

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam  
Any Deck Officer Endorsement  
Q460 Auxiliary Sail Endorsement  
(Sample Examination)

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

1. A stay is on a sailing vessel would be associated with which item?

- A. The sail halyard
- B. A jibe
- C. The vessel's downhaul
- D. The standing rigging

Correct answer: D

2. A sail plan should include the vessel's itinerary, name, number, and persons aboard. Who should this information initially be given to, prior to your departure?

- A. The U.S. Customs
- B. The local Coast Guard RCC
- C. The FAA
- D. A responsible person

Correct answer: D

3. A sailing vessel with the wind coming from 220° relative would be in which situation?

- A. On a broad reach
- B. Close hauled on the port tack
- C. Running before the wind
- D. Close hauled on the starboard tack

Correct answer: A

4. A marker pole, with a horseshoe buoy and a sea anchor attached, should be used to indicate which item?

- A. The location of a man overboard
- B. The vessel's sideslip underway
- C. The vessel's speed through the water
- D. A lost mooring

Correct answer: A

5. Your vessel is drifting with the wind broad on the port beam. The Marconi sail is set and flapping free. When is the maximum drive attained as you sheet in the sail?

- A. When it first takes the shape of an airfoil
- B. When it is 45° from the apparent wind
- C. When it is at right angles to the true wind
- D. When it is filled with a slight flap at the leech

Correct answer: A

6. In illustration D001SL, what is the edge of the sail labeled "A" called?

- A. Leech
- B. Headboard
- C. Luff
- D. Clew

Correct answer: C

7. Dacron sails, when not in use, may be damaged under which condition?

- A. When folded frequently
- B. If washed with soap
- C. When stowed wet
- D. If left in the sunlight

Correct answer: D

8. Which point of sailing describes a vessel on that has the wind coming from 140° relative?

- A. Close hauled on the starboard tack
- B. Close hauled on the port tack
- C. On a broad reach
- D. Running before the wind

Correct answer: C

9. Under which situation is it more probable that your vessel can accidentally jibe?

- A. The vessel is in irons
- B. The vessel is running
- C. The vessel is tacking
- D. The vessel is reaching

Correct answer: B

10. Which term describes most recreational sailing craft that have triangular sails?

- A. Marconi rigged
- B. Square rigged
- C. Gaff rigged
- D. Spinnaker rigged

Correct answer: A

11. You are running before a strong wind in a sloop. Which action should be attempted with extreme caution?

- A. Reef the mainsail
- B. Jibe
- C. Tack about
- D. Strike the jib

Correct answer: B

12. The sails are properly set and trimmed. Which is TRUE when the vessel heads up from a beam reach to close hauled?
- A. The speed will increase
  - B. The side slip decreases
  - C. The apparent wind moves forward
  - D. The heeling moment decrease rapidly

Correct answer: C

13. Which statement is TRUE about a ketch type sailing vessel?
- A. A ketch has two masts: a foremast and a mainmast
  - B. A ketch has two masts: with the mizzen stepped abaft the rudder post
  - C. A ketch has only one mast
  - D. A ketch has two masts: with the mizzen stepped forward of the rudder post

Correct answer: D

14. You are at the helm of a sailing vessel under sail on the starboard tack, close hauled, and you are instructed to "head up". Which action should you take?
- A. Turn the wheel to port if you are steering with a wheel
  - B. Turn the wheel to starboard if you are steering with a wheel
  - C. Push the tiller to starboard if you are steering with a tiller
  - D. Hold a steady helm and allow the jib to luff

Correct answer: B

15. When properly set and drawing, a fore-and-aft sail shall have which cross-section?
- A. One that approximates a straight line
  - B. One that has more curve at the luff
  - C. One that has more curve at the leach
  - D. One that is a uniform curve

Correct answer: B

16. Your sailing vessel is docked during a storm and is in continuous motion. If a mooring line parts due to vessel motion, it will most likely do so \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. midway between the vessel and the dock
  - B. at the eye
  - C. where it is made fast on the vessel
  - D. at the chock

