

CDC Airport Fire Rescue Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. What is the function of an emergency power unit?**
 - A. To start the aircraft engines**
 - B. To provide emergency electrical power**
 - C. To assist in navigation**
 - D. To control cabin pressure**
- 2. What task might require the removal of partitions on an aircraft?**
 - A. To access the cockpit**
 - B. To check fuel levels**
 - C. To access deep-seated, concealed fires**
 - D. To secure passenger luggage**
- 3. What is an essential function of fire rescue vehicles at airports?**
 - A. Transporting passengers**
 - B. Southbound runway maintenance**
 - C. Rapid response during emergencies**
 - D. Pilot training**
- 4. What is a key difference in response to a fire involving cargo aircraft?**
 - A. The speed of response is prioritized**
 - B. The presence of hazardous cargo may necessitate special protocols**
 - C. Only water-based extinguishers should be used**
 - D. All cargo must be unloaded before firefighting efforts**
- 5. Which of the following is an essential skill for ARFF personnel in high-pressure situations?**
 - A. Advanced knowledge of passenger amenities**
 - B. Crisis management and decision-making skills**
 - C. Technical proficiency in aircraft manufacturing**
 - D. Solid understanding of cargo loading processes**

- 6. Which of the following is NOT a safety precaution while operating in rough terrain?**
- A. Maintaining a fast speed**
 - B. Using appropriate protective clothing**
 - C. Avoiding sudden surface changes**
 - D. Keeping the vehicle stable at all times**
- 7. Which type of information can computers provide during emergency responses?**
- A. Emergency contact lists for staff**
 - B. Data on airport layout and diagrams of aircraft**
 - C. Status updates on weather conditions**
 - D. Historical data on past emergencies**
- 8. Which system is NOT a component firefighters must know about in aircraft systems?**
- A. Electrical systems**
 - B. Oxygen systems**
 - C. Fuel systems**
 - D. Landing gear and brake systems**
- 9. What can be a consequence of inadequate runway safety area (RSA)?**
- A. Increased passenger comfort during flights**
 - B. Improved fuel efficiency for aircraft**
 - C. Increased risk of accidents during takeoff and landing**
 - D. Enhanced communication between pilots and ground crew**
- 10. What is one of the primary indicators of a potential aircraft emergency?**
- A. Clear skies**
 - B. Smoke or fire visible from the aircraft**
 - C. Passengers requesting assistance**
 - D. Unusual aircraft noises**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the function of an emergency power unit?

- A. To start the aircraft engines**
- B. To provide emergency electrical power**
- C. To assist in navigation**
- D. To control cabin pressure**

The primary function of an emergency power unit is to provide emergency electrical power. This system is crucial for maintaining essential functions in an aircraft during an electrical failure or when the main power supply is compromised. Emergency power ensures that vital systems, such as navigation, communication, and flight controls, remain operational, enabling the crew to manage emergencies effectively and maintain safety during flight. While starting aircraft engines, assisting in navigation, and controlling cabin pressure are all important aspects of aircraft systems, these functions are typically managed by separate systems and do not fall under the duties of the emergency power unit. Therefore, the correct focus on the necessity of keeping critical electrical systems running in the event of emergencies highlights why the response regarding providing emergency electrical power is accurate.

2. What task might require the removal of partitions on an aircraft?

- A. To access the cockpit**
- B. To check fuel levels**
- C. To access deep-seated, concealed fires**
- D. To secure passenger luggage**

The removal of partitions on an aircraft is primarily necessary to access deep-seated, concealed fires. In the event of a fire, it is crucial for fire rescue personnel to locate the source of the fire, especially if it is hidden within the structure of the aircraft. Partitions are designed to create compartments within the aircraft, and they can inhibit visibility and access to certain areas. By removing these partitions, firefighters can gain a better line of sight and reach areas that may be difficult to access, allowing them to extinguish the fire effectively and prevent further damage or danger. Accessing the cockpit, checking fuel levels, and securing passenger luggage are all important tasks in their own contexts but do not typically require the removal of aircraft partitions. These tasks generally involve different procedures that do not demand intruding into the aircraft's structural elements to the same extent needed for fire suppression.

