# California Falconry License Practice Exam (Sample)

**Study Guide** 



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## **Questions**



- 1. True or False: If unable to report via the online system, a falconer can mail it to the department or report it over the telephone without any fees.
  - A. True
  - **B.** False
- 2. What type of training is typically involved in falconry?
  - A. Vocal commands and signals
  - B. Obedience and agility training
  - C. Flight and hunting practice
  - D. All of the above
- 3. What must every falconry bird be tagged with?
  - A. A name tag
  - B. A federal or state identification leg band
  - C. A GPS tracker
  - D. An ownership certificate
- 4. What should falconers consider when selecting prey for their raptors?
  - A. The availability of wild animals in the region
  - B. The weight and hunting capabilities of the raptor
  - C. The popularity of the prey species
  - D. The ease of catching the prey
- 5. What factor is crucial for selecting a falconry bird?
  - A. The species' color and markings
  - B. The species' temperament and suitability for the falconer's skill level
  - C. Availability of the bird in local pet stores
  - D. Its ability to mimic human sounds

- 6. True or False: All individuals using raptors for hunting must follow the applicable rules and regulations regarding hunting small or upland game, migratory game birds, non-game birds or mammals in California.
  - A. True
  - **B.** False
  - C. Only commercial hunters
  - D. Depends on species hunted
- 7. What is required when transferring a raptor that was caught by another falconer in the same year?
  - A. Notify the local wildlife agency
  - B. Keep it for personal use
  - C. Document the transfer
  - D. All of the above
- 8. When does a falconry license in California start and end?
  - A. Jan 1 to Dec 31
  - B. Aug 1 to July 31
  - C. July 1 to June 30
  - D. None of the above
- 9. True or False: If two licensed falconers share a facility with a passed inspection, the second falconer requires another inspection.
  - A. True
  - B. False
- 10. If you fail to identify a lost raptor within the specified time limit, what is the consequence?
  - A. It becomes state property
  - B. It can be sold
  - C. It will be euthanized
  - D. No action taken

#### **Answers**



- 1. B 2. D
- 3. B

- 3. B 4. B 5. B 6. A 7. C 8. C 9. B 10. A

## **Explanations**



- 1. True or False: If unable to report via the online system, a falconer can mail it to the department or report it over the telephone without any fees.
  - A. True
  - **B.** False

The statement is false because falconers are required to use the online system to report specific information related to their birds and activities. While there may be provisions for other reporting methods, such as mailing or telephone reporting, these generally come with specific fees or conditions that must be met. The online system is considered the primary and most efficient method for reporting, which is why reliance on it is emphasized. Furthermore, the Department of Fish and Wildlife typically discourages alternative reporting methods to maintain streamlined communication and documentation processes, which may include associated fees for anything outside of the online submission. Therefore, if a falconer is unable to report via the online system, they need to be aware of the potential costs involved with other methods of reporting.

- 2. What type of training is typically involved in falconry?
  - A. Vocal commands and signals
  - B. Obedience and agility training
  - C. Flight and hunting practice
  - D. All of the above

In falconry, a comprehensive training program is essential for both the falconer and the bird. This process often includes various aspects necessary for the successful partnership between the falconer and their raptor. Vocal commands and signals are a critical component, as they facilitate communication between the falconer and the bird. The ability to effectively use these commands allows the falconer to guide and direct the bird during training and hunting situations. Obedience and agility training are also vital, as they help the bird to respond reliably to the falconer's cues and to maneuver efficiently in the field. This type of training encourages the bird to exhibit desirable behaviors and increases its performance during hunting outings. Additionally, flight and hunting practice are fundamental for developing the bird's skills in capturing prey. These practices not only enhance the bird's hunting capabilities but also build its strength and confidence in the field. By recognizing that all these elements—vocal commands, obedience training, agility work, and practical flight and hunting exercises—are integral to the falconry training process, it becomes clear why a comprehensive answer encompassing all these aspects is the most accurate choice.

#### 3. What must every falconry bird be tagged with?

- A. A name tag
- B. A federal or state identification leg band
- C. A GPS tracker
- D. An ownership certificate

Every falconry bird must be tagged with a federal or state identification leg band to comply with regulations that govern the practice of falconry. This requirement ensures that each bird can be uniquely identified and traced back to its legal owner, which is crucial for wildlife conservation and management. The identification band helps authorities track the bird's origin, ownership, and history, thereby preventing issues such as illegal trade or the mismanagement of bird populations. Utilizing a leg band meets legal obligations imposed by wildlife agencies and allows for responsible falconry practices by promoting accountability among falconers regarding the birds they handle.

# 4. What should falconers consider when selecting prey for their raptors?

- A. The availability of wild animals in the region
- B. The weight and hunting capabilities of the raptor
- C. The popularity of the prey species
- D. The ease of catching the prey

Selecting prey for raptors is a critical aspect of falconry that requires careful consideration of multiple factors, especially the weight and hunting capabilities of the raptor. Each species of raptor has specific adaptations that determine what prey is appropriate for them. For example, a larger bird of prey like a peregrine falcon can handle larger, faster prey, while a smaller raptor, such as a kestrel, may only be effective in hunting smaller insects or small birds. Understanding the physical strength, size, and hunting prowess of the raptor helps falconers ensure that they are providing an appropriate diet that matches the raptor's natural hunting behaviors, abilities, and nutritional requirements. By focusing on the weight and hunting capabilities, falconers can enhance their bird's hunting success and overall health, allowing the raptor to thrive in its hunting endeavors.

