

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam  
Mobile Offshore Drilling Units  
Q440 BCO – Deck General – Safety  
(Sample Examination)

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

1. An air mass that has moved down from Canada would most likely have which symbols?

- A. cTk
- B. cPk
- C. cTw
- D. mTk

Correct answer: B

2. What must be provided on a MODU helicopter deck that is equipped with fueling facilities?

- A. Fire alarm
- B. Foam fire protection system
- C. Foam testing station
- D. Fuel testing station

Correct answer: B

3. Control of fire on a MODU should be addressed \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. following establishment of fire boundaries
- B. immediately after restoring vital services
- C. following control of flooding
- D. immediately

Correct answer: D

4. The size of fire hydrant hose connections must be either 1-1/2 inches or \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. 3-1/2 inches
- B. 2-1/2 inches
- C. 3 inches
- D. 1 inch

Correct answer: B

5. After using a CO2 extinguisher on a MODU, it should be \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. put back in service if some CO2 remains
- B. retagged
- C. hydrostatically tested
- D. recharged

Correct answer: D

6. Each fire hydrant serving machinery spaces containing oil fired boilers, internal combustion machinery, or oil fuel units must be equipped with a \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. marine strainer
- B. fireman's outfit
- C. pick axe
- D. low-velocity spray applicator

Correct answer: D

7. Each fireman's outfit and its spare equipment on a MODU must be stowed \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. in a separate and accessible location
  - B. in a locked cabinet in the machinery space
  - C. at a fire hydrant location
  - D. in an unlocked cabinet in the machinery space

Correct answer: A

8. A fire in a ballast pumproom can be brought under control with minimal impact on stability by \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. cooling the outside bulkheads with water
  - B. closing the sea chest
  - C. flooding the compartment with salt water
  - D. shutting all sources of air into the compartment

Correct answer: D

9. What is best suited for fighting a fire in a ballast control room?
- A. Dry chemical system
  - B. Carbon dioxide system
  - C. Steam smothering system
  - D. Automatic sprinkler system

Correct answer: B

10. The record of tests and inspection of firefighting equipment on board a MODU must include \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. recommendations for the next test
  - B. the weight of the charge
  - C. the name of the person conducting the test
  - D. All of the above

Correct answer: C

11. Smoking in bed on a MODU is dangerous \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. at all times
  - B. during drilling operations
  - C. unless another person is present
  - D. during evening hours

Correct answer: A

12. A man has suffered a burn on the arm. There is extensive damage to the skin with charring present. How is this injury classified using standard medical terminology?
- A. Lethal burn
  - B. Dermal burn
  - C. Third-degree burn
  - D. Major burn

Correct answer: C

13. What can you do if a person gets something in his or her eye and you see that it is not embedded?

- A. Remove it with a moist, cotton-tipped applicator
- B. Remove it with a piece of dry sterile cotton
- C. Get them to rub their eye until the object is gone
- D. Remove it with a match or toothpick

Correct answer: A

14. What is the most useful drug to reduce a high fever?

- A. Paregoric
- B. Aspirin
- C. Aromatic spirits of ammonia
- D. Bicarbonate of soda

Correct answer: B

15. Unless there is danger of further injury, a person with a compound fracture should not be moved until bleeding is controlled and what action is taken?

- A. Radio advice has been obtained
- B. The bone has been set
- C. The wound has been washed
- D. The fracture is immobilized

Correct answer: D

16. What are the symptoms of sugar diabetes?

- A. Gain in weight
- B. Decreased appetite and thirst
- C. Increased appetite and thirst
- D. Elevated temperature

Correct answer: C

17. What is an effective method for moving patients with spinal injuries onto a spine board?

- A. pack-strap carry
- B. four-man log roll
- C. fireman's drag
- D. two-man extremities carry

Correct answer: B

18. When giving first aid, in addition to conducting primary and secondary surveys, what should you be familiar with?

- A. How to set broken bones
- B. Which medications to prescribe
- C. The limits of your capabilities
- D. How to diagnose an illness from symptoms

