

FDNY CoF Citywide Watchperson at Construction Sites (S-60) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. What is a recommended practice for storing flammable liquids?**
 - A. Keep them exposed to sunlight**
 - B. Store them in tightly closed containers away from ignition sources**
 - C. Place them near combustible materials for easy access**
 - D. Store them in open areas for ventilation**
- 2. What is the main energy source for powder-actuated tools?**
 - A. Compressed air**
 - B. Electric batteries**
 - C. Explosive power loads**
 - D. Manual labor**
- 3. For buildings over 40,000 sq feet, how many additional S-60 watchpersons are required?**
 - A. One for every 20,000 sq feet**
 - B. One for every 30,000 sq feet**
 - C. One for every 40,000 sq feet**
 - D. None are required**
- 4. What criterion is used to determine the number of watchpersons needed on large construction sites?**
 - A. The number of workers present**
 - B. The size of the building**
 - C. The type of materials used**
 - D. The duration of the construction project**
- 5. In construction sites, what is a common placement issue for fire extinguishers?**
 - A. Too high for easy access**
 - B. Placed on the floor without any stand**
 - C. Too far from emergency exits**
 - D. Near electrical equipment only**

- 6. What is the first step when using a fire extinguisher as per P.A.S.S.?**
- A. Aim at the base of the fire**
 - B. Pull the pin**
 - C. Squeeze the handle**
 - D. Sweep the nozzle**
- 7. When should a watchperson consider using a fire extinguisher?**
- A. For any size fire**
 - B. Only for small, contained fires**
 - C. When requested by a firefighter**
 - D. For any malfunctioning electrical equipment**
- 8. Which fire extinguisher agents are most effective for Class B fires?**
- A. Water and CO2**
 - B. Dry chemical and foam**
 - C. Water and foam**
 - D. Wet chemical and water**
- 9. What is the significance of providing the nearest cross-street to the 911 operator?**
- A. It is irrelevant if the correct address is given**
 - B. It aids responders in locating the emergency site swiftly**
 - C. It can help identify potential hazards**
 - D. It is standard procedure for all 911 calls**
- 10. What type of fire extinguisher is indicated by the classification 10-B:C?**
- A. A standard foam extinguisher**
 - B. A multi-purpose dry chemical extinguisher**
 - C. A CO2 extinguisher**
 - D. Water type extinguisher**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

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1. What is a recommended practice for storing flammable liquids?

A. Keep them exposed to sunlight

B. Store them in tightly closed containers away from ignition sources

C. Place them near combustible materials for easy access

D. Store them in open areas for ventilation

Storing flammable liquids in tightly closed containers away from ignition sources is a critical safety practice. This method significantly reduces the risk of fire and explosion, as tightly sealed containers minimize the evaporation of vapors that can ignite. Keeping flammable liquids away from ignition sources, such as flames, sparks, or electrical equipment, further enhances safety, ensuring that accidental ignition is less likely to occur. Proper storage also helps maintain the integrity of the containers, preventing leaks and spills that could lead to hazardous situations. In contrast, other practices such as exposing flammable liquids to sunlight can lead to increased temperatures and vapor buildup, which raises the risk of combustion. Placing flammable materials near combustible substances creates additional hazards, as it can result in rapid fire spread. Storing them in open areas for ventilation, while seemingly beneficial for reducing fume buildup, can expose the liquids to environmental factors that may lead to ignition, and does not provide the necessary containment that tightly closed storage offers. Thus, the safest practice is the use of closed containers and distancing from potential sources of ignition.

2. What is the main energy source for powder-actuated tools?

A. Compressed air

B. Electric batteries

C. Explosive power loads

D. Manual labor

The main energy source for powder-actuated tools is explosive power loads. These tools use small explosive charges to drive fasteners into a variety of materials, such as concrete or steel. The explosive charge is similar to that used in firearms, providing the necessary force to embed nails or pins quickly and efficiently. Understanding this mechanism is important for safety and operational procedures when handling powder-actuated tools. Operators must be trained in their use, as improper handling could lead to dangerous situations. The explosive loads are designed to be safe when used correctly and within specified guidelines, highlighting the importance of following operational standards set by regulations. In comparison, the other options involve different energy sources and mechanisms that are not applicable to powder-actuated tools. For example, compressed air is utilized in pneumatic tools, electric batteries power cordless tools, and manual labor relies on physical exertion rather than explosive energy.

