Empire Beauty School Chemical Texturizing Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide

Everything you need from our exam experts!

Questions

1. What is the purpose of a test curl during a perming process?

A. To determine the correct processing time

B. To assess the hair's elasticity

C. To measure the hair's porosity

D. To select the appropriate perm solution

2. How can chemical texturizing affect hair elasticity?

A. It has no effect on elasticity

B. It can improve elasticity

C. It can lead to reduced elasticity

D. It makes hair more resilient

3. What is one benefit of using a no-lye relaxer compared to a lye relaxer?

A. No-lye relaxers are more effective

B. No-lye relaxers are less irritating to the scalp

C. No-lye relaxers require more processing time

D. No-lye relaxers are cheaper

4. What is the purpose of a cream barrier applied around the hairline and ears?

A. To enhance hair color

B. To protect the skin from chemical treatments

C. To add shine to the hair

D. To reduce frizz during styling

5. Which relaxer is known for its mildness and low pH and is compatible with thio relaxers?

A. Ammonium thioglycolate relaxer

B. Ammonium bisulfite relaxer

C. Potassium hydroxide relaxer

D. Glyceryl mono-thioglycolate relaxer

6. Which product is commonly used to prepare hair before applying a relaxer?

A. Leave-in conditioner

B. Protective barrier cream

C. Shampoo with sulfates

D. Hair gel

7. What characteristic defines thio relaxers?

A. High pH and alkaline nature

B. No ammonia content

C. No chemical reaction on hair

D. Considered a "no-lye" relaxer

8. Which of the following helps in evaluating the porosity of hair?

A. Performing a strand test

B. Using a heat tool

C. Applying deep conditioner

D. Examining hair color

9. What are the effects of sodium hydroxide relaxers on hair?

A. They add moisture and shine to hair

B. They protect hair from heat damage

C. They break down the hair’s natural bonds to achieve straightness

D. They enhance curl formation in hair

10. What process involves the removal of one sulfur atom and its replacement with a disulfide bond?

A. Oxidation

B. Reduction

C. Lanthionization

D. Hydrolysis

Answers

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

Explanations

1. What is the purpose of a test curl during a perming process?

A. To determine the correct processing time

B. To assess the hair's elasticity

C. To measure the hair's porosity

D. To select the appropriate perm solution

The purpose of a test curl during the perming process is to determine the correct processing time. This step is crucial as it allows the stylist to evaluate how the hair responds to the perm solution. By performing a test curl, the stylist can see how well the hair curls and how long it takes to achieve the desired curl pattern. This not only ensures that the hair is processing correctly but also helps in preventing potential damage from over-processing. When conducting a test curl, the stylist will wrap a small section of hair around the perm rod and apply the perm solution. Once the appropriate time has passed, the stylist can check the curl formation and adjust the remaining processing time accordingly for the rest of the hair. This careful assessment is key to achieving optimal results and maintaining hair health throughout the perming process.

2. How can chemical texturizing affect hair elasticity?

A. It has no effect on elasticity

B. It can improve elasticity

C. It can lead to reduced elasticity

D. It makes hair more resilient

Chemical texturizing can lead to reduced elasticity in hair primarily due to the structural changes that occur during the process. When chemical agents are applied to alter the curl pattern or texture of the hair, they break down the disulfide bonds in the hair's cortex. While this allows for modifications such as relaxing the hair or creating curls, the integrity of the hair can be compromised. As the hair becomes chemically altered, it can lose some of its natural elasticity. Elasticity refers to the ability of hair to stretch and return to its original shape without breaking. The processes involved in chemical texturizing, especially when not performed correctly or when done repeatedly, can weaken the hair structure, leading to brittleness and a higher chance of breakage. This is because the hair's ability to bend and flex diminishes when its bonds are altered, resulting in reduced elasticity. In contrast to other options, which may suggest that the effects of chemical texturizing either have no impact or improve the quality of the hair, the reality is that it introduces considerable stress to the hair's structure, thus leading to a decrease in its elasticity. Understanding this impact is crucial when considering chemical texturizing treatments and their implications for hair health.

