

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam  
Lifeboatman Limited  
Q447 Lifeboat Operator Limited  
(Sample Examination)

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

1. As a vessel sinks to a depth of 15 feet, the hydrostatic trip releases the liferaft container from its cradle by \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. releasing the CO2 canister
  - B. pulling the operating cord
  - C. breaking the weak link
  - D. releasing the tie-down strap

Correct answer: D

2. Before you start an engine in a compartment, it's MOST important to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. ventilate the bilges
  - B. check the flame arrester
  - C. check the fuel tank
  - D. check the battery

Correct answer: A

3. If you must enter water on which there is an oil fire, you should \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. wear very light clothing
  - B. keep both hands in front of your face to break the water surface when diving headfirst
  - C. protect your life preserver by holding it above your head
  - D. enter the water on the windward side of the vessel

Correct answer: D

4. Why should a person being treated for shock be wrapped in warm coverings?
- A. To preserve body heat
  - B. To increase body heat
  - C. To protect the person from injury during transportation
  - D. To avoid self-inflicted wounds caused by spastic movement

Correct answer: A

5. Water pockets on the underside of an inflatable liferaft are for \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. catching rainwater
  - B. maneuverability
  - C. easy drainage
  - D. stability

Correct answer: D

6. What is the MAIN use of the knot lettered M in illustration D030DG?
- A. Form a temporary eye in the end of a line
  - B. Marry two hawsers together
  - C. Provide a seat for a man to work over the side
  - D. Secure a heaving line to a hawser

Correct answer: B

7. The signal has been given to abandon ship. Which of the following describes the action to be taken with the EPIRB?
- A. No action is required, muster at your boat station to wait for further direction
  - B. Activate the unit and secure it to the vessel before entering the survival craft
  - C. No action is required, the unit will activate when triggered by a satellite
  - D. Activate the unit and take it with you to the closest survival craft

Correct answer: D

8. After abandoning ship, why should you deploy the sea anchor from a liferaft?
- A. To keep the liferaft from capsizing
  - B. To navigate against the current
  - C. To stay in the general location
  - D. To keep personnel from getting seasick

Correct answer: C

9. What is the purpose of the tripping line on a sea anchor?
- A. To aid in casting off
  - B. To aid in the recovery of the sea anchor
  - C. It directs the drift of the vessel
  - D. To maintain maximum resistance to broaching

Correct answer: B

10. When abandoning ship and jumping into the water from a substantial height without a life jacket, you should \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. hold your arms firmly at your sides and jump feet first
  - B. dive headfirst, using your hands to break the surface of the water
  - C. jump feet first, holding your knees to your chest
  - D. jump feet first, covering your nose and mouth with one hand and grasping the opposing upper arm with the other

Correct answer: D

11. Which statement is TRUE concerning life jackets?
- A. Life jackets must always be worn with the same side facing outwards to float properly.
  - B. Buoyant vests may be substituted for life jackets.
  - C. Lightly stained or faded life jackets will fail in the water and should not be used.
  - D. Life jackets are designed to turn an unconscious person's face clear of the water.

Correct answer: D

12. All inflatable liferafts have which item?
- A. Safety straps from the overhead
  - B. Built-in seats
  - C. Releasing hooks at each end
  - D. Water stabilizing pockets

Correct answer: D

**13.** Where must the life jackets be stowed?

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

Correct answer: A

**14.** Which knot in illustration D030DG below should be used to secure a line to a spar when the pull is parallel to the spar?

- A. G
- B. F
- C. P
- D. Q

Correct answer: C

**15.** Which knot is used to attach two different sized lines together?

- A. Thief knot
- B. Granny knot
- C. Sheet bend
- D. Square knot

Correct answer: C

**16.** Your vessel is conducting helicopter evacuation operations for an injured crew member. Which of the following statements is true concerning the hoisting line?

