

Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Questions

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- 1. Which governing bodies may affect the number of cartridges allowed in a magazine while hunting?**
 - A. Only federal laws**
 - B. Only provincial laws**
 - C. Federal, provincial, and territorial laws**
 - D. International regulations**
- 2. In terms of pattern, what type of choke would be best for short-range shooting?**
 - A. Full Choke**
 - B. Modified Choke**
 - C. Improved Cylinder**
 - D. Cylinder Bore**
- 3. Which of the following describes a hangfire?**
 - A. A delay before the cartridge fires**
 - B. Cartridge that already fired**
 - C. A type of safety feature**
 - D. Common malfunction in older guns**
- 4. What is a Box Magazine?**
 - A. It is a type of firearm lubricant**
 - B. It holds cartridges in firearms and can be removable**
 - C. It is a container for storing cleaning supplies**
 - D. It serves as a protective case for firearms**
- 5. Which carry position is considered the safest for carrying a firearm?**
 - A. Cradle carry**
 - B. Two-hand Ready carry**
 - C. Sling Carry**
 - D. Shoulder Carry**

- 6. Which of the following best describes 'shot' in firearms terminology?**
- A. A single bullet fired from a handgun**
 - B. A charge of pellets fired from a shotgun**
 - C. A type of rifle round**
 - D. The total amount of gunpowder in a cartridge**
- 7. What initiates the firing process when squeezing the trigger of a firearm?**
- A. The safety disengages**
 - B. The firing mechanism releases**
 - C. The hammer falls**
 - D. The barrel unlocks**
- 8. What material is and was used in cannons during the Middle Ages?**
- A. Silicon**
 - B. Black powder**
 - C. Propellant powder**
 - D. Rockets**
- 9. Before firing a shotgun, what critical factor should be verified?**
- A. The aesthetic design of the firearm.**
 - B. The proper fit of the ammunition.**
 - C. The weight of the shotgun.**
 - D. The historical significance of the firearm.**
- 10. In an emergency situation at a shooting range, who has the authority to call a cease-fire?**
- A. Only the range officer**
 - B. Anyone present**
 - C. Only licensed shooters**
 - D. Only those on the shooting line**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which governing bodies may affect the number of cartridges allowed in a magazine while hunting?

A. Only federal laws

B. Only provincial laws

C. Federal, provincial, and territorial laws

D. International regulations

The correct answer highlights the multifaceted nature of regulations surrounding hunting in Canada, where both federal and provincial/territorial laws play a significant role. Federal laws establish national standards for firearm use, including classifications and overarching regulations that impact magazine capacities. Simultaneously, provincial and territorial regulations can stipulate additional limitations or requirements regarding hunting practices that must be adhered to in specific regions. By including both federal and provincial/territorial laws, the answer acknowledges that hunting regulations are not solely determined by one governing body. Variations exist across provinces and territories to address different wildlife management needs and conservation goals, which can directly influence how many cartridges hunters are permitted to carry in their magazines. International regulations are generally not a factor in domestic hunting practices, as they primarily govern cross-border trade and use of firearms rather than specifics about hunting laws. Therefore, the recognition of all three levels of law—federal, provincial, and territorial—provides a comprehensive understanding of how hunting cartridge limits are structured within Canada.

2. In terms of pattern, what type of choke would be best for short-range shooting?

A. Full Choke

B. Modified Choke

C. Improved Cylinder

D. Cylinder Bore

The best choice for short-range shooting is an improved cylinder choke. This choke offers a wider shot pattern than tighter chokes, such as full or modified. Improved cylinder allows for a spread of projectiles that increases the likelihood of hitting a target at close range, which is particularly effective for types of shooting where quick, rapid engagements are required, such as in bird hunting or clay shooting. With an improved cylinder choke, the restriction is minimal, allowing more pellets to disperse effectively over shorter distances. This broader pattern compensates for minor aiming inaccuracies that can happen when shooting at targets that are closer, making it a preferred choice for scenarios where quick follow-up shots are needed, or when the target is moving quickly. In contrast, the other types of chokes, like full choke and modified choke, create tighter shot patterns that are more suited for longer range shooting. These tighter configurations provide greater accuracy at distance, but they can be less forgiving in close-range scenarios, where the chance of missing is greater if the shooter does not have perfect aim. Cylinder bore, while having no constriction, is also a viable option for short-range, but improved cylinder offers a slight advantage in patterning for specific close-range shooting situations.