3. What is an essential function of fire rescue vehicles at airports?

- A. Transporting passengers**
- B. Southbound runway maintenance**
- C. Rapid response during emergencies**
- D. Pilot training**

An essential function of fire rescue vehicles at airports is providing rapid response during emergencies. These vehicles are specifically designed and equipped to quickly reach any incident on the airfield, whether it involves aircraft accidents, fires, or other urgent situations that compromise safety. The primary purpose of fire rescue teams at airports is to ensure the protection of passengers, crew, and airport personnel by efficiently and effectively addressing emergencies. Their ability to respond swiftly can significantly reduce the impact of an incident, highlighting the importance of having specialized vehicles that can navigate the airfield and access various locations without delay. Other functions, such as transporting passengers, maintaining runways, or conducting pilot training, do not directly align with the primary mission of fire rescue vehicles, which is to prioritize safety and emergency response.

4. What is a key difference in response to a fire involving cargo aircraft?

- A. The speed of response is prioritized**
- B. The presence of hazardous cargo may necessitate special protocols**
- C. Only water-based extinguishers should be used**
- D. All cargo must be unloaded before firefighting efforts**

The key difference in response to a fire involving cargo aircraft lies in the potential presence of hazardous cargo, which may necessitate special protocols. Cargo aircraft often transport a variety of goods, some of which can be hazardous materials that have specific handling and containment requirements during a fire. This includes chemicals or flammable materials that could present additional risks to both responders and the surrounding area. Special protocols are essential in such situations to ensure the safety of the firefighting personnel, as these protocols guide responders on how to deal with the specific types of hazardous materials. For example, certain chemicals may not react well with water or could create toxic fumes when burned, requiring alternative suppression methods or protective equipment. The other options do not adequately account for the unique challenges posed by hazardous cargo. Prioritizing speed of response is important in all firefighting incidents, not just for cargo aircraft. The exclusive use of water-based extinguishers is not suitable for all types of fires, especially those involving hazardous materials, which may require specific types of extinguishing agents based on the nature of the cargo. Similarly, unloading all cargo before firefighting efforts is not always feasible or safe given the urgency of the situation and the potential for spread of the fire or further risk if hazardous materials are involved.

5. Which of the following is an essential skill for ARFF personnel in high-pressure situations?

- A. Advanced knowledge of passenger amenities**
- B. Crisis management and decision-making skills**
- C. Technical proficiency in aircraft manufacturing**
- D. Solid understanding of cargo loading processes**

Crisis management and decision-making skills are critical for Airport Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) personnel, especially in high-pressure situations. When emergencies arise, such as aircraft fires or accidents, ARFF personnel must quickly assess the situation, determine the correct response, and make decisions that prioritize the safety of passengers, crew, and their own team. These skills enable them to think clearly under duress, coordinate with other emergency services, and execute their duties effectively to mitigate risks and manage the consequences of the incident. Advanced knowledge of passenger amenities, technical proficiency in aircraft manufacturing, and a solid understanding of cargo loading processes, while valuable in their own contexts, do not directly align with the immediate demands of crisis management during emergencies. The focus in high-pressure events is on effective response and resolution, making crisis management and decision-making the most essential competencies for ARFF professionals.

6. Which of the following is NOT a safety precaution while operating in rough terrain?

- A. Maintaining a fast speed**
- B. Using appropriate protective clothing**
- C. Avoiding sudden surface changes**
- D. Keeping the vehicle stable at all times**

Maintaining a fast speed is not a safety precaution when operating in rough terrain. In fact, maneuvering quickly can lead to loss of control, increased risk of accidents, and injuries. Rough terrain often has unpredictable surfaces, which can include rocks, mud, or uneven ground, making it essential to navigate slowly and carefully to ensure stability and safety. On the other hand, using appropriate protective clothing, avoiding sudden surface changes, and keeping the vehicle stable at all times are all crucial safety measures. Protective clothing can help prevent injuries from debris or environmental factors, while being cautious of surface changes helps anticipate and mitigate hazards. Additionally, maintaining vehicle stability is vital to preventing rollovers or accidents that can arise from abrupt movements, especially in challenging terrains.

