

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam

Master or Mate Less than 200 Gross Registered Tons Rivers

Q396 Deck General – Safety

(Sample Examination)

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

1. Which knot reduces the strength of a line by the LEAST amount?

- A. Square knot
- B. Carrick bend
- C. Sheet bend
- D. Bowline

Correct answer: D

2. Which weakens a line the LEAST?

- A. Long splice
- B. Square knot
- C. Clove hitch
- D. Short splice

Correct answer: D

3. What type of knot in illustration D030DG below is indicated by the Letter "W"?

- A. Clove hitch
- B. Stopper knot
- C. Barrel hitch
- D. Square knot

Correct answer: D

4. What type of knot in illustration D030DG below is indicated by the Letter "R"?

- A. Double becket bend
- B. Fisherman's bend
- C. Round turn and two half hitches
- D. Bowline

Correct answer: A

5. What does the process of faking down a line mean?

- A. To coil it down on deck
- B. To put a whipping on the line
- C. To stow the line below
- D. To arrange the line on deck in long bights

Correct answer: D

6. Which term is given to laying out a line in successive circles flat on deck with the bitter end in the center?

- A. Lining
- B. Coiling
- C. Faking
- D. Flemishing

Correct answer: D

7. In illustration D044DG below, what is the mooring line labeled "F" called?

- A. Bow line
- B. Forward spring line
- C. Bow breast line
- D. Bow shore line

Correct answer: C

8. In illustration D044DG below, what is the mooring line labeled "E" called?

- A. Bow line
- B. Forward breast line
- C. After spring line
- D. Bow spring line

Correct answer: D

9. An aircraft has indicated that he wants you to change course and follow him. You cannot comply because of an emergency on board. Which signal should you make?

- A. Make an "S" turn (hard right then hard left) and resume course
- B. Fire a red flare at night or a red smoke signal by day
- C. Send the Morse signal "N" by flashing light
- D. Make a round turn (360°) and resume course

Correct answer: C

10. What is required in addition to the heat, fuel, and oxygen of the fire triangle to have a fire?

- A. Chain reaction
- B. Electricity
- C. Pressure
- D. Smoke

Correct answer: A

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

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

Correct answer: B

12. Which may ignite fuel vapors?

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

Correct answer: D

13. Where is chafing gear normally used?

- A. For portable fenders
- B. On mooring lines
- C. On the inside of the hawsepipe
- D. For ground tackle

Correct answer: B

14. When you "end for end" a wire rope, you _____.

- A. remove the wire rope from the drum and turn it over, so the wire bends in the opposite direction
- B. remove the wire rope from the drum and reverse it so that the free end becomes the bitter end
- C. splice two wire ropes together
- D. cut off the free end and bitter end of the rope

Correct answer: B

15. Which term describes the distance a vessel moves in the direction of the original course from the point where the rudder is put over to any point on the turning circle?

- A. Transfer
- B. Advance
- C. Drift angle
- D. Pivoting point

Correct answer: B

16. Which term describes the distance that a vessel travels from the time that the order to put engines full astern until the vessel is dead in the water?

- A. Surge
- B. Head reach
- C. Transfer
- D. Advance

Correct answer: B

17. When you enter shallow water, which describes your vessel's rudder response and speed variations?

- A. The response will be sluggish and your speed will increase
- B. The response will be sluggish and your speed will decrease
- C. The response will improve and your speed will decrease
- D. The response will improve and your speed will increase

Correct answer: B

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

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

Correct answer: B

19. What should look-outs report?

- A. Shoals
- B. Discolored water
- C. Floating objects
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: D

20. Which is the BEST way to reduce your wake in a narrow channel?

- A. Change your course to a zigzag course
- B. Apply enough rudder to counter the effect of the current
- C. Shift the weight to the stern
- D. Reduce your speed

Correct answer: D

21. While proceeding up a narrow waterway you observe a vessel berthed in the river with slack mooring lines. Which is the most prudent action to take FIRST?

- A. Reduce the speed of your vessel
- B. Contact the moored vessel
- C. Call the US Coast Guard
- D. Give 5 short blasts on the whistle

Correct answer: A

22. The hoods over galley ranges present what major hazard?

- A. In order to effectively draw off cooking heat they present a head-injury hazard to a person of average or more height.
- B. They inhibit the effective operation of firefighting systems in combating deep fat fryer or range fires.
- C. They concentrate the heat of cooking and may raise surrounding flammable material to the ignition point.
- D. Grease collects in the duct and filter and if it catches fire is difficult to extinguish.

