, which describes the term Particular Average?

- A. Charges against all parties in a marine venture to pay for damages incurred to the cargo
- B. Losses claimed after all liens against the vessel are settled
- C. The average distance steamed per day over the duration of the voyage charter party
- D. The cargo loss sustained by only one party

Correct answer: D

42. Using the available references, if the dry bulb temperature is 58°F and the wet bulb temperature is 53°F, what is the relative humidity in a cargo hold?

- A. 56%
- B. 61%
- C. 66%
- D. 72%

Correct answer: D

43. Your ship is dead in the water with the rudder amidships. As the right-handed screw starts to turn ahead, which way will the bow tend to go?

- A. To port
- B. As influenced by the tide and sea
- C. To starboard
- D. Straight ahead

Correct answer: A

44. Where are the transfer procedures for oil products required to be posted or available during transfer operations?

- A. In the pilothouse of the vessel
- B. In the upper pumproom flat
- C. In the officer's and crew's lounges
- D. Where they can be easily seen and accessible

Correct answer: D

45. You have determined that a cargo space on a freight vessel is 45 feet by 36 feet by 62 feet. How many pounds of carbon dioxide is required for this space?

- A. 1674
- B. 2511
- C. 3348
- D. 5022

Correct answer: C

46. A clause in the charter party requires a vessel's owner to pay dispatch money when which of the conditions exists?

- A. The vessel is not ready to load or discharge cargo
- B. The vessel loads and discharges its cargo in less time than specified
- C. The vessel does not load and discharge its cargo in the time specified
- D. The vessel changes berths to expedite loading or discharging

Correct answer: B

47. When backing down with sternway, where will the pivot point of a vessel be located?

- A. The pivot point will be about one-quarter of the vessel's length from the stern
- B. The pivot point will shift to the bow
- C. The pivot point will be aft of the propellers
- D. The pivot point will be about one-third of the vessel's length from the bow

Correct answer: A

48. What is the period of validity of a Merchant Mariner Credential?

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

Correct answer: A

49. The lashings on a stack of containers with interlocking fittings restrain the forces that cause _____.

- A. crushing
- B. racking
- C. buckling
- D. toppling

Correct answer: B

50. In the context of shiphandling, what would be the definition of shallow water?

- A. Water depth of less than 1½ times a vessel's draft
- B. Water depth of less than 4 times a vessel's draft
- C. Under keel clearance of less than 10 feet
- D. Under keel clearance of twice a vessel's draft

Correct answer: A