U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam

Lifeboatman

Q445 Lifeboatman

(Sample Examination)
Choose the best answer to the following Multiple Choice Questions.

1. The lever shown in illustration D013SA below is operated when a lifeboat is in which of the following positions?

- (A) When waterborne
- (B) In the secured position in the davit
- (C) While at the embarkation deck
- (D) As it is being lowered to sea level

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

2. You will find a limit switch on which type of davit?

- (A) Liferaft cradle
- (B) Radial davit
- (C) Sheath-screw davit
- (D) Gravity davit

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

3. Which of the following is part of the annual SOLAS required test on an EPIRB?

- (A) Verification that the battery voltage is within 20% of the design limits
- (B) Verification that the unit lanyard is neatly stowed and properly secured to the vessel
- (C) Verification that the unit has been maintained by a shore based maintenance provider
- (D) Verification that the unit is stowed within five feet of survival craft

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

4. BOTH INTERNATIONAL & INLAND You see a vessel displaying the code flag "LIMA" below which is a red ball. The vessel is indicating it is in which of the following situations?

- (A) Preparing to receive aircraft
- (B) In distress
- (C) Aground
- (D) Trolling

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

5. Your ship is sinking rapidly. A container containing an inflatable liferaft has bobbed to the surface upon functioning of the hydrostatic release. Which action should you take?

- (A) Take no action because the painter will cause the liferaft to inflate and open the container.
- (B) Manually open the container and inflate the liferaft with the hand pump.
- (C) Cut the painter line so it will not pull the liferaft container down.
- (D) Swim away from the container so you will not be in danger as it goes down.

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*
6. In illustration D014SA below, which item number correctly identifies the external lifelines?

   o (A) 1
   o (B) 8
   • (C) 12
   o (D) 16

   If choice C is selected set score to 1.

7. The engine in a covered lifeboat is fueled with __________.

   o (A) liquefied gas
   o (B) leaded gasoline
   • (C) diesel oil
   o (D) unleaded gasoline

   If choice C is selected set score to 1.

8. Which of the following is a treatment of frostbite?

   o (A) Wrapping area tightly in warm cloths
   o (B) Rubbing affected area with ice or snow
   • (C) Warming exposed parts rapidly
   o (D) Rubbing affected area briskly to restore circulation

   If choice C is selected set score to 1.

9. What is the purpose of the tricing pendants?

   o (A) They control the fore and aft motion of a lifeboat during lowering
   o (B) They control the outboard swing of a lifeboat during lowering
   • (C) They hold a lifeboat next to the embarkation deck while loading
   o (D) They provide suspensions for the manropes

   If choice C is selected set score to 1.

10. As a vessel sinks to a depth of 15 feet, the hydrostatic trip releases the liferaft container from its cradle by __________.

    o (A) breaking the weak link
    • (B) releasing the tie-down strap
    o (C) releasing the CO2 canister
    o (D) pulling the operating cord

    If choice B is selected set score to 1.
11. Which is the most common type of davit found on ocean service merchant vessels today?
   - (A) Radial
   - (B) Quadrantal
   - (C) Sheath-screw
   - (D) Gravity
   
   If choice D is selected set score to 1.

12. You abandoned ship in the North Atlantic and one of the crew members is hypothermic. During a SAR helicopter extraction which lifting device should be avoided when hoisting this patient to the aircraft?
   - (A) The rescue basket
   - (B) The rescue litter
   - (C) The rescue net
   - (D) The rescue sling
   
   If choice D is selected set score to 1.

13. What is the purpose of the hydrostatic release on an inflatable liferaft?
   - (A) To test the rafts hydrostatically
   - (B) To release the raft from the cradle automatically as the ship sinks
   - (C) To inflate the raft automatically
   - (D) None of the above
   
   If choice B is selected set score to 1.

14. What is the purpose of the liferaft's hydrostatic release?
   - (A) To release raft automatically as the ship sinks
   - (B) To inflate the raft automatically
   - (C) To test rafts hydrostatically
   - (D) None of the above
   
   If choice A is selected set score to 1.

15. BOTH INTERNATIONAL & INLAND You are underway and hear a vessel continuously sounding her fog whistle. What is this vessel indicating?
   - (A) The vessel desires to communicate by radio
   - (B) The vessel is aground
   - (C) The vessel desires a pilot
   - (D) The vessel is in distress
   
   If choice D is selected set score to 1.
16. When using a handheld smoke signal in a liferaft, at which location should you activate the signal?