7. Which type of information can computers provide during emergency responses?

- A. Emergency contact lists for staff**
- B. Data on airport layout and diagrams of aircraft**
- C. Status updates on weather conditions**
- D. Historical data on past emergencies**

Computers play a critical role in emergency responses by providing essential information that can aid in decision-making and operational efficiency. In the context of airport fire rescue, having data on airport layouts and diagrams of aircraft is particularly vital. This type of information helps fire personnel understand the layout of the airport and the location of potential fire hazards, exits, and resources available in the vicinity. It also allows responders to be familiar with various aircraft structures, such as fuel tank locations and emergency exits, which is crucial for both effective firefighting and safe rescue operations. Additionally, while emergency contact lists, weather updates, and historical data are certainly valuable, the immediacy and specificity of layout and aircraft diagrams make them indispensable tools during an active emergency response. In situations where time is critical, knowing the physical environment can directly affect the success of the response efforts and the safety of both responders and those they are trying to help. Thus, the information provided by computers in these contexts is essential for planning and executing a tactical response during emergencies.

8. Which system is NOT a component firefighters must know about in aircraft systems?

- A. Electrical systems**
- B. Oxygen systems**
- C. Fuel systems**
- D. Landing gear and brake systems**

Understanding the systems of an aircraft is crucial for firefighters responding to incidents involving aircraft, as different systems pose varying hazards. The correct answer indicates that electrical systems are not required knowledge for firefighters in this context. While knowledge of a range of systems is vital for effective firefighting and rescue operations, especially in the realms of potential hazards and responses, electrical systems are often managed and understood by specialized personnel in the maintenance sector. Firefighters focus more on systems that present immediate risks during emergencies, such as fuel systems, which can create fire hazards, oxygen systems, essential for understanding potential fire behavior and risks, and landing gear and brake systems, which are critical in assessing rescue operations and the operational state of aircraft during an incident. Thus, while knowledge of all aircraft systems can enhance overall situational awareness, in the specific context of immediate firefighting protocols, electrical systems are generally secondary to the other more hazardous or relevant systems commonly encountered during such emergencies.

9. What can be a consequence of inadequate runway safety area (RSA)?

- A. Increased passenger comfort during flights**
- B. Improved fuel efficiency for aircraft**
- C. Increased risk of accidents during takeoff and landing**
- D. Enhanced communication between pilots and ground crew**

Inadequate runway safety areas (RSA) can significantly compromise safety during crucial phases of flight, specifically during takeoff and landing. An RSA is designed to provide a buffer zone in the event of an aircraft undershooting or overrunning the runway, allowing for an area where an aircraft can come to a stop without causing additional damage or injury. When this area is insufficient, the likelihood of accidents is heightened, as aircraft may not have a safe space to decelerate or regain control if they encounter a problem. This could lead to more severe accidents involving damage to the aircraft, injuries to passengers, and potentially catastrophic situations. While the other choices may sound appealing, they do not address the critical nature of safety pertaining to runway operations. Increased passenger comfort and improved fuel efficiency are outcomes that may arise from successful operations but are not directly related to the adequacy of RSAs. Similarly, enhanced communication between pilots and ground crew is necessary for efficient airport operations but does not mitigate the risks associated with inadequate RSAs during takeoff and landing phases.

10. What is one of the primary indicators of a potential aircraft emergency?

- A. Clear skies**
- B. Smoke or fire visible from the aircraft**
- C. Passengers requesting assistance**
- D. Unusual aircraft noises**

One of the primary indicators of a potential aircraft emergency is visible smoke or fire from the aircraft. This is a critical warning sign that indicates an immediate danger, which could include an engine failure, an electrical malfunction, or other serious issues that pose a risk to the aircraft and its occupants. Fire and smoke can rapidly escalate into life-threatening situations, making it imperative for fire rescue and emergency response teams to be alerted and prepared to act swiftly. In contrast, clear skies, while often a favorable flying condition, do not indicate the safety status of the aircraft. Passengers requesting assistance may warrant attention but are not direct indicators of an emergency scenario; they could be related to routine issues such as discomfort or medical needs. Unusual noises from the aircraft could suggest mechanical problems, but they are not as immediate or visually discernible as smoke or fire, which instantly signal a critical emergency that requires prompt intervention. Thus, visible smoke or fire is the clearest and most urgent sign of an aircraft in distress.