Correct answer: D

23. Which is TRUE of paints and solvents on a vessel?

- A. They should be stored safely at the work site until work is completed
- B. They must be stored in a gear locker
- C. They must be covered at all times to protect from ignition sources
- D. They should be returned to the paint locker after each use

Correct answer: D

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

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

Correct answer: D

25. A burning pile of dunnage would be which classification of fire?

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

Correct answer: A

26. Which extinguishing agent is/are suitable to combat a class B fire in an engine compartment?

- A. Carbon dioxide
- B. Dry chemical
- C. Foam
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: D

27. A fire in electrical equipment should be extinguished by using which type of extinguishing agent?

- A. Salt water
- B. CO₂
- C. Low-velocity fog
- D. Foam

Correct answer: B

28. Which extinguishing agent is the best for use on electrical fires?

- A. Water fog
- B. Dry chemical
- C. Foam
- D. CO₂

Correct answer: D

29. If you wear extra clothing when entering the water after abandoning ship it will accomplish which of the following?

- A. Help preserve body heat
- B. Reduce your body heat
- C. Make it more difficult to breathe
- D. Make you more buoyant

Correct answer: A

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

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

Correct answer: D

31. You are fighting a fire in the electrical switchboard in the engine room. You should secure the power, then take which action?

- A. Use a low-velocity fog adapter with the fire hose
- B. Use a portable CO2 extinguisher
- C. Determine the cause of the fire
- D. Use a portable foam extinguisher

Correct answer: B

32. When possible, what is the FIRST step in fighting an engine fuel-pump fire which results from a broken fuel line?

- A. Secure all engine room doors, hatches, and vents.
- B. Close the fuel line valve.
- C. Check the spread of the fire with foam.
- D. Cast the barge off the wharf.

Correct answer: B

33. If you are fighting a fire below the main deck of your vessel, which action is most important concerning the stability of the vessel?

- A. Pumping firefighting water overboard
- B. Removing burned debris from the cargo hold
- C. Shutting off electricity to damaged cables
- D. Maneuvering the vessel so the fire is on the lee side

Correct answer: A

34. You are picking up a conscious person that has fallen overboard in one of the vessels motorboats. Recovery is easier in a light breeze if you approach from which direction?

- A. Approach with the wind on your port side
- B. Leeward with the victim to windward
- C. Approach with the wind on your starboard side
- D. Windward with the victim to leeward

Correct answer: D

35. You are trying to rescue survivors from a wrecked vessel on fire. How should you make your approach?

- A. To leeward of the wrecked vessel
- B. To windward of the wrecked vessel
- C. At a speed of at least that of the wrecked vessel
- D. At a speed of at most one-half that of the wrecked vessel

Correct answer: B

36. Which is a major advantage of the round turn maneuver in a man overboard situation?

- A. It is easy for a single-screw vessel to perform
- B. It requires the least shiphandling skills to perform
- C. It can be used in reduced visibility
- D. It is the fastest method

Correct answer: D

37. If you see an individual fall overboard, which action(s) should you take?

- A. Pass the word to the bridge
- B. Throw him/her a life buoy
- C. Hail "man overboard"
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: D

38. 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

39. A situation has occurred in which your vessel must be towed. When the towing vessel passes the towing line to you, where should you secure the line?

- A. To the base of the foremast
- B. To the forwardmost bitts
- C. At the stern
- D. To the forward part of the deckhouse

Correct answer: B

40. As soon as the officer in charge of the vessel has taken steps to stop the discharge of oil or oily mixture into a U.S. harbor, what must they do FIRST?

- A. Rig a boom on deck
- B. Contact the Coast Guard
- C. Alert the fire department
- D. Inform the Environmental Protection Agency

Correct answer: B

41. When cleaning up an oil spill in U.S. waters you must obtain the approval of the Federal On-Scene Coordinator before using which of the following?