- A. As a safety measure wrap the line around the patient before attaching it to the basket
- B. Secure the graining line to the deck railings
- C. A tag line is required to be attached to the hoist cable for securing
- D. Allow the line to touch the deck to discharge the static electricity

Correct answer: D

**17. BOTH INTERNATIONAL & INLAND** Which signal is recognized as a distress signal?

- A. A smoke signal giving off orange-colored smoke
- B. Directing the beam of a searchlight at another vessel
- C. A whistle signal of one prolonged and three short blasts
- D. International Code Signal "PAN" spoken over the radiotelephone

Correct answer: A

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

- A. Hitting the hydrostatic release
- B. Forcing open the container which operates the CO<sub>2</sub>
- C. Pulling on the painter line
- D. Using the hand pump provided

Correct answer: C

**19.** When personnel are lifted by a helicopter from an inflatable liferaft, what should the personnel on the raft do?

- A. Remove their lifejackets to prepare for the transfer
- B. Take in the sea anchor to prevent fouling of the rescue sling
- C. Deflate the floor of the raft to reduce the danger of capsizing
- D. Inflate the floor of the raft to provide for additional stability

Correct answer: C

**20.** While reading the muster list you see that "3 short blasts on the whistle and three short rings on the general alarm" is the signal for \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. dismissal from fire and emergency stations
- B. abandon ship
- C. man overboard
- D. fire and emergency

Correct answer: A

**21.** When a person is in shock, how will their skin appear?

- A. Warm and damp
- B. Warm and dry
- C. Cold and dry
- D. Cold and damp

Correct answer: D

**22.** Which knot would best serve as a safety sling in an emergency for a person working over the side?

- A. Bowline on a bight
- B. French bowline
- C. Jug sling
- D. Lifting hitch

Correct answer: B

**23.** You have hand launched an inflatable liferaft. What should be one of your FIRST actions after all persons have boarded the liferaft?

- A. Inflate the liferaft floor.
- B. Decide on food and water rations.
- C. Open the equipment pack.
- D. Cut the sea painter and clear the vessel.

Correct answer: D

**24.** In illustration D014SA below, what number is the sea painter?

- A. 1
- B. 12
- C. 16
- D. 18

Correct answer: C

**25.** 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

Correct answer: C

**26.** In illustration D014SA below, which item number correctly identifies the ballast bags?

- A. 22
- B. 13
- C. 2
- D. 12

Correct answer: B

**27.** BOTH INTERNATIONAL & INLAND Which signal should be used to indicate that your vessel is in distress?

- A. Displaying a large red flag
- B. Sounding four or more short rapid blasts on the whistle
- C. Continuously sounding the fog whistle
- D. Displaying three black balls in a vertical line

Correct answer: C

**28.** How should gasoline tanks be filled?

- A. To the top to expel all vapors from the tanks
- B. Fill with only sufficient fuel for the planned trip so excess gasoline is not carried
- C. Fill to near the top with some space allowed for gasoline expansion
- D. To the top so the operator is certain how much fuel he has aboard

Correct answer: C

**29.** What is the purpose of the hydrostatic release on an inflatable liferaft?

- A. To release the raft from the cradle automatically as the ship sinks
- B. To test the rafts hydrostatically
- C. To inflate the raft automatically
- D. None of the above

Correct answer: A

**30.** A person reports to you with a fishhook in his thumb, what procedure should you use to remove it?

- A. Cut the skin from around the hook
- B. Pull it out with pliers
- C. Have a surgeon remove it
- D. Push the barb through, cut it off, then remove the hook

Correct answer: D

**31.** Your vessel has 3 lifeboats on each side. The aftermost boat on the port side is designated as which boat number?

- A. 5
- B. 6
- C. 3
- D. 3 PORT

Correct answer: B

**32.** If an inflatable liferaft is to be released manually, where should the operating cord be attached before throwing the raft overboard?

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

Correct answer: A

**33.** How is the external flotation bladder of an immersion suit inflated?

- A. It is inflated by blowing through an inflation tube.
- B. It inflates by sea water bleeding into the flotation bladder and reacting with a chemical therein.
- C. It is inflated by a small CO2 bottle that is automatically tripped when the front zipper is at the top of the zipper track.
- D. It is inflated by a small CO2 bottle that is manually tripped.