3. For buildings over 40,000 sq feet, how many additional S-60 watchpersons are required?

- A. One for every 20,000 sq feet**
- B. One for every 30,000 sq feet**
- C. One for every 40,000 sq feet**
- D. None are required**

The requirement for additional S-60 watchpersons at construction sites is determined by the size of the building. For buildings exceeding 40,000 square feet, the regulation mandates that one additional watchperson is necessary for every 40,000 square feet of the building area. This means that if an existing building is already 40,000 square feet and construction expands that area, there will be a need for an extra watchperson to ensure safety and compliance with regulations designed to prevent incidents. In the case of a building that is exactly or just over 40,000 square feet, this provision allows for the maintaining of heightened safety oversight to manage the risks associated with larger construction projects. The established ratio of one additional watchperson per every 40,000 square feet ensures that sufficient staff is present, facilitating proper monitoring of safety protocols and emergency responses throughout the construction site.

4. What criterion is used to determine the number of watchpersons needed on large construction sites?

- A. The number of workers present**
- B. The size of the building**
- C. The type of materials used**
- D. The duration of the construction project**

The criterion for determining the number of watchpersons needed on large construction sites primarily focuses on the size of the building. Larger buildings typically present more complex safety and security challenges due to their size, height, and the ongoing activities involved in construction. A larger site may require more vigilant supervision to ensure compliance with safety regulations, monitor the activities of many workers, and manage the potentially increased risks associated with larger operations. Factors such as the number of workers or the specific materials used may also play a role in safety planning, but they are secondary to the fundamental risks and requirements that arise from the sheer scale of the construction project. In addition, the duration of the construction project does not directly correlate with the need for watchpersons, since even short-term projects can require significant oversight depending on the building's specifications.

5. In construction sites, what is a common placement issue for fire extinguishers?

- A. Too high for easy access**
- B. Placed on the floor without any stand**
- C. Too far from emergency exits**
- D. Near electrical equipment only**

The correct answer highlights a significant safety concern regarding the placement of fire extinguishers on construction sites, which involves accessibility for quick use in emergencies. When fire extinguishers are placed directly on the floor without any stand or mounting, they are at risk of being obstructed, overlooked, or difficult for individuals to reach, particularly in chaotic or cluttered environments typical of construction sites. Ensuring that fire extinguishers are mounted securely at an appropriate height allows for better visibility and easier access in cases of fire, contributing to a safer working environment. Proper placement is crucial, as it aligns with safety regulations and guidelines designed to protect workers and minimize response time during a fire incident. Other placement issues like being too high, too far from emergency exits, or located solely near electrical equipment also present risks, but the direct concern with extinguishers on the floor emphasizes immediate access and visibility, which is critical for effective fire response.

6. What is the first step when using a fire extinguisher as per P.A.S.S.?

- A. Aim at the base of the fire**
- B. Pull the pin**
- C. Squeeze the handle**
- D. Sweep the nozzle**

The first step when using a fire extinguisher, according to the P.A.S.S. method, is to pull the pin. This action is crucial because it releases the safety mechanism and enables the extinguisher to be activated. Without pulling the pin, the extinguisher cannot function, as it prevents accidental discharge. Once the pin is pulled, the user can then proceed to aim at the base of the fire, squeeze the handle, and sweep the nozzle to effectively put out the flames. Understanding this sequence is vital for ensuring quick and effective responses in fire emergencies, particularly in environments like construction sites where fire hazards may be present.

