# International Rodeo Practice Exam (Sample)

**Study Guide** 



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#### **Questions**



- 1. Which type of splice is stronger than a short splice but weaker than an eye splice?
  - A. Timber splice
  - B. Half hitch
  - C. Bowline splice
  - D. Eye splice
- 2. What is the smallest size wire typically used for a pole butt ground?
  - A. #4awg
  - **B.** #6awg
  - **C.** #8awg
  - D. #10awg
- 3. What type of metal is preferred for the construction of durable transformer tanks?
  - A. Steel
  - **B.** Copper
  - C. Aluminum
  - D. Polyester
- 4. Which of these is a characteristic of a heavy loading district for wires?
  - A. Low resistance
  - B. Increased power handling
  - C. Limited flexibility
  - D. High susceptibility to wear
- 5. When using conductors, how many word names are acceptable for code names?
  - A. One word
  - B. Two words
  - C. Three words
  - D. Four words

- 6. According to electrical standards, the power factor calculation involves which of the following variables?
  - A. Amperes, Ohms, and Volts
  - **B.** Watts, Volts, and Amps
  - C. Volts, Amps, and Ohms
  - D. Watts, Ohms, and Amperes
- 7. What is the frequency range for Aeolian vibrations?
  - A. 0-50 Hz
  - B. 3-150 Hz
  - C. 100-300 Hz
  - D. 50-200 Hz
- 8. What is the primary reason for cleaning climbing equipment regularly?
  - A. To maintain appearance
  - B. To enhance performance
  - C. To prolong lifespan
  - D. For safety reasons
- 9. What percentage of total resistance around a ground rod is found within a 6 to 10 foot radius?
  - A. 70%
  - **B.** 80%
  - C. 90%
  - **D. 100%**
- 10. Which of the following is NOT a treatment for wood poles?
  - A. Pentachlorophenol
  - **B.** Chromate copper arsenates
  - C. Aluminum oxide
  - D. Copper naphthenate treatment

#### **Answers**



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



#### **Explanations**



## 1. Which type of splice is stronger than a short splice but weaker than an eye splice?

- A. Timber splice
- B. Half hitch
- C. Bowline splice
- D. Eye splice

The half hitch is a type of knot that is commonly used in a variety of applications, including securing lines and ropes. It is made by wrapping the working end of the rope around the standing part of the rope and then passing it through itself. While the half hitch can be effective for holding items securely, especially in combination with other knots, it does not have the structural integrity or strength when compared to specialized splices like the short splice or eye splice. When comparing splices specifically, the short splice is designed to join two ends of rope together and while it is strong, it does not provide the same load-bearing capacity as an eye splice. An eye splice creates a loop at the end of the rope that is much stronger, as it distributes stress evenly and allows for better handling of loads. Thus, while the half hitch is useful, it does not possess the same mechanical advantages as a splice, nor does it provide the strength found in these particular splices. In this context, the half hitch can be inferred as being stronger than a simple knot but weaker than a dedicated splice, making it a middle-ground option when considering the strength and utility of these different methods of securing rope. This aligns with the idea that while splices are designed for strength

# 2. What is the smallest size wire typically used for a pole butt ground?

- A. #4awg
- **B.** #6awg
- **C.** #8awg
- D. #10awg

The smallest size wire typically used for a pole butt ground is #6 AWG. This wire size is chosen because it provides adequate conductivity and is robust enough to handle the grounding requirements typically associated with pole structures in electrical applications. The primary function of the pole butt ground is to ensure safety by effectively grounding electrical installations, which can help prevent electrical shocks and protect equipment from voltage spikes. Using a wire that is too small can result in insufficient conductivity and an increased risk of overheating, while larger sizes may not be economically justified for this specific application. Therefore, #6 AWG strikes a balance between safety, effectiveness, and practicality, making it the standard choice in many scenarios involving pole butt grounding.

#### 3. What type of metal is preferred for the construction of durable transformer tanks?

- A. Steel
- **B.** Copper
- C. Aluminum
- D. Polyester

Steel is the preferred metal for the construction of durable transformer tanks primarily due to its strength, durability, and resistance to corrosion when appropriately treated. Steel offers the structural integrity necessary to withstand the mechanical stresses that can occur in transformer operations, such as vibrations and thermal expansion. In addition, steel can be galvanized or coated to enhance corrosion resistance, which is essential in protecting the tank