National Maritime Center

Keep 'em Safe, Keep 'em Sailing



U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam

Master Less than 500-1600 Gross Registered Tons Rivers

Q386 Deck General

(Sample Examination)

Choose the best answer to the following Multiple Choice Questions.

- 1. Who is responsible for the preparation of muster lists and signing of same?
 - o (A) The owner of the vessel
 - (B) The Master of the vessel
 - o (C) The Chief Officer of the vessel
 - o (D) The United States Coast Guard

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- **2.** As a ship moves through the water, it causes a wake, which is also moving forward relative to the sea. In addition to a fore and aft motion, which direction will the wake flow?
 - o (A) Upward and outward flow
 - (B) Upward and inward flow
 - o (C) Downward and outward flow
 - o (D) Downward and inward flow

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- **3.** When the dew point of the outside air is higher than the dew point of the air in the cargo hold, which action should you take?
 - o (A) Ventilate the cargo holds
 - (B) Do not ventilate the cargo holds
 - o (C) Energize the exhaust blowers
 - o (D) Energize the intake blowers

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- **4.** You are in a tropical port. The refrigeration machinery on a container loaded with air-cooled fruit fails. It cannot be repaired for 18 to 24 hours. Which step should you take to reduce the temperature rise and spoilage of the fruit?
 - o (A) Discharge a cylinder of nitrogen into the container
 - (B) Shade the container and periodically hose it down
 - o (C) Spread ice over the top layer and in any voids within the container
 - o (D) Seal any ventilation openings and add dry ice

- **5.** To what chemical family does chlorallylene belong?
 - o (A) Esters
 - o (B) Glycol ethers
 - o (C) Alcohols
 - (D) Substituted allyl

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- **6.** A seaman deserts the vessel in a foreign port. What should the Master do with any of the deserter's personal effects remaining on board?
 - o (A) Sell them at auction and deposit the money in the ship's morale or welfare fund.
 - o (B) Donate them to a local charity upon return to the United States.
 - o (C) Inventory them, make an appropriate entry in the Official Logbook and dispose of them at sea.
 - (D) Transfer them to the appropriate district court of the U.S. at the end of the voyage.

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- **7.** On a single-screw vessel, when coming port side to a pier and being set off the pier, which action should you take?
 - o (A) Approach the pier on a parallel course at reduced speed
 - (B) Make your approach at a greater angle than in calm weather
 - o (C) Point the vessel's head well up into the slip and decrease your speed
 - o (D) Swing wide and approach the pier so as to land starboard side to

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- **8.** What is the cause of most minor spills of oil products?
 - (A) Major casualties
 - (B) Human error
 - o (C) Unforeseeable circumstances
 - o (D) Equipment failure

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- 9. What is NOT required of the cargo tank venting on a tank barge carrying grade A liquids?
 - (A) Each cargo tank must have a vent.
 - o (B) A vent header must be fitted with a pressure-vacuum valve.
 - (C) The diameter of the vent must be greater than 4 inches in diameter.
 - o (D) The vent must extend to a reasonable height above the weather deck.

- 10. How long shall the Oil Record Book be maintained on a vessel engaged in coastwise trade?
 - o (A) 12 months
 - o (B) 24 months
 - (C) 36 months
 - o (D) 48 months

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

- 11. Which agency must approve the Safety equipment on board inspected vessels?
 - o (A) The National Safety Council
 - o (B) The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
 - (C) The U.S. Coast Guard
 - o (D) The Safety Standards Bureau

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

- **12.** You are using tackle number 12 as shown in illustration D029DG below to lift a weight. The hauling part of this tackle is bent to the weight hook (w) of tackle number 2. What is the mechanical advantage of this rig?
 - o (A) 9
 - o (B) 10
 - (C) 14
 - o (D) 21

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

- **13.** Which term defines the process of dividing the total volume of the ship in cubic feet (after omission of exempted spaces) by 100?
 - o (A) Light displacement
 - o (B) Bale cubic
 - o (C) Net tonnage
 - (D) Gross tonnage

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- **14.** Which term is used to describe the distance a vessel moves at right angles to the original course, when a turn of 180° has been completed?
 - o (A) Kick
 - o (B) Advance
 - o (C) Pivoting point
 - (D) Tactical diameter

- **15.** The shipping papers for the products being carried in your tankship are NOT required to contain which information?
 - o (A) The grades of the cargoes
 - o (B) The location of the delivery point(s)
 - o (C) The name of the consignee(s)
 - (D) The exact quantity of the cargoes

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- **16.** You are Master of a vessel that is sold in a foreign country after discharge of cargo. What is your responsibility to the crew in regards to return to the United States?
 - (A) There is no requirement for return to the United States provided the voyage has exceeded 4
 weeks duration.
 - (B) You must provide passage to the port of original engagement.
 - o (C) You must provide air transportation to the nearest port of entry in the United States.
 - (D) The crew can be employed on another United States vessel, but only if it is returning to the port of original engagement.