Correct answer: D

17. Which item is considered standing rigging on a sailing vessel?
- A. Stays
  - B. Sheets
  - C. Downhauls
  - D. Halyards

Correct answer: A

18. Which item is part of a vessel's standing rigging?

- A. A sheet
- B. The backstay
- C. A downhaul
- D. The topping lift

Correct answer: B

19. You are at the helm of a schooner-rigged sailing vessel under sail on the port tack, on a beam reach, with all appropriate sails set and properly trimmed. You are instructed to "bear off quickly". Which action will utilize your sails to assist with the turn?

- A. Slacken the fore-staysail sheet
- B. Slacken the jib sheet
- C. Slacken the main sheet
- D. Slacken the foresail sheet

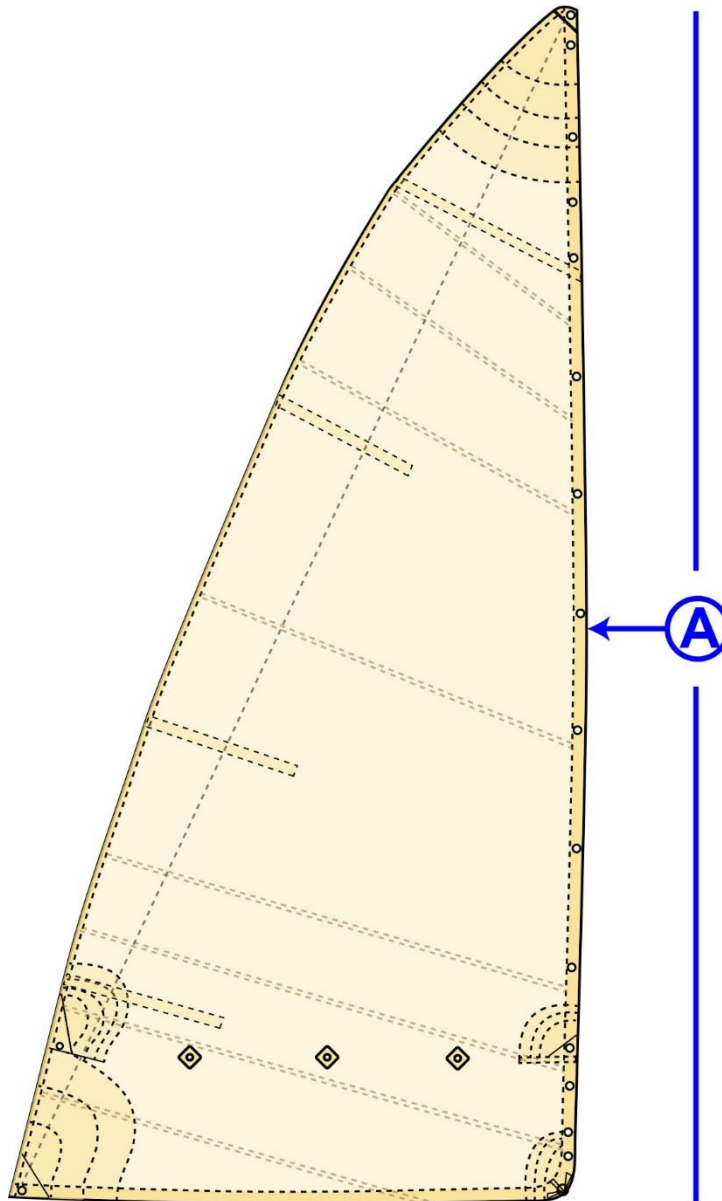
Correct answer: C

20. What does the old sailor's admonition "Beware the lee shore" warn of?

- A. The ground swell making it difficult to tack off
- B. The wind blowing stronger at this location
- C. The current flowing directly offshore
- D. There being less wind in the lee of the shore

Correct answer: A

## D001SL



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