- A. Skimmers
- B. Sawdust
- C. Chemical agents
- D. Straw

Correct answer: C

42. Which statement is TRUE concerning the placard entitled "Discharge of Oil Prohibited"?

- A. It must be located in each machinery space, or at the bilge and ballast pump control station.
- B. It must be located in a conspicuous place in the wheelhouse.
- C. It is required on all vessels.
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: A

43. What can be done to prevent small oil spills on deck from going overboard?

- A. Plugging the sounding pipes
- B. Plugging the drains and scuppers
- C. Driving wooden plugs into the vents
- D. Closing the lids on the vents

Correct answer: B

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

Correct answer: D

45. A mariner whose credential has been revoked shall not be issued another credential without which of the following?

- A. Approval of an administrative law judge
- B. Taking a new examination
- C. Approval of the Officer-in-Charge, Marine Inspection
- D. Approval of the Commandant

Correct answer: D

46. What is the minimum size required before a vessel can be documented?

- A. 26 feet between perpendiculars
- B. 5 net tons
- C. 26 feet; end-to-end over the deck excluding sheer
- D. 100 gross tons

Correct answer: B

47. 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

48. What accident situation is considered a Serious Marine Incident?

- A. A discharge of 10,000 gallons or more of oil into navigable waters of the U.S.
- B. Damage to property in excess of \$100,000
- C. An injury to a crewmember that renders that person unfit to continue working on the vessel
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: D

49. Following a Serious Marine Incident, a mariner involved in the incident is prohibited from consuming alcohol until after being tested or which time frame?

- A. 2 hours following the incident
- B. 4 hours following the incident
- C. 8 hours following the incident
- D. 12 hours following the incident

Correct answer: C

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

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

Correct answer: C

51. In general, how often are sanitary inspections of passenger and crew quarters made aboard passenger vessels in river service?

- A. Once each day
- B. Once each week
- C. Once each month
- D. Once each trip

Correct answer: C

52. For small angles of inclination, if the KG were equal to the KM, which is TRUE concerning the vessel?

- A. The vessel possesses neutral stability
- B. The vessel possesses maximum stability
- C. The vessel possesses negative stability
- D. The vessel possesses positive stability

Correct answer: A

53. When a wind force causes a vessel to heel to a static angle, the _____.

- A. righting moment equals the wind-heeling moment
- B. centers of buoyancy and gravity are in the same vertical line
- C. deck-edge immersion occurs
- D. center of buoyancy remains the same

Correct answer: A

54. A quick and rapid motion of a vessel in a seaway is an indication of a(n) _____.

- A. large GM
- B. high center of gravity
- C. small GZ
- D. excessive free surface

Correct answer: A

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

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

Correct answer: B

56. If a gasoline engine turns over freely but will not start, the cause is generally _____.

- A. too heavy a load
- B. low lube oil level
- C. weak valve springs
- D. a defective ignition system

Correct answer: D

57. Which is TRUE of outlets in gasoline fuel lines of your small vessel?

- A. They are permitted for draining fuel from lines
- B. They are permitted for drawing fuel samples
- C. They are permitted for bleeding air from lines
- D. They are prohibited

Correct answer: D

58. The two courses of action if the underwater hull is severely damaged are to plug the openings or to take which action?

- A. Secure power to the compartment
- B. Dewater the compartment
- C. Ballast to maintain even keel
- D. Establish and maintain flooding boundaries

Correct answer: D

59. Which defines the function of a spark arrestor?

- A. Grounds static electricity reducing chance of explosion
- B. Utilized to secure covers on ullage openings
- C. Prevents sparks from getting out of an engine's exhaust system
- D. It keeps sparks from falling into an open tank

Correct answer: C

60. Who certifies the safe working load of cargo booms on a vessel?

- A. American Bureau of Shipping
- B. U.S. Coast Guard
- C. Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers
- D. The Ship's Master

Correct answer: A

61. It is the responsibility of the crane operator to, at all times, be aware of the location of the _____.

- A. boom
- B. hook
- C. load
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: D

62. 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. One red light
- C. Two red lights
- D. One red light over a yellow light

Correct answer: B

63. While you are working in a space, the fixed CO₂ system is accidentally activated. Which action should you take?

- A. Secure the applicators to preserve the charge in the cylinders
- B. Continue with your work as there is nothing you can do to stop the flow of CO₂
- C. Make sure all doors and vents are secured
- D. Retreat to fresh air and ventilate the compartment before returning

Correct answer: D

64. Which extinguishing agent is most likely to allow reflash as a result of not cooling the fuel below its ignition temperature?