- (A) On the upwind side of the liferaft
- (B) Inside the liferaft
- (C) At the stern of the liferaft
- (D) On the downwind side of the liferaft

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

17. Puncture leaks in the lower tubes or bottom of an inflatable liferaft should FIRST be stopped by using which item(s)?

- (A) Sail twine and vulcanizing kit
- (B) Sealing clamps
- (C) Repair tape
- (D) A tube patch

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

18. When whistle signals are used for launching lifeboats, what does one short blast mean?

- (A) "Raise all boats"
- (B) "Use the float-free method only"
- (C) "Drill is over, secure all boats"
- (D) "Lower all boats"

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

19. In which location are lifejackets required to be stowed?

- (A) Readily accessible spaces
- (B) In the pumproom
- (C) Locked watertight containers
- (D) In the forepeaks

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

20. Which action should be taken once fueling has been completed?

- (A) All hatches should be opened and all compartments should be ventilated
- (B) Open the fuel line and drain a small amount of gasoline into the bilge to clear the line of sediment
- (C) The engine should be started immediately to prevent vapor lock in the fuel line
- (D) The fuel tank fill pipe should be left open to allow vapors to vent from the tank

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*
21. If you are required to jump from any height from your vessel when should the external flotation bladder of an immersion suit be inflated?

- (A) Only after two hours in the water
- (B) Only after four hours in the water
- (C) After entry into the water
- (D) Before entry into the water

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.

22. Which represents the appropriate time for setting off distress flares and rockets?

- (A) At one hour intervals
- (B) Immediately upon abandoning the vessel
- (C) At half hour intervals
- (D) Only when there is a chance of their being seen by rescue vessels

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.

23. When collecting condensation for drinking water, which is TRUE?

- (A) A sponge used to mop up and store condensation must be kept salt free
- (B) Chlorine tablets should be used to make it drinkable
- (C) Only condensation on the bottom of the canopy should be collected
- (D) It should be strained through a finely woven cloth

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.

24. What is the name given to the bottom row of plating next to the keel of a lifeboat?

- (A) Bilge strake
- (B) Sheer strake
- (C) Keel rib
- (D) Garboard strake

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.

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

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

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.
26. In illustration D014SA below, where would you find the knife?
   
   - (A) 21
   - (B) 23
   - (C) 8
   - (D) 4
   
   *If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

27. Frapping lines are fitted to lifeboat davits to accomplish which task?
   
   - (A) Hold the lifeboat to the ship's side until the tricing lines are passed
   - (B) Reduce the swinging of the lifeboat as it is being lowered from the embarkation level
   - (C) To be used as a safety line in an emergency
   - (D) Secure the lifeboat in the davits when in the stowed position
   
   *If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

28. An emergency sea anchor may be constructed by using which item(s)?
   
   - (A) An oar and canvas weighted down
   - (B) A boat bucket
   - (C) An air tank filled with water
   - (D) All of the above
   
   *If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

29. You are proceeding to a distress site and expect large numbers of people in the water. Which statement is TRUE?
   
   - (A) You should stop to windward of the survivors in the water and only use the ship's boats to recover the survivors.
   - (B) An inflatable liferaft secured alongside can be an effective boarding station for transfer of survivors from the boats.
   - (C) Survivors in the water should never be permitted alongside due to the possibility of injury from the vessel.
   - (D) If the survivors are in inflatable rafts you should approach from windward to create a lee for the survivors.
   
   *If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

30. What should be used to steer an open lifeboat if the rudder becomes lost or damaged?
   
   - (A) Daggerboard
   - (B) Steering oar
   - (C) Sea anchor
   - (D) Spare rudder
   
   *If choice B is selected set score to 1.*
31. If an inflatable liferaft is to be released manually, where should the operating cord be attached before throwing the raft overboard?

- (A) Do not attach the cord to anything but throw it overboard with the raft container.
- (B) Attach the cord to the special pad eye on the "raft davit launcher".
- (C) You should stand on the cord.
- (D) Attach the cord to a fixed object on the ship.