3. Which of the following describes a hangfire?

A. A delay before the cartridge fires

B. Cartridge that already fired

C. A type of safety feature

D. Common malfunction in older guns

A hangfire is characterized by a delay between the trigger being pulled and the cartridge actually firing. This phenomenon can occur due to a variety of reasons, including a slow burning propellant or a faulty primer. It is essential for firearm users to be aware of hangfires because they can pose a safety risk. If someone experiences a hangfire, they should keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction and wait for a short period before attempting to open the action, as the cartridge may still fire unexpectedly. The other choices do not accurately describe a hangfire. A cartridge that has already fired indicates that the round has been discharged, which is not a hangfire since a hangfire means the round has not yet fired. A type of safety feature does not align with the definition of hangfire, as a hangfire is an undesirable situation rather than a built-in safety mechanism. Lastly, while older firearms may experience malfunctions more often, a hangfire can happen in any firearm, regardless of its age, making that option misleading.

4. What is a Box Magazine?

A. It is a type of firearm lubricant

B. It holds cartridges in firearms and can be removable

C. It is a container for storing cleaning supplies

D. It serves as a protective case for firearms

A box magazine is an essential component in firearms construction, specifically designed to hold cartridges. It plays a critical role in the feeding mechanism of a firearm, allowing ammunition to be loaded into the chamber for firing. The characteristic feature of a box magazine is that it can be removable, allowing for quick reloading and easy replacement, enhancing the overall user experience and efficiency in shooting scenarios. The design varies; some may be detachable while others are integral to the firearm structure, but their primary function remains the same across different types of firearms. The other options do not accurately define a box magazine. For instance, while lubricants are vital for maintaining the functionality of a firearm, they do not relate to the storage or feeding of ammunition. Similarly, a container for cleaning supplies or a protective case serves different purposes entirely, focusing on maintenance and storage rather than the operational mechanism of feeding cartridges into a firearm.

5. Which carry position is considered the safest for carrying a firearm?

A. Cradle carry

B. Two-hand Ready carry

C. Sling Carry

D. Shoulder Carry

The Two-hand Ready carry position is often considered the safest for carrying a firearm because it allows the individual to maintain control of the firearm and be prepared to respond to any situation effectively. In this position, the firearm is held in both hands, typically pointing downrange or at a safe angle. This not only ensures that the muzzle is directed away from others but also keeps the shooter in a constant state of readiness. This position emphasizes safety by preventing the trigger from being accidentally pulled, as the shooter is actively holding the firearm with both hands. Moreover, it enhances the shooter's ability to react quickly and efficiently if a need arises, without compromising safety. Other carry positions such as the Cradle carry or the Shoulder Carry may not provide the same level of control or readiness. The Sling Carry, while providing hands-free convenience, can lead to situations where the firearm's muzzle may inadvertently point towards unsafe directions. Thus, for both safety and readiness, the Two-hand Ready carry is the preferred choice in various training scenarios and field applications.

6. Which of the following best describes 'shot' in firearms terminology?

A. A single bullet fired from a handgun

B. A charge of pellets fired from a shotgun

C. A type of rifle round

D. The total amount of gunpowder in a cartridge

In firearms terminology, the term 'shot' specifically refers to a charge of pellets that is discharged from a shotgun. Shot consists of small spherical projectiles that are designed to spread out when fired, allowing for a wider area of impact. This is particularly useful for hunting birds or small game, where a more dispersed shot pattern increases the likelihood of hitting a moving target. The other options refer to different aspects of firearms. A single bullet fired from a handgun is typically referred to as a 'round' or a 'cartridge,' which includes the bullet, casing, and gunpowder. A type of rifle round would also denote a specific kind of ammunition that does not align with the definition of 'shot.' Lastly, the total amount of gunpowder in a cartridge does not define 'shot' either; it rather describes the propellant aspect of a bullet or cartridge, which is distinct from the term itself. Thus, the choice referring to a charge of pellets is the most accurate representation of 'shot' in firearm terminology.

