Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide

Everything you need from our exam experts!

Questions

1. **What is the maximum difference allowed between the minimum and maximum radius of a non-circular Merry-Go-Round platform?**

   A. 1 inch

   B. 2 inches

   C. 3 inches

   D. 4 inches

2. **The center-to-center spacing of horizontal ladder rungs for school-age children should be?**

   A. 10 inches max

   B. 12 inches max

   C. 15 inches max

   D. 18 inches max

3. **What is the maximum average incline of a slide chute for preschool/school-age?**

   A. 30 degrees

   B. 40 degrees

   C. 45 degrees

   D. 50 degrees

4. **Zone-Log Rolls may overlap with neighboring equipment if what condition is met?**

   A. There is at least 9' between equipment

   B. They are of the same color

   C. Both types of equipment are for the same age group

   D. There is at least 6' between equipment when adjacent designated play surfaces are no more than 30 inches

5. **What is the slope range for school-age climbers?**

   A. 45-60 degrees

   B. 60-75 degrees

   C. 75-90 degrees

   D. 90-105 degrees

6. What is the maximum height above the underlying ground surface for an embankment slide chute?

A. 10 inches

B. 12 inches

C. 15 inches

D. 8 inches

7. Suspended component hazard recommendations do not apply if the suspended component is how many feet above protective surfacing?

A. 7'

B. 5'

C. 6'

D. 8'

8. The Use Zone for seesaws should extend how far from each outside edge?

A. 6 feet

B. 5 feet

C. 8 feet

D. 10 feet

9. What aspect of a playground is directly related to fall height?

A. Color

B. Equipment

C. Number of swings

D. Size of the playground

10. What is the maximum height without barriers for elevated structures designed for ages 5-12?

A. 48"

B. 30"

C. 20"

D. 29"

Answers

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

Explanations

1. What is the maximum difference allowed between the minimum and maximum radius of a non-circular Merry-Go-Round platform?

A. 1 inch

B. 2 inches

C. 3 inches

D. 4 inches

The maximum difference allowed between the minimum and maximum radius of a non-circular Merry-Go-Round platform would typically be 2 inches. One inch (option A) may not provide enough space for riders to sit comfortably, while 3 inches (option C) or 4 inches (option D) may result in an uneven or unstable platform. It is important to find a balance between providing enough space for riders without compromising the stability of the platform.

2. The center-to-center spacing of horizontal ladder rungs for school-age children should be?

A. 10 inches max

B. 12 inches max

C. 15 inches max

D. 18 inches max

It is important to keep in mind that the center-to-center spacing of ladder rungs should be appropriate for the age and size of the children using it. While options A and B may seem reasonable, they do not leave enough room for children to safely and comfortably grip the rungs. On the other hand, option D may be too far apart for school-age children, making it difficult for them to climb. Option C, with a maximum spacing of 15 inches, strikes a balance between providing enough space for children to grip the rungs and being close enough for them to climb comfortably.

3. What is the maximum average incline of a slide chute for preschool/school-age?

A. 30 degrees

B. 40 degrees

C. 45 degrees

D. 50 degrees

The maximum average incline of a slide chute for preschool/school-age children is typically 30 degrees. This is because a steeper incline could pose a safety risk to younger children who may have trouble maintaining their balance while sliding down. Options B, C, and D are incorrect because they all have higher incline angles, which could potentially be too steep for preschool/school-age children to safely use the slide. Additionally, a steeper incline could also impact the speed at which children travel down the slide, making it too fast for their age group. Therefore, 30 degrees is the recommended maximum average incline for slide chutes for preschool/school-age children.