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

32. What statement about immersion suits is TRUE?

- (A) Immersion suits should be worn while performing routine work on deck.
- (B) Any tear or leak will render the suit unserviceable and it must be replaced.
- (C) No stowage container for immersion suits may be capable of being locked.
- (D) During the annual maintenance, the front zipper should be lubricated using light machine oil or mineral oil.

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

33. BOTH INTERNATIONAL & INLAND Which of the signals, other than a distress signal, can be used by a vessel to attract attention?

- (A) A red star shell
- (B) An orange smoke signal
- (C) A burning barrel
- (D) The vessel's searchlight

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

34. What does the air spaces in the floor of an inflatable liferaft provide protection against?

- (A) Loss of air in the sides of the raft
- (B) Asphyxiation from CO2
- (C) Rocks when landing
- (D) Cold water temperatures

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

35. What is the primary advantage of Using a sea anchor with the survival craft?

- (A) Aids in recovering the survival craft
- (B) It reduces your drift rate
- (C) It keeps the survival craft from turning over
- (D) It increases your visibility

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*
36. Where should muster lists be posted?
   - (A) In the engine room
   - (B) On the navigating bridge
   - (C) In crew's accommodation spaces
   - (D) All of the above

   *If choice D is selected set score to 1.

37. Which is TRUE concerning a lifeboat's sea anchor?
   - (A) It is a heavy anchor with an extra long line used to anchor in deep water
   - (B) It is a cone shaped bag used to slow the drift, and keep the craft end-on into the seas
   - (C) It is made of wood if it is of an approved type
   - (D) A special pad eye to which the sea painter is made fast

   *If choice B is selected set score to 1.

38. Limit switches are used on which davits?
   - (A) Sheath-screw davits
   - (B) Quadrantal davits
   - (C) Gravity davits
   - (D) Radial davits

   *If choice C is selected set score to 1.

39. What is the function of the hand holds or straps on the underside of an inflatable liferaft?
   - (A) For crewmen to hang on to
   - (B) To hang the raft for drying
   - (C) To right the raft if it capsizes
   - (D) To carry the raft around on deck

   *If choice C is selected set score to 1.

40. When launching a lifeboat, when should frapping lines be rigged?
   - (A) Only after the boat is in the water
   - (B) Before the boat is moved from the davits
   - (C) Before the gripes are released
   - (D) When the boat is at the embarkation deck

   *If choice D is selected set score to 1.
41. Your vessel has 3 lifeboats on each side. What is the designated boat number of the aftermost boat on the starboard side?

- (A) 6
- (B) 5
- (C) 3
- (D) 3 STARBOARD

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

42. A motor lifeboat shall carry sufficient fuel to operate continuously for a period of which duration?

- (A) 12 hours
- (B) 18 hours
- (C) 24 hours
- (D) 36 hours

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

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

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

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

44. In heavy seas how should the helmsman steer the motor lifeboat?

- (A) In a series of figure-eights
- (B) Broadside to the seas
- (C) Into the seas slightly off the bow
- (D) In the same direction as the seas

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

45. Before you start an engine in a compartment, it is MOST important to __________.

- (A) check the fuel tank
- (B) check the battery
- (C) ventilate the bilges
- (D) check the flame arrester

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*
46. If you find an inflatable liferaft container with the steel bands still in place around its case, which action should you take?

- (A) Remove the bands yourself
- (B) Tell the Master immediately
- (C) Inform the Mate so they can be cut loose
- (D) Leave the bands in place

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

47. In the first 24 hours after abandoning a vessel, water should be given only to which personnel?

- (A) Those that are thirsty
- (B) Those that are wet
- (C) Those that are sick or injured
- (D) Those that are awake

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

48. How should the sea painter of a lifeboat be led?

- (A) Up and down from the main deck
- (B) Forward and outside of all obstructions
- (C) Forward and inside of all obstructions
- (D) To the foremost point on the ship

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

49. After having thrown the liferaft and stowage container into the water, how is the liferaft inflated?

- (A) Hitting the hydrostatic release
- (B) Using the hand pump provided
- (C) Pulling on the painter line
- (D) Forcing open the container which operates the CO2

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

50. SART units are designed to be manually carried to the survival craft. Which of the following is another characteristic of a SART?

- (A) A SART can be manually activated and deactivated
- (B) A SART will automatically activate when interrogated by a 10 cm radar
- (C) A SART that is manually activated will automatically deactivate after five minutes
- (D) A SART will automatically activate when removed from its mounting

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*