7. What initiates the firing process when squeezing the trigger of a firearm?

- A. The safety disengages**
- B. The firing mechanism releases**
- C. The hammer falls**
- D. The barrel unlocks**

When the trigger of a firearm is squeezed, it activates the firing mechanism, which is responsible for initiating the firing process. This firing mechanism typically involves several internal components, including the sear and the firing pin (or striker). When the trigger is pulled, the trigger mechanism disengages the sear, allowing the firing pin to move forward and strike the primer of the cartridge. This impact ignites the gunpowder, leading to the discharge of the bullet. Understanding this process is crucial for safe firearm handling and operation, as it emphasizes the mechanical components that are set in motion by the action of pulling the trigger. In contrast, while disengaging the safety is an important safety step that prevents accidental discharge, it does not itself initiate the firing process. Similarly, the hammer falling or the barrel unlocking could be part of certain firing mechanisms but are not universally applicable to all firearms nor do they directly initiate the firing when the trigger is squeezed.

8. What material is and was used in cannons during the Middle Ages?

- A. Silicon**
- B. Black powder**
- C. Propellant powder**
- D. Rockets**

The correct answer is black powder, which was the primary propellant used in cannons during the Middle Ages. Black powder, also known as gunpowder, is a mixture of saltpeter (potassium nitrate), charcoal, and sulfur. Its invention in the 9th century in China revolutionized warfare, leading to the development of various projectile weapons, including cannons. In the context of the Middle Ages, black powder allowed for the effective launching of projectiles over distance, which was a significant advancement over previous siege weaponry like catapults and trebuchets that relied purely on mechanical energy. The use of black powder in cannons marked a shift in military technology, contributing to changes in battlefield tactics and fortification designs. While other options such as propellant powder and rockets may relate to later developments in firearms technology, they were not the materials used specifically in cannons during the Middle Ages. Propellant powder refers to modern formulations that evolved after the period in question, and rockets, although they have a historical presence, did not have the same widespread application as black powder in cannon technology during this time.

9. Before firing a shotgun, what critical factor should be verified?

- A. The aesthetic design of the firearm.**
- B. The proper fit of the ammunition.**
- C. The weight of the shotgun.**
- D. The historical significance of the firearm.**

Verifying the proper fit of the ammunition before firing a shotgun is crucial for safety and performance. Shotguns are designed to use specific types of ammunition, and using the wrong size or type can lead to malfunctions, such as a misfire or even serious injuries due to exploded shells or excessive pressure. Ensuring that the ammunition matches the specifications of the shotgun (such as gauge and length) helps in maintaining the firearm's integrity and functionality. Properly fitting ammunition allows for safe firing and maximizes the effectiveness of the shotgun, ensuring that each shot is discharged as intended without risking damage to the firearm or injury to the shooter. In contrast, the other options do not impact the safety and operation of the shotgun. The aesthetic design and historical significance of the firearm are irrelevant to its function and safety. The weight of the shotgun, while important for the shooter's comfort and handling, does not affect the critical factor of compatibility with the ammunition, which is paramount prior to firing.

10. In an emergency situation at a shooting range, who has the authority to call a cease-fire?

- A. Only the range officer**
- B. Anyone present**
- C. Only licensed shooters**
- D. Only those on the shooting line**

In an emergency situation at a shooting range, it is vital that safety comes first and that all individuals present have the authority to intervene. The reason why anyone present can call a cease-fire is to ensure that immediate action can be taken to prevent injury or further danger. In high-stress scenarios, immediate recognition of a problem might not always originate from the range officer alone, so empowering everyone ensures that there is a quick response to any alarming situation. While the range officer typically has overall responsibility for enforcing range rules and safety protocols, it is essential that all shooters and spectators understand their role in maintaining a safe environment. This collective authority helps to create a more vigilant atmosphere where safety is prioritized, allowing anyone who notices a potential hazard or emergency to act without waiting for permission. This approach minimizes response time and can prevent accidents during critical moments.