- A. Foam
- B. Water stream
- C. CO₂
- D. Water spray

Correct answer: C

65. Which is the most effective extinguishing action of dry chemical extinguisher?

- A. Shielding of radiant heat
- B. Breaking the chain reaction
- C. Smothering
- D. The CO₂ that is formed by heat

Correct answer: B

66. If your vessel is equipped with inflatable liferafts, how should they be maintained?

- A. Have your crew check them annually.
- B. Have them serviced by the shipyard annually.
- C. They do not need any maintenance.
- D. Have them sent ashore to an approved maintenance facility annually.

Correct answer: D

67. What is the most important thing to remember when launching an inflatable liferaft by hand?

- A. Ensure that the operating cord is secured to the vessel
- B. Open the CO₂ inflation valve
- C. Open the raft container
- D. Inflate the raft on the vessel, then throw it over the side

Correct answer: A

68. The falls on gravity davits are required to be constructed from which material?

- A. Manila
- B. Nylon
- C. Wire
- D. All of the above

Correct answer: C

69. Which sequence is correct when launching a lifeboat stowed in gravity davits?

- A. Release gripes, lift brake, release tricing pennants
- B. Release gripes, turn on emergency disconnect switch, release frapping lines
- C. Release tricing pennants, turn on emergency disconnect switch, release frapping lines
- D. Operate limit switches, release gripes, lift brake