Correct answer: A

**34.** Which is TRUE concerning the nozzle of a gasoline hose or can while fueling your vessel?

- A. Do not allow the nozzle to make contact with the fill opening to guard against static spark
- B. Keep the nozzle in contact with the fill opening to guard against static spark
- C. Allow the nozzle to make contact with the fill opening to allow proper venting
- D. None of the above

Correct answer: B

**35.** Which knot in illustration D030DG below represents a double sheet bend?

- A. T
- B. F
- C. L
- D. R

Correct answer: D

**36.** Which knot in illustration D030DG below represents a single becket bend?

- A. E
- B. F
- C. G
- D. H

Correct answer: D

**37.** As a last resort, what can a tourniquet be used for?

- A. To hold a victim in a stretcher
- B. To stop uncontrolled bleeding
- C. To restrain a delirious victim
- D. To hold a large bandage in place

Correct answer: B

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

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

Correct answer: B

**39.** Using a sea anchor will accomplish which of the following?

- A. Increase your visibility
- B. Keep the liferaft from turning over
- C. Aid in the maneuverability of the liferaft
- D. Reduce your drift rate

Correct answer: D

**40.** After clearing the vessel, what is one of the FIRST things you would do in an inflatable liferaft?

- A. Post a lookout.
- B. Issue anti-seasickness medicine.
- C. Pick up other survivors.
- D. Open equipment pack.

Correct answer: C

**41.** If an inflatable liferaft inflates upside down, you can right it by taking which action?

- A. Pushing up on one side of the raft
- B. Standing on the CO2 bottle, holding the bottom straps, and throwing your weight backwards
- C. doing nothing; it will right itself after the canopy supports inflate
- D. Getting at least three or four men to push down on the side containing the CO2 cylinder

Correct answer: B

**42.** If an inflatable liferaft is overturned, it may be righted by which action?

- A. Standing on the inflating cylinder and pulling on the righting straps
- B. Filling the stabilizers on one side with water
- C. Releasing the CO2 cylinder will automatically upright the craft
- D. Pushing up from under one end

Correct answer: A

**43.** Which of the following is considered the normal operational range from a SART unit to a surface vessel?

- A. 5-10 miles
- B. 50-75 miles
- C. 75-100 miles
- D. unlimited

Correct answer: A

**44.** Ordinarily, bleeding from a vein may be controlled by what method?

- A. Pouring ice water directly onto the wound
- B. Pinching the wound closed
- C. Heavy application of a disinfectant
- D. Applying direct pressure to the wound

Correct answer: D

**45.** What is the primary advantage of using a sea anchor with the survival craft?

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

Correct answer: C

**46.** After having activated the emergency position indicating radio beacon, which is the appropriate action to take?

- A. Leave it on continuously
- B. Turn it off and on at 5-minute intervals
- C. Turn it off for 5 minutes every half-hour
- D. Turn it off during daylight hours

Correct answer: A

**47.** Which of the following is the proper operating sequence of a SART?

- A. The unit must be manually activated, mounted as high as possible, and when interrogated by a 3 cm radar will emit a visual warning signal
- B. The unit activates automatically and will transmit from the disabled vessel until submerged 10 meters into the water
- C. The unit must be manually activated and deployed in the water to achieve proper grounding
- D. The unit activates automatically and should be mounted as high as possible with the antenna led to the water

Correct answer: A

**48.** BOTH INTERNATIONAL & INLAND Which signal, other than a distress signal, can be used by a vessel to attract attention?

- A. Orange smoke signal
- B. Flames from a burning barrel
- C. Searchlight beam
- D. Continuous sounding of a fog signal apparatus

Correct answer: C

**49.** How should the sea painter of a rescue boat be led?

- A. Forward and inboard of all obstructions
- B. To the foremost point on the vessel
- C. Forward and outboard of all obstructions
- D. Vertically up and down from the main deck