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- 17. For insurance purposes, which is a requirements for a general average act?
 - o (A) There are no losses
 - o (B) There must be no imminent peril
 - (C) It must be a successful venture
 - o (D) All of the above

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

- **18.** What statement is true regarding a Contract Salvage Agreement?
 - o (A) There is a "no cure-no pay" agreement
 - o (B) Lloyd's Open Form (LOF) Salvage Agreement is a Contract Salvage Agreement
 - o (C) The crew is allotted the largest percentage of the salvage award
 - (D) The cost of the salvage is set at a fixed price

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- **19.** When bunkering at a dock which of the following signals must be displayed?
 - o (A) A yellow flag by day, red light by night
 - (B) A red flag by day, red light by night
 - o (C) A green flag by day, green light by night
 - o (D) A red flag by day, a blue light by night

- **20.** You are a watchstanding mate and have come to the bridge to relieve the watch. After reviewing the chart and having been briefed by the off-going mate, you are now ready to effect the relief. When is the watch officially transferred to you?
 - o (A) As the mate being relieved says, "You have the conn" and you state the ship's course
 - (B) When you say, "I relieve you" and you state the course per gyro and magnetic compasses
 - o (C) When you state the vessel's charted position, present course and port of destination
 - (D) As the mate being relieved tells you the vessel's course and speed and states that you have the watch

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- 21. Which is a predictable result of a vessel nearing a bank or edge of a steep banked channel?
 - (A) The vessel will be drawn bodily into the bank unless the engines are stopped
 - o (B) The vessel continues in a straight line, but with greatly reduced maneuverability
 - o (C) The bow sheers toward the bank
 - (D) The stern is drawn to the bank as the bow sheers off

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- **22.** Which of the signals listed is required to be displayed during the day while bunkering?
 - o (A) A red light
 - (B) A red flag
 - o (C) A yellow flag
 - o (D) A red and yellow flag

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- **23.** Two vessels are abreast of each other and passing port to port in a confined waterway. What should you expect as your bow approaches the screws of the other vessel?
 - (A) Your bow will sheer towards the other vessel.
 - o (B) Your draft will significantly decrease.
 - o (C) Your speed will significantly increase.
 - o (D) Your bow will sheer away from the other vessel.

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

- **24.** While on watch at sea you must maintain a proper lookout at all times. On a 700-foot cargo vessel being hand-steered during daylight hours in good visibility and clear of any navigational hazards, who may be the lookout?
 - o (A) The helmsman
 - (B) The mate on watch
 - o (C) Either A or B
 - o (D) Neither A nor B

- 25. Which of the following is required to have a Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plan?
 - o (A) All vessels, regardless of size and commercial application
 - (B) An oil tanker of 150 gross tons and above, or other ship of 400 gross tons and above
 - (C) Any barge or ship constructed or operated in such a manner that no oil in any form can be carried aboard
 - o (D) An oil tanker of 400 gross tons and above, or other ships of 150 gross tons and above

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- 26. How is Cottonseed oil classed?
 - (A) As a combustible liquid
 - o (B) As poison B
 - o (C) As a flammable solid
 - o (D) As a flammable liquid

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

- 27. What does a Visaed Alien Crew List which is made and submitted to the U.S. Consul for visa show?
 - o (A) All aliens aboard
 - o (B) Registered aliens aboard
 - (C) Nonresident aliens aboard
 - o (D) All crew members

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

- **28.** In writing up the logbook at the end of your watch, you make an error in writing an entry. What is the proper means of correcting this error?
 - o (A) Carefully and neatly erase the entry and rewrite it correctly.
 - o (B) Remove this page of the log book, and rewrite all entries on a clean page.
 - o (C) Blot out the error completely and rewrite the entry correctly.
 - (D) Cross out the error with a single line, and write the correct entry, then initial it.