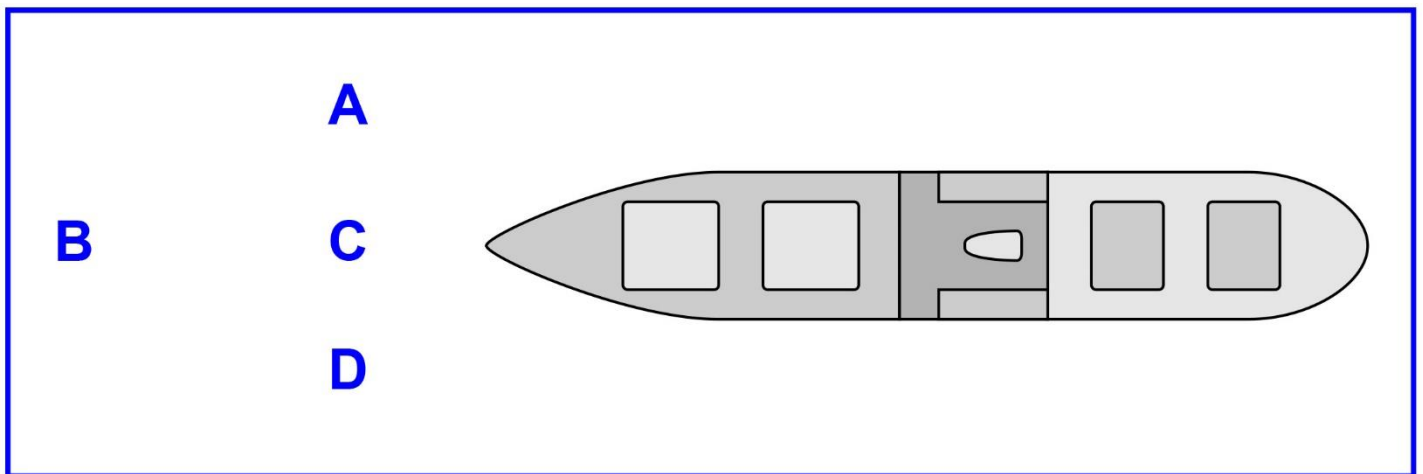
Correct answer: A

70. Where should the life jackets be stowed?

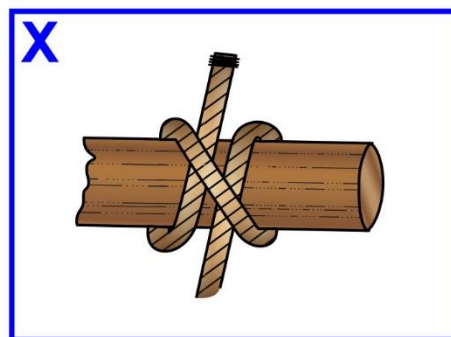
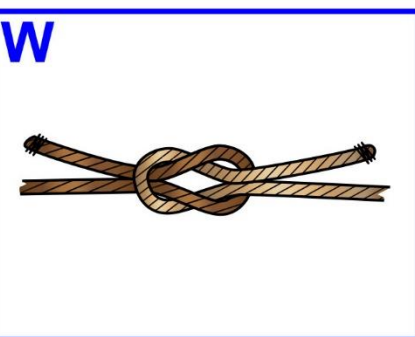
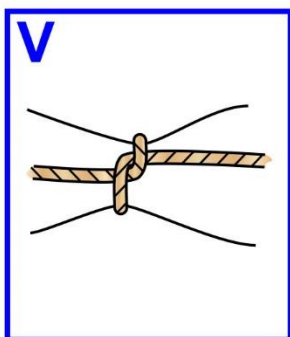
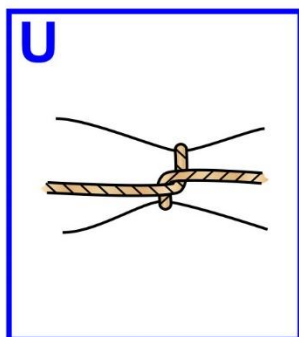
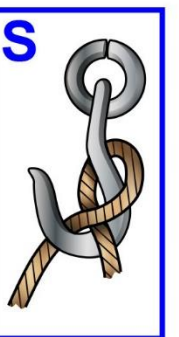
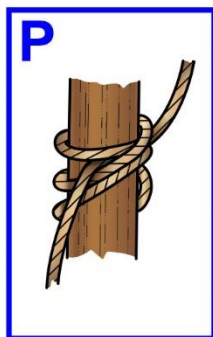
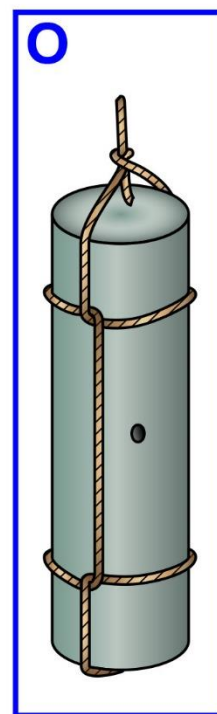
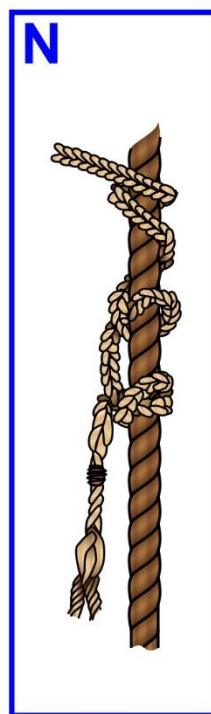
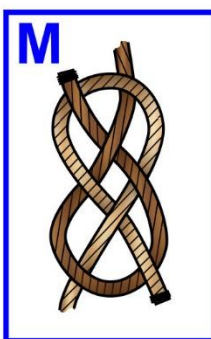
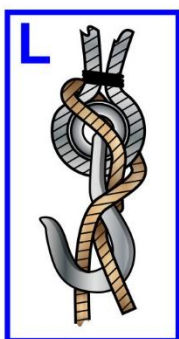
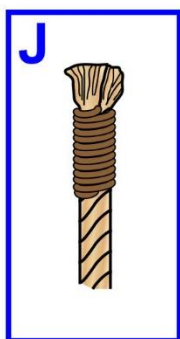
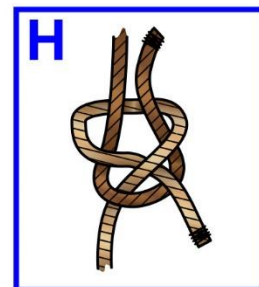
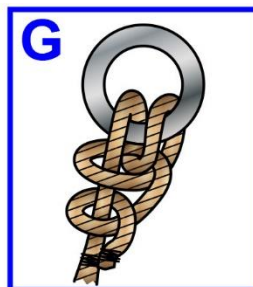
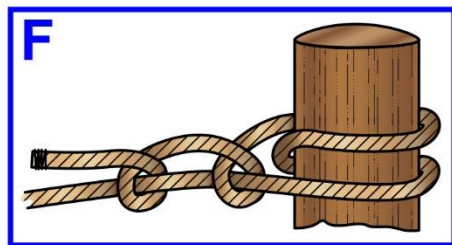
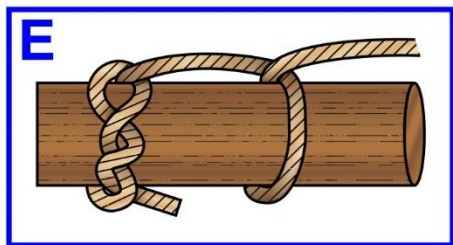
- A. In readily accessible locations
- B. Only in the survival crafts
- C. In each of the messrooms
- D. Locked in watertight containers