Correct answer: C

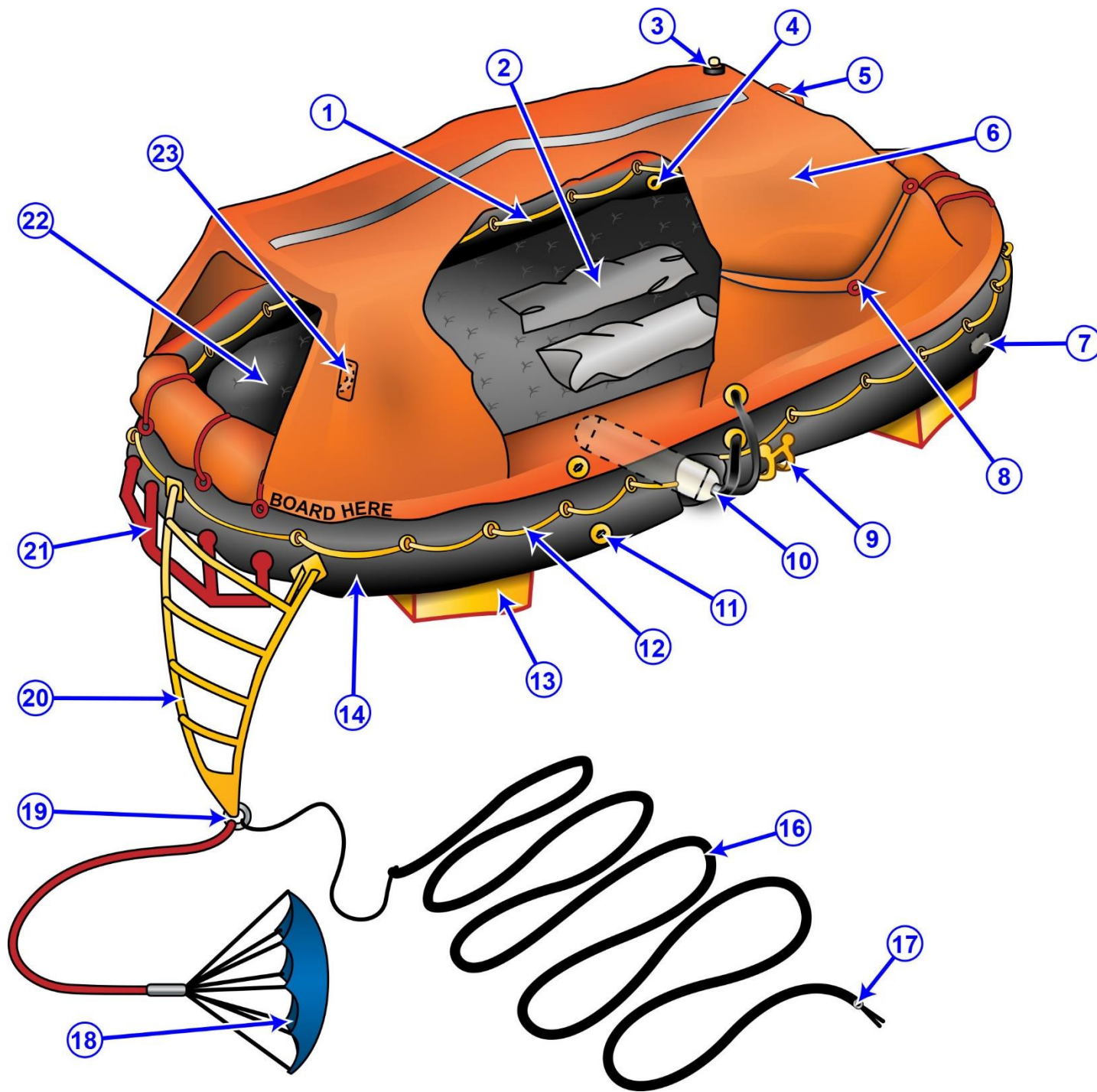
**50.** A magnetic compass card is marked in how many degrees?