Correct answer: C

19. What can be caused by severe airway burns?

- A. complete obstruction of respiratory passages
- B. nausea
- C. reddening of cheeks
- D. nosebleed

Correct answer: A

20. What must the rescuer be able to do in managing a situation involving multiple injuries?

- A. Accurately diagnose the ailment or injury
- B. Provide the necessary medication
- C. Rapidly evaluate the seriousness of obvious injuries
- D. Prescribe treatment for the victim

Correct answer: C

21. How does bleeding from a vein appear?

- A. Dark red and has a steady flow
- B. Dark red and spurting
- C. Bright red and slow
- D. Bright red and spurting

Correct answer: A

22. The Muster List ("Station Bill") shows each person's lifeboat station, duties during abandonment, basic instructions, and \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. all emergency signals
- B. instructions for lowering the lifeboats
- C. the time each weekly drill will be held
- D. work schedule

Correct answer: A

23. An offshore drilling unit must have enough inflatable liferafts to accommodate at least what percentage of the persons allowed?

- A. 20%
- B. 30%
- C. 50%
- D. 100%

Correct answer: D

24. When a davit-launched raft is lowered from a MODU, upon becoming waterborne, the raft is released by \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. releasing the boarding flap and the bowsing lines
- B. the effects of buoyancy removing the weight of the raft from the hook
- C. activating the release lock of the hook
- D. pulling smartly on the knobbed cocking lanyard

Correct answer: B

25. Prior to boarding from a MODU, a davit-launched liferaft should be well ventilated of excess \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. carbon monoxide gas
- B. hydrocarbon gas
- C. freon gas
- D. carbon dioxide gas

Correct answer: D

26. After being launched from MODUs, totally enclosed survival craft which have been afloat over a long period require \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. use of ear plugs to dampen engine noise
- B. frequent flushing of the water spray system with fresh water
- C. regular checks of bilge levels
- D. frequent opening of hatches to permit entry of fresh air

Correct answer: C

27. The person assigned to command a lifeboat or inflatable liferaft on a MODU shall have a list of the persons assigned to the lifeboat or liferaft. The list shall include each person's \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. home phone number
- B. home address
- C. duties
- D. nearest relative's address

Correct answer: C

28. The instructions for launching lifeboats and liferafts on a MODU are a requirement of the \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. person-in-charge of the unit
- B. Coast Guard
- C. lease operator
- D. Minerals Management Service

Correct answer: B

29. On offshore drilling units, the lifeboat motors shall be operated in the ahead and astern position at least once each \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. day
- B. week
- C. month
- D. year

Correct answer: B

30. According to the MODU regulations, the capacity of a liferaft is required to be marked \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. on the Muster List ("Station Bill")
  - B. in the Operations Manual
  - C. on the Certificate of Inspection
  - D. on a sign next to the liferaft

Correct answer: D

31. The muster list shows each rig hand's muster station, his duties during abandonment, basic instructions, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. all emergency signals
  - B. the time each weekly drill will be held
  - C. instructions for lowering the survival craft
  - D. work schedule

Correct answer: A

32. The procedures to be used during evacuation of the MODU are shown in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Muster List ("Station Bill")
  - B. operating manual
  - C. official log
  - D. control room under glass

Correct answer: B

33. The signal to man emergency stations on MODU's is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. a rapid succession of short soundings of the general alarm and whistle
  - B. 30 seconds on/30 seconds off alternating signal
  - C. announced over PA system
  - D. continuous ringing of general alarm signal

Correct answer: A

34. The MODU has suffered a casualty which requires an orderly evacuation of the unit using the lifeboats and liferafts. Among the items to accomplish in preparing to evacuate the unit is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. taking a soil sample of the bottom
  - B. distributing self-contained breathing devices
  - C. securing the unit as in preparation for a severe storm
  - D. All of the above

Correct answer: C

35. A muster list change must be revised by the \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. person in charge
  - B. owner
  - C. Coast Guard Officer approving the bill
  - D. safety officer