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- 29. A tug placed at which location would have MINIMAL effect steering a large vessel?
 - (A) Placed approximately amidships of the vessel
 - o (B) Attached by a tow line ahead of the vessel
 - o (C) Placed forward on either bow of the vessel
 - o (D) Secured on the vessel's quarter

- **30.** A vessel reduces speed without backing. Which item is the primary factor that determines the rate that her speed through the water decreases?
 - o (A) The vessel's horsepower
 - (B) The vessel's displacement
 - o (C) The number of propellers
 - o (D) The sea state

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- **31.** Cargo pumprooms on tank vessels, constructed in 1965, handling grade C liquid cargo shall have power ventilation systems. What is time requirement for these ventilation systems to completely change the air?
 - o (A) 1 minute
 - (B) 3 minutes
 - o (C) 5 minutes
 - o (D) 10 minutes

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- **32.** If you are operating on the Inland Waters of the United States, which of the following may you discharge overboard?
 - o (A) Bottles
 - o (B) Metal
 - o (C) Dunnage
 - (D) None of the above

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- **33.** When a tug makes up to a large vessel, why should the spring line be led from as far forward as possible on the tug?
 - (A) To ensure that the tug can pivot freely
 - o (B) To keep the length of the spring line minimized
 - o (C) To ensure the friction on the spring line is minimized
 - o (D) So that the head line and spring line can be worked simultaneously

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

- **34.** Which will most likely occur when your vessel enters shallow water?
 - o (A) Rudder action will become more effective
 - o (B) An increase in speed will occur
 - (C) The vessel's trim will change
 - o (D) The vessel's list will decrease

- **35.** What produces the MOST dangerous vapors?
 - o (A) Methyl alcohol
 - o (B) Camphor oil
 - (C) Anhydrous ammonia
 - o (D) Pentane

If choice C is selected set score to 1.

- **36.** Asphyxia is generally limited to enclosed spaces, and the deficiency of breathable air in an enclosed space can occur with any of the following conditions. Indicate the condition that will NOT cause asphyxia.
 - o (A) When large quantities of cargo vapor is present
 - o (B) Where rusting of internal tank surfaces has taken place.
 - o (C) Where large quantities of inert gas is present.
 - (D) When 21% of oxygen is present.

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- **37.** Which item do you NOT have to provide for the Coast Guard representative at the time of a stability test?
 - (A) Capacity plans showing the vertical and longitudinal centers of gravity of stowage spaces and tanks.
 - (B) A stability letter.
 - o (C) Tank sounding tables and draft mark locations.
 - o (D) General arrangement plans of decks, holds and inner bottoms

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- **38.** The number of certificated able seamen and lifeboatmen required on a vessel is determined by which organization?
 - o (A) Corps of Engineers
 - (B) Coast Guard
 - o (C) American Bureau of Shipping
 - o (D) International Maritime Organization

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- **39.** How many months after its expiration date may a Coast Guard credential be renewed without retaking the complete exam?
 - o (A) 1 month
 - o (B) 6 months
 - (C) 12 months
 - o (D) 24 months

- 40. Which term(s) are in the category of "oil" as used in the Oil Pollution Regulations?
 - o (A) Fuel oil
 - o (B) Sludge
 - o (C) Oil refuse
 - (D) All of the above

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- **41.** When are Operators of Uninspected Passenger Vessels required to keep their Coast Guard credential aboard their vessel?
 - o (A) At all times
 - (B) only when carrying passengers for hire
 - o (C) only when operating at night
 - o (D) only when operating more than one mile from shore

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- **42.** The charterer has completed loading the vessel in 3 days instead of the 5 days agreed to in the charter party. Which action may be a result of this?
 - o (A) The shipowner may charge for two lay days
 - o (B) The stevedore may collect demurrage
 - o (C) The consignee may be required to pay a ceaser fee
 - (D) The charterer may receive dispatch money

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- **43.** A vessel has been surveyed in a foreign port and found unseaworthy as a result of neglect. A seaman on this vessel is entitled to discharge and which of the following?
 - o (A) One month's pay only
 - o (B) One month's pay or transportation to the nearest U.S. port, whichever is the least amount
 - o (C) Transportation to the port of engagement
 - (D) One month's pay or transportation to the nearest U.S. port, whichever is the greater amount

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- **44.** You are rigging a stage over the ship's side to serve as a working platform. For stability of the stage, the downhaul to one end of the stage and the downhaul to the other end, which are used for lowering the stage, should be led in which direction?
 - o (A) Either both to the inboard or both to the outboard side of the stage
 - o (B) Both to the inboard side of the stage
 - o (C) Both to the outboard side of the stage
 - (D) One to the inboard and the other to the outboard

- **45.** Which statement about a tunnel bow thruster is TRUE?
 - o (A) It is fully effective at speeds up to about six knots.
 - (B) It provides lateral control without affecting headway.
 - o (C) It can be used to slow the ship in addition to backing down.
 - o (D) It will allow you to hold a position when the current is from astern.