Correct answer: A

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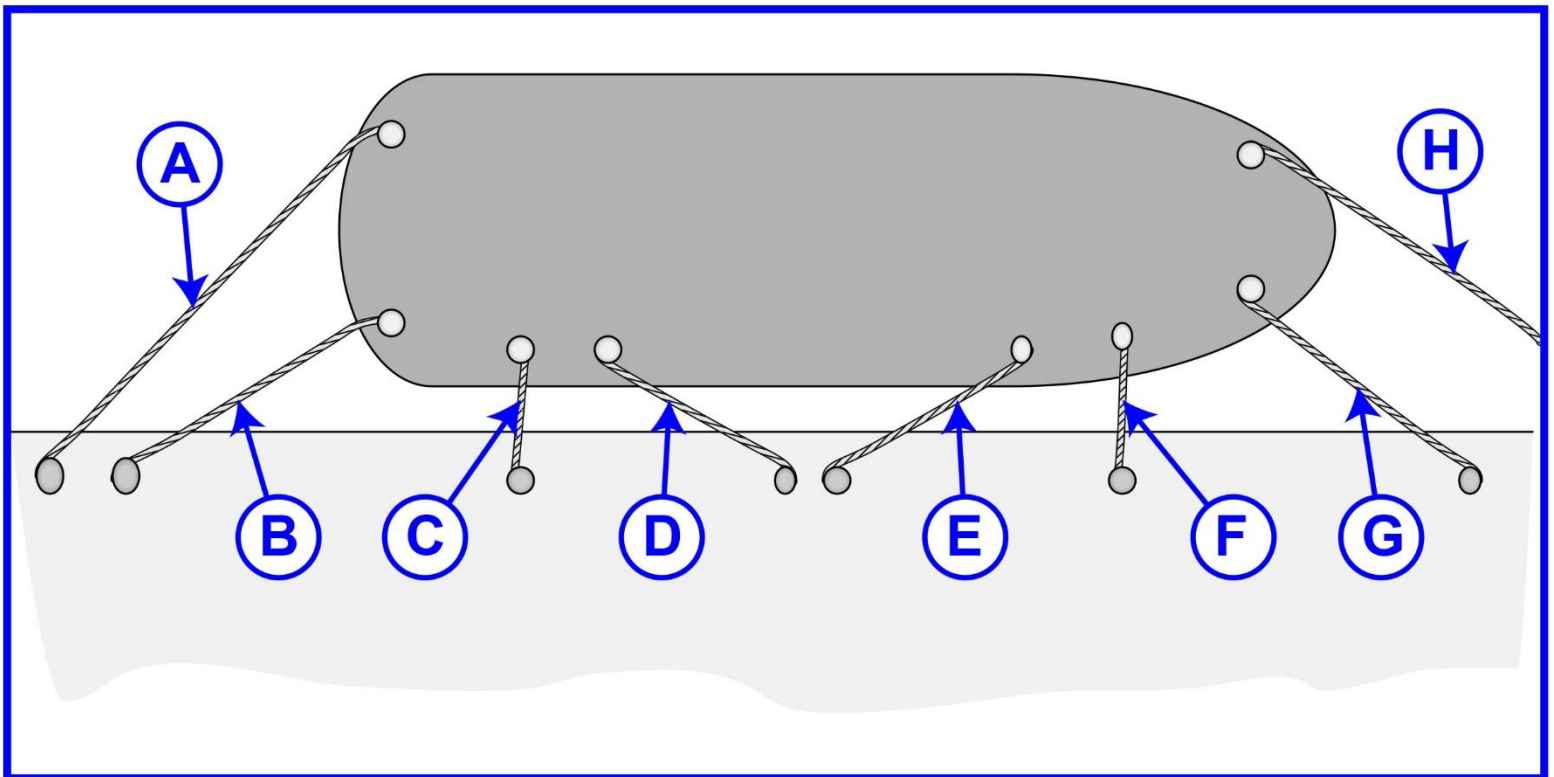


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