4. Zone-Log Rolls may overlap with neighboring equipment if what condition is met?

A. There is at least 9' between equipment

B. They are of the same color

C. Both types of equipment are for the same age group

D. There is at least 6' between equipment when adjacent designated play surfaces are no more than 30 inches

When planning and designing playground equipment in a Zone-Log configuration, it is crucial to consider the required safety zones around each piece of equipment to prevent overlapping and potential collisions. These safety zones vary based on the height and type of equipment, but typically require a minimum of 6 feet of spacing between equipment when adjacent designated play surfaces (such as swings or slides) are no more than 30 inches in height. Options A, B, and C do not address this specific condition and do not necessarily ensure safe spacing between equipment. For example, option A only mentions a minimum distance between equipment, but does not account for the height or type of equipment. Option B, the color of the equipment, has no impact on safe spacing. And option C, while it may seem logical that equipment for the same age group would be spaced apart, fails to address the height and type of equipment and may still result

5. What is the slope range for school-age climbers?

A. 45-60 degrees

B. 60-75 degrees

C. 75-90 degrees

D. 90-105 degrees

School-age climbers typically climb on walls that range from 75-90 degrees in slope. This range allows for a challenging yet manageable climb for young climbers. Option A and B are incorrect because they are steeper than the recommended slope range and may be too difficult for school-age climbers. Option D is also incorrect as it is too close to vertical and may be too challenging for this age group. The preferred slope range allows for a gradual increase in difficulty and progression as climbers become more experienced.

6. What is the maximum height above the underlying ground surface for an embankment slide chute?

A. 10 inches

B. 12 inches

C. 15 inches

D. 8 inches

An embankment slide chute is a structure used for children to slide down from an elevated height. An important factor to consider when building this structure is the maximum height above the underlying ground surface. This is to ensure the safety of the children using the slide chute. The other options, 10 inches, 15 inches, and 8 inches, are incorrect because they do not provide the required height for a safe slide chute. 10 inches and 8 inches are too low and can cause children to hit the ground while sliding, potentially causing injuries. 15 inches is too high and can also lead to accidents. Therefore, the best option is 12 inches, which provides a safe and enjoyable height for children to slide down from.

7. Suspended component hazard recommendations do not apply if the suspended component is how many feet above protective surfacing?

A. 7'

B. 5'

C. 6'

D. 8'

If the suspended component is only 7 feet above protective surfacing, the hazard recommendations do not apply because the height is considered relatively safe. If the component were any higher, it would be at a greater risk of causing injury or damage if it were to fall. Therefore, options B, C, and D would not be correct because they are all within the unsafe range of height above protective surfacing.

8. The Use Zone for seesaws should extend how far from each outside edge?

A. 6 feet

B. 5 feet

C. 8 feet

D. 10 feet

A seesaw's Use Zone is the area around the seesaw where potential falls are most likely to occur. It is important to have a sufficient Use Zone in order to prevent injuries. Options B, C, and D are incorrect because these distances are either too close or too far from the edge of the seesaw. For example, a 10-foot Use Zone would be too far and limit the amount of play space, while a 5-foot Use Zone would be too close and increase the risk of falls and injuries. The ideal distance is 6 feet, providing enough space for children to safely use the seesaw without endangering themselves or others.

9. What aspect of a playground is directly related to fall height?

A. Color

B. Equipment

C. Number of swings

D. Size of the playground

Equipment is directly related to fall height because a playground's fall height is determined by the height of the equipment and its proximity to the ground. Color, number of swings, and size of the playground may indirectly impact fall height but are not the primary factor. For example, a colorful playground may attract more children, increasing the likelihood of falls, and a larger playground may have more equipment, but these factors do not directly impact the fall height.

10. What is the maximum height without barriers for elevated structures designed for ages 5-12?

A. 48"

B. 30"

C. 20"

D. 29"

Elevated structures designed for ages 5-12 have a maximum height of 48" without barriers to ensure the safety of the children. This means that any height above 48" would require the installation of safety barriers to prevent falls. It should be noted that options B, C, and D are all below the maximum height, therefore not meeting the safety standards for this age group. Option B, which is the closest to the correct answer, only allows for a maximum height of 30" without barriers, which is significantly lower than the recommended 48". Options C and D are even lower and would not be considered safe for children in this age group.