- A. 90
- B. 180
- C. 360
- D. 400

Correct answer: C



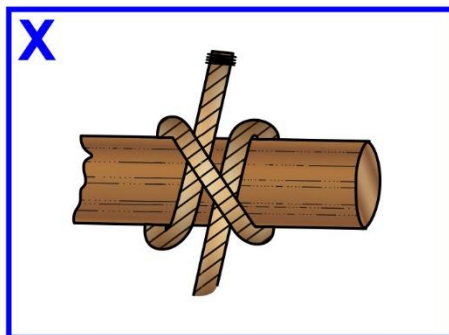
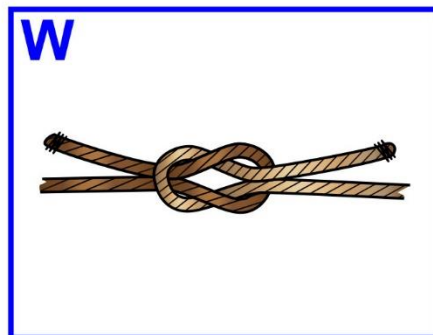
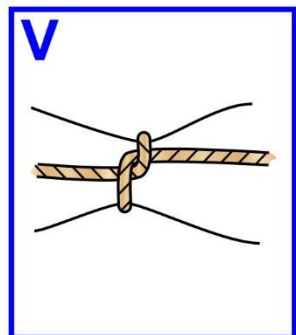
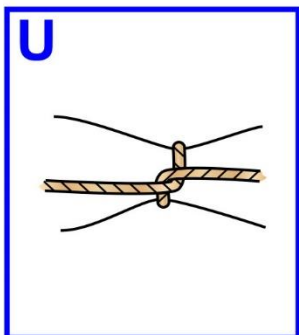
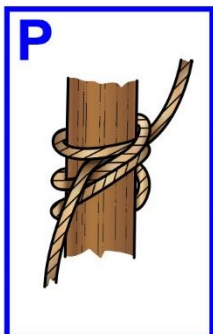
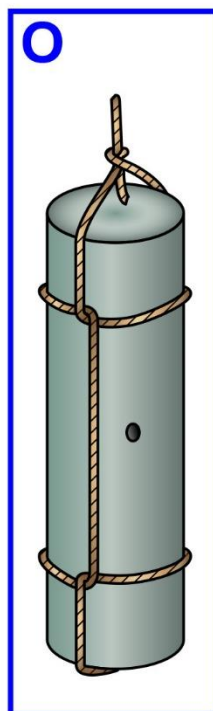
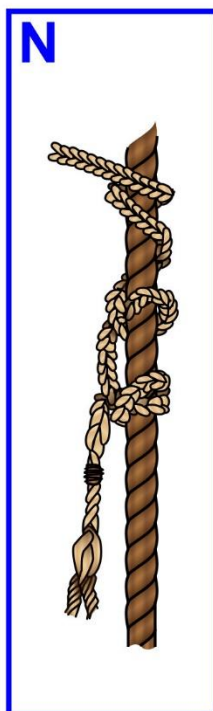
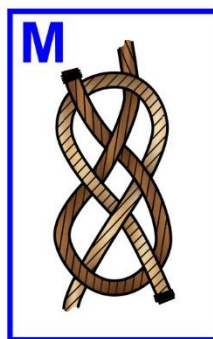
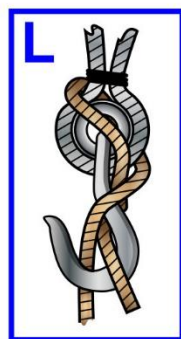
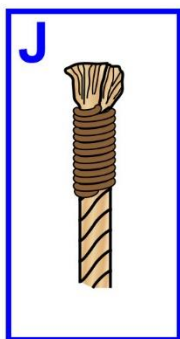
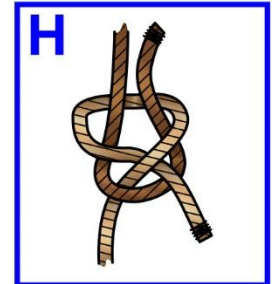
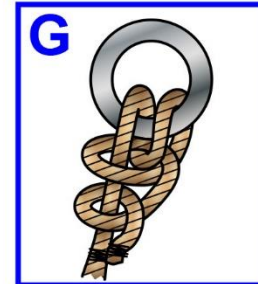
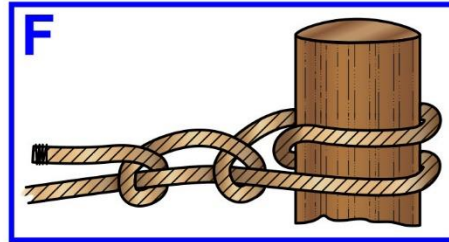
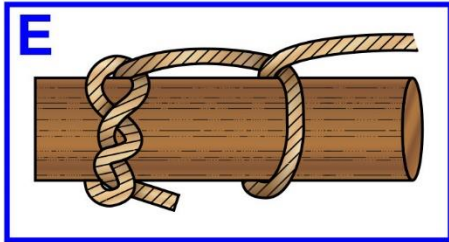
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