3. What is one benefit of using a no-lye relaxer compared to a lye relaxer?

A. No-lye relaxers are more effective

B. No-lye relaxers are less irritating to the scalp

C. No-lye relaxers require more processing time

D. No-lye relaxers are cheaper

Using a no-lye relaxer is beneficial primarily because it tends to be less irritating to the scalp compared to lye relaxers. Lye relaxers contain sodium hydroxide, which can cause significant irritation or chemical burns to the scalp, particularly if the product is left on for too long or if the scalp is sensitive. No-lye relaxers, typically formulated with calcium hydroxide or guanidine hydroxide, are milder on the skin and are less likely to provoke discomfort during the application process. This makes them a safer choice for clients with sensitive skin or for first-time users who may be apprehensive about the potential for irritation associated with chemical treatments. While it might be true that some no-lye relaxers could work slower or could be more affordable, the key distinction in terms of client comfort and safety is the reduced risk of irritation that no-lye formulas provide.

4. What is the purpose of a cream barrier applied around the hairline and ears?

A. To enhance hair color

B. To protect the skin from chemical treatments

C. To add shine to the hair

D. To reduce frizz during styling

The purpose of applying a cream barrier around the hairline and ears is to protect the skin from chemical treatments. During procedures like coloring, relaxing, or texturizing, harsh chemicals can potentially irritate or burn the skin. The cream barrier acts as a protective layer, preventing direct contact between the skin and these chemicals. This is especially important since sensitive areas such as the hairline and ears are more susceptible to irritation. While enhancing hair color, adding shine, and reducing frizz are important aspects of hair care and styling, they do not pertain to the primary reason for applying a cream barrier. The focus of this step is strictly about skin protection in order to ensure a safe and comfortable experience for the client during chemical treatments.

5. Which relaxer is known for its mildness and low pH and is compatible with thio relaxers?

A. Ammonium thioglycolate relaxer

B. Ammonium bisulfite relaxer

C. Potassium hydroxide relaxer

D. Glyceryl mono-thioglycolate relaxer

The ammonium bisulfite relaxer stands out due to its mildness and low pH level, making it a suitable choice for clients with fragile hair and sensitive scalps. This relaxer operates in a gentler manner compared to more alkaline options, which can cause significant structural changes to the hair. Its compatibility with thio relaxers adds to its appeal, as it allows for a range of chemical services without the risk of negatively interacting with each other, thus providing versatility in hair treatments. In contrast, ammonium thioglycolate relaxers are typically stronger and more alkaline, making them less suitable for delicate hair types. Potassium hydroxide relaxers are more aggressive in their chemical action and can lead to damage if not used properly. Glyceryl mono-thioglycolate is also effective but may not be as mild or widely compatible as ammonium bisulfite. Therefore, the ammonium bisulfite relaxer's intrinsic characteristics of being mild and low pH highlight its effectiveness and safety for specific applications, particularly in combination with thio relaxers.

6. Which product is commonly used to prepare hair before applying a relaxer?

A. Leave-in conditioner

B. Protective barrier cream

C. Shampoo with sulfates

D. Hair gel

The correct choice is a protective barrier cream, which is essential for preparing hair prior to applying a relaxer. This type of cream is used to safeguard the scalp and hairline from the harsh chemicals present in relaxers. It creates a protective layer that prevents burns and irritation, ensuring a safer application of the chemical product. Using a protective barrier is crucial because relaxers can be very potent, and direct contact with sensitive areas like the scalp can lead to discomfort and damage. This preparation step is a standard practice in chemical texturizing to ensure client safety and comfort. In contrast, other options like leave-in conditioner, shampoo with sulfates, and hair gel do not serve as effective protective measures. While leave-in conditioners can help in moisturizing and preparing hair texture, they do not specifically form a protective barrier from the relaxer. Sulfates in shampoos can strip away natural oils and weaken hair, which is not ideal before applying strong chemicals. Hair gel is typically used for styling rather than for pre-treatment in chemical processes.