7. When should a watchperson consider using a fire extinguisher?

- A. For any size fire**
- B. Only for small, contained fires**
- C. When requested by a firefighter**
- D. For any malfunctioning electrical equipment**

A watchperson should consider using a fire extinguisher primarily for small, contained fires. This is because fire extinguishers are most effective when the fire is still manageable and has not spread beyond a limited area. Using an extinguisher on a small fire can help prevent a minor incident from escalating into a larger, more dangerous situation. It's essential for the watchperson to assess the situation first: they should ensure that they are trained to use the extinguisher properly and that they have a safe escape route if the fire begins to grow. In cases where the fire is larger or poses significant danger, the priority should be to evacuate the area and call emergency services rather than attempt to extinguish it. In contrast, considering an extinguisher for any size fire could lead to risky situations where the watchperson may encounter flames that are too large to control. Requesting intervention from a firefighter indicates that the situation has escalated beyond simple containment, and malfunctioning electrical equipment does not automatically warrant extinguishing unless there is an active fire. Thus, the emphasis on small, contained fires ensures safety and proper use of resources in emergency situations.

8. Which fire extinguisher agents are most effective for Class B fires?

- A. Water and CO2**
- B. Dry chemical and foam**
- C. Water and foam**
- D. Wet chemical and water**

The most effective fire extinguisher agents for Class B fires, which involve flammable liquids such as grease, oil, gasoline, and solvents, are dry chemical and foam. Dry chemical extinguishers work by interrupting the chemical reaction of the fire, making them highly effective against flammable liquid fires. They are versatile and can be used on various types of combustible materials, specifically designed to handle Class B fires. Foam extinguishers, on the other hand, act by forming a blanket over the burning liquid, which prevents oxygen from reaching the fire and cools the flames. Foam is particularly effective for smothering flammable liquid fires and preventing re-ignition. In contrast, water and CO2 are less effective for Class B fires. While CO2 extinguishers can be employed for Class B fires in some circumstances, they are not as effective as dry chemical agents because they do not cool the burning liquids, which might lead to re-ignition. Although water can be used in some situations for cooling purposes, it is generally not advised for Class B fires, especially with flammable liquids, since it can spread the fire. Wet chemical extinguishers are primarily designed for Class K fires (cooking oils and fats) and

9. What is the significance of providing the nearest cross-street to the 911 operator?

- A. It is irrelevant if the correct address is given**
- B. It aids responders in locating the emergency site swiftly**
- C. It can help identify potential hazards**
- D. It is standard procedure for all 911 calls**

Providing the nearest cross-street to the 911 operator is crucial because it assists emergency responders in locating the site of the emergency quickly and efficiently. In urban environments, where streets often have similar names or addresses may be difficult to pinpoint, the nearest cross-street serves as a vital reference point. This means that responders can navigate to the scene faster, ultimately leading to quicker assistance for those in need. The identification of a cross-street enhances clarity in communication, particularly in areas where multiple buildings or locations share an address. It creates a clearer mental image for the dispatchers and helps ensure that the emergency services arrive at the correct location without unnecessary delays. While procedures and protocols for 911 calls may vary, and while identifying potential hazards is certainly important in managing emergencies, the primary significance in this context is the role of the cross-street information in facilitating rapid response to urgent situations.

10. What type of fire extinguisher is indicated by the classification 10-B:C?

- A. A standard foam extinguisher**
- B. A multi-purpose dry chemical extinguisher**
- C. A CO2 extinguisher**
- D. Water type extinguisher**

The classification 10-B:C indicates a multi-purpose dry chemical extinguisher, which is designed to extinguish fires involving flammable liquids (Class B) and electrical equipment (Class C). The "10" in the classification denotes the extinguisher's effectiveness on flammable liquids, meaning it can extinguish a fire of a certain size. The B and C indicate the types of fires it is suitable for. Multi-purpose dry chemical extinguishers are versatile and can combat various fire types effectively. They contain agents that interrupt the chemical reaction of the fire and can be used safely on electrical fires, making them essential in environments where both flammable liquids and electrical equipment may be present. Thus, the classification signifies the suitability and effectiveness of the extinguisher for specific fire scenarios, confirming that it is indeed a multi-purpose dry chemical extinguisher.