- 5. What factor is crucial for selecting a falconry bird?
  - A. The species' color and markings
  - B. The species' temperament and suitability for the falconer's skill level
  - C. Availability of the bird in local pet stores
  - D. Its ability to mimic human sounds

Selecting a falconry bird requires careful consideration of the species' temperament and its suitability for the falconer's skill level. This factor is paramount because different species of birds of prey exhibit a range of behavioral traits and requirements. A falconer must match their experience and training level with the specific needs and nature of the bird they wish to handle. For instance, a novice falconer may struggle with a highly aggressive or temperamental species, leading to safety risks for both the bird and the falconer. Conversely, a more docile and trainable species can facilitate a successful partnership and enhance the learning process. Therefore, understanding the bird's behavior and ensuring it aligns with the falconer's capabilities is essential for successful falconry practice. While aspects such as color, availability, and vocal abilities can be interesting characteristics, they do not significantly influence the effectiveness or safety of the falconry experience. Prioritizing temperament and skill level fosters a more productive and enjoyable relationship between the falconer and the bird.

- 6. True or False: All individuals using raptors for hunting must follow the applicable rules and regulations regarding hunting small or upland game, migratory game birds, non-game birds or mammals in California.
  - A. True
  - **B.** False
  - C. Only commercial hunters
  - D. Depends on species hunted

The statement is true because all individuals engaged in falconry and using raptors for hunting in California must adhere to the relevant laws and regulations that govern hunting. These regulations are in place to ensure the ethical treatment of wildlife, protect various species, and maintain balance within ecosystems. This applies regardless of the type of game being hunted—whether it be small or upland game, migratory game birds, non-game birds, or mammals. Compliance with these rules is critical for the responsible practice of falconry and promotes conservation efforts. Additionally, all falconers must possess the necessary permits and adhere to specific guidelines set forth by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, reinforcing the importance of following these regulations uniformly.

- 7. What is required when transferring a raptor that was caught by another falconer in the same year?
  - A. Notify the local wildlife agency
  - B. Keep it for personal use
  - C. Document the transfer
  - D. All of the above

When transferring a raptor that was caught by another falconer in the same year, documenting the transfer is essential. Proper documentation provides a clear record of the bird's ownership and helps ensure that the transfer complies with wildlife regulations and ethical standards. This documentation helps in tracking the lineage and provenance of the bird, which is critical for conservation efforts and legal compliance with state and federal wildlife laws. The other considerations, such as notifying the local wildlife agency or keeping the raptor for personal use, are not mandated for the transfer process itself. While notifying the wildlife agency may be part of general regulations in certain circumstances, it is not specifically required in all cases of transfer. Likewise, keeping the raptor for personal use does not pertain to the requirements for transferring ownership. Thus, the focus on documentation as a requirement is what makes it the correct choice in this scenario.

- 8. When does a falconry license in California start and end?
  - A. Jan 1 to Dec 31
  - B. Aug 1 to July 31
  - C. July 1 to June 30
  - D. None of the above

A falconry license in California starts and ends from July 1 to June 30. This one-year licensing period aligns with the renewal schedule set by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, ensuring that falconers maintain their licenses annually. This period provides regulatory clarity for both the falconers and the governing bodies overseeing wildlife conservation and ethical practices in falconry. Understanding this timeline is essential for falconers, as it impacts their ability to participate in falconry practices legally. Knowing the specific dates helps ensure compliance with licensing requirements and facilitates timely renewals to avoid any disruptions in the practice of falconry.

- 9. True or False: If two licensed falconers share a facility with a passed inspection, the second falconer requires another inspection.
  - A. True
  - B. False

In the context of falconry regulations, when a facility passes inspection, it meets the necessary requirements set by state authorities for housing birds of prey. If two licensed falconers are sharing this facility, the inspection that has already been completed remains valid for the facility itself. The second falconer does not need a separate inspection as long as they comply with all existing rules and regulations governing the facility use. This is based on the premise that inspections are intended to ensure the safety and well-being of the birds, as well as compliance with state laws. Since the facility is already deemed appropriate for falconry and is under the oversight of existing licenses, no additional inspection is required for a licensed falconer to use the same space. This streamlining helps promote cooperative efforts among falconers without redundant inspections, reducing the burden on both the falconers and the regulatory authorities.

## 10. If you fail to identify a lost raptor within the specified time limit, what is the consequence?

- A. It becomes state property
- B. It can be sold
- C. It will be euthanized
- D. No action taken

The consequence of failing to identify a lost raptor within the specified time limit is that the bird becomes state property. This policy is designed to ensure the welfare of raptors and to promote responsible falconry practices. When a raptor is lost, it can potentially become a danger to itself or pose challenges to the environment. By making it state property after a certain period, wildlife authorities can take appropriate actions, such as conducting rehabilitation or rehoming efforts, to protect the bird and the ecosystem. This also emphasizes the responsibility of falconers to promptly report and identify their lost birds, encouraging them to be diligent and proactive in their care. Other consequences, such as selling the raptor or euthanizing it, are not typical protocols and do not reflect wildlife management practices focused on preservation and recovery efforts. No action taken would contradict the need for accountability and the protection of wildlife resources.