7. What characteristic defines thio relaxers?

A. High pH and alkaline nature

B. No ammonia content

C. No chemical reaction on hair

D. Considered a "no-lye" relaxer

Thio relaxers are defined by their formulation, which includes a specific type of thioglycolic acid or its derivatives. Unlike sodium-based lye relaxers, thio relaxers are categorized as "no-lye" relaxers, which significantly reduces the potential for irritation and damage to the hair and scalp. This characteristic allows hair professionals to provide a gentler option for clients seeking texture alteration without the harshness associated with traditional lye relaxers. While thio relaxers can indeed have an alkaline nature, they may not necessarily be categorized solely by high pH and alkalinity. Additionally, it's important to note that although some thio relaxers may have little or no ammonia, this is not a defining trait across all thio formulations. Also, the statement about having no chemical reaction on hair is incorrect because thio relaxers do initiate a chemical process that alters the hair's structure in order to achieve straightening. Therefore, the defining characteristic of thio relaxers being a "no-lye" relaxer distinguishes them from other relaxers and gives insight into their formulation and gentler application.

8. Which of the following helps in evaluating the porosity of hair?

A. Performing a strand test

B. Using a heat tool

C. Applying deep conditioner

D. Examining hair color

Performing a strand test is essential in evaluating the porosity of hair because it allows you to assess how well the hair absorbs and retains moisture and products. During a strand test, a small section of hair is saturated with water and observed to see how quickly it absorbs the moisture. Hair that absorbs water quickly is considered to have high porosity, while hair that takes longer to absorb water has low porosity. This test provides immediate insights into the hair's condition and its ability to hold chemical treatments, which is crucial for making informed decisions about chemical services like coloring or texturizing. Other options do not directly assess porosity. Using a heat tool primarily assesses the hair's ability to withstand heat without damage rather than its moisture absorption capabilities. Applying deep conditioner can improve the condition of the hair but does not provide a direct evaluation of porosity. Examining hair color may give some clues about the hair's condition, but it doesn't specifically measure its porosity. Therefore, performing a strand test is the most accurate method for evaluating hair porosity.

9. What are the effects of sodium hydroxide relaxers on hair?

A. They add moisture and shine to hair

B. They protect hair from heat damage

C. They break down the hair’s natural bonds to achieve straightness

D. They enhance curl formation in hair

Sodium hydroxide relaxers work by chemically altering the structure of the hair. Their primary function is to break down the disulfide bonds in the hair's cortex, which are responsible for the natural curl and wave pattern. Once these bonds are broken, the hair can be reshaped and straightened. This process effectively achieves a straighter hair texture by allowing the hair to be repositioned in a straight configuration before the bonds re-form upon rinsing and neutralizing the relaxer. Understanding this process is crucial for hair professionals, as it highlights the importance of applying relaxers properly to avoid damage and achieve the desired results. The other options do not accurately describe the action of sodium hydroxide relaxers; they do not add moisture, protect from heat damage, or enhance curl formation, which are functions associated with different hair products or treatments.

10. What process involves the removal of one sulfur atom and its replacement with a disulfide bond?

A. Oxidation

B. Reduction

C. Lanthionization

D. Hydrolysis

The process that involves the removal of one sulfur atom and its replacement with a disulfide bond is lanthionization. This technique is commonly used in permanent waving and chemical texture services. During lanthionization, the original disulfide bonds in the hair, which are responsible for its natural curl and wave pattern, are altered. Specifically, one sulfur atom from a disulfide bond is removed, resulting in a new bond called a lanthionine bond. This modification leads to a change in the internal structure of the hair, allowing for different styling options and improved control over the curl pattern. This process is distinct from oxidation, reduction, and hydrolysis. Oxidation generally involves the addition of oxygen to a compound while reducing its electron count, which does not specifically pertain to the removal of sulfur atoms. Reduction, on the other hand, refers to the gain of electrons or the addition of hydrogen, neither of which defines the lanthionization process. Hydrolysis involves the chemical breakdown of a compound due to a reaction with water, which also does not relate directly to sulfur atom manipulation. Thus, lanthionization specifically describes the unique process where sulfur atoms are manipulated to create new structural bonds within the hair.