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

- **46.** On an international voyage, a cargo vessel of 1,000 GT or more operating two fire pumps simultaneously is required to have a minimum pitot tube pressure from the two highest outlets. What is the minimum required pressure?
 - (A) 50 psi
 - o (B) 70 psi
 - o (C) 100 psi
 - o (D) 35 psi

If choice A is selected set score to 1.

- **47.** If the Master of a US-flag towing vessel replaces any crew member with a non-US citizen, he/she must ensure which of the following?
 - (A) The replacement holds a credential equivalent in experience and training to a mariner holding US credentials
 - (B) The replacement can communicate with other crew members to the extent required by regulations
 - (C) The vessel is on a foreign voyage, outside US jurisdiction, and not operating above the US outer continental shelf
 - (D) All of the above

If choice D is selected set score to 1.

- 48. Generally, you can best maintain a vessel's steering control under which condition(s)?
 - o (A) The vessel has no way on, with engines stopped
 - o (B) The vessel has sternway
 - (C) The vessel has headway
 - o (D) The vessel has no way on, with engines full ahead

- **49.** International Oil Pollution Prevention (IOPP) Certificates are required for each U.S. oil tanker at or above how many gross registered tons?
 - o (A) 100 gross registered tons
 - (B) 150 gross registered tons
 - o (C) 300 gross registered tons
 - o (D) 400 gross registered tons

If choice B is selected set score to 1.

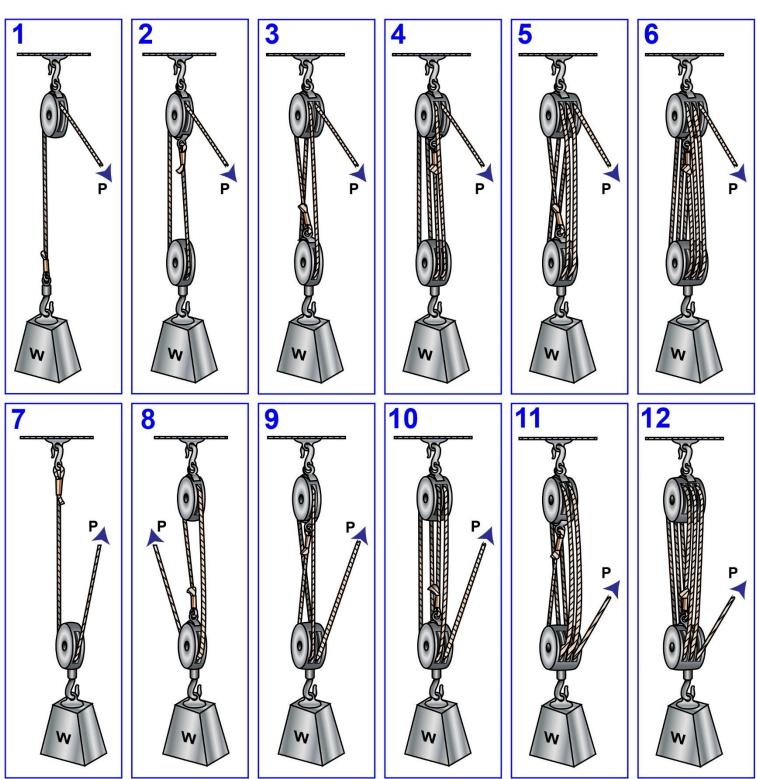
- **50.** A large vessel is equipped with a controllable pitch propeller. Which statement is TRUE?
 - (A) When the vessel has headway and the propeller is in neutral, there is no effect on rudder control.
 - (B) When dead in the water, it is often difficult to find the neutral position and slight headway or sternway may result.
 - o (C) When maneuvering in port, full ahead or astern power can usually be obtained without changing shaft RPM.
 - o (D) When going directly from full ahead to full astern, there is complete steering control.

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