Correct answer: A

36. Where would you find the FCC authorization for transmitting on your rig's EPIRB?

- A. In the radio log
- B. On the Ship Station License
- C. On the side of the EPIRB transmitter
- D. On the Certificate of Inspection

Correct answer: B

37. Where would you find the "call sign" or "call letters" of the radio station on your rig?

- A. On the Ship Station License
- B. On the Certificate of Inspection
- C. In the rig safety manual
- D. On the rig Watch Bill

Correct answer: A

38. What agency issues the Ship Station license for the VHF marine radio on a mobile offshore drilling unit?

- A. U.S. Coast Guard
- B. Department of Transportation
- C. Federal Broadcast Authority
- D. Federal Communications Commission

Correct answer: D

39. What is the international calling and distress channel found on all VHF-FM equipped drilling rigs?

- A. Channel 1
- B. Channel 10
- C. Channel 16
- D. Channel 68

Correct answer: C

40. Offshore drilling units that are on an international voyage must have a portable radio apparatus that meets specific requirements. Which of the following organizations mandates these requirements?

- A. Minerals Management Service
- B. American Bureau of Shipping
- C. U.S. Coast Guard
- D. Federal Communications Commission

Correct answer: D

41. You cannot operate a VHF or SSB radiotelephone aboard a rig unless that station is licensed. Which of the following organizations issues the license?

- A. Department of Energy
- B. Minerals Management Service
- C. Federal Communications Commission
- D. U.S. Coast Guard

Correct answer: C



42. A man aboard a vessel, is signaling by raising and lowering his outstretched arms to each side. What does this signal indicate?
- A. Danger, stay away
  - B. All is clear, it is safe to approach
  - C. All is clear, it is safe to pass
  - D. A distress signal

Correct answer: D

43. You are underway in mid-ocean when you hear a distress message. The position of the sender is 150 miles away. No other vessel has acknowledged the distress. Your maximum speed is 5 knots and due to the seriousness of the distress, you cannot arrive on scene to provide effective assistance. What action should you take?
- A. Transmit a message as though your vessel was in distress.
  - B. Use the signal MAYDAY RELAY and transmit the distress message.
  - C. Do not acknowledge the distress message.
  - D. Send an urgency message about the distress.

Correct answer: B

44. When a vessel signals its distress by means of a gun or other explosive signal, the firing should be at approximately which time intervals?
- A. 1 minute
  - B. 10 minutes
  - C. 3 minutes
  - D. 1 hour

Correct answer: A

45. What is the spoken emergency signal for a distress signal over a VHF radio?
- A. Mayday
  - B. Security
  - C. Red Alert
  - D. Pan

Correct answer: A

46. What should you do if you have transmitted a distress call a number of times on channel 16 and have received no reply?
- A. Turn up the volume on the receiver before transmitting again.
  - B. Key the microphone several times before transmitting again.
  - C. Report the problem to the head electrician.
  - D. Repeat the message using any other channel on which you might attract attention.

Correct answer: D

47. You are underway in mid-ocean, when you hear a distress message over the VHF radio. The position of the sender is 20 miles away. What action should you take?

- A. Immediately acknowledge receipt of the distress message.
- B. Do not acknowledge receipt until other ships nearer to the distress have acknowledged.
- C. Do not acknowledge because you are too far away to take action.
- D. Defer acknowledgment for a short interval so that a coast station may acknowledge receipt.

Correct answer: A

48. Which is TRUE of a distress signal?

- A. It may be used individually or in conjunction with other distress signals
- B. It is used to indicate doubt about another vessel's intentions
- C. It shall consist of 5 or more short blasts of the fog signal apparatus
- D. It shall consist of the raising and lowering of a large white flag

Correct answer: A

49. Distress signals may be \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. smoke signals
- B. red flares
- C. sound signals
- D. Any of the above

Correct answer: D

50. All of the following are recognized distress signals under the Navigation Rules EXCEPT which signal?

- A. A green star signal
- B. Red flares
- C. The repeated raising and lowering of outstretched arms
- D. Orange-colored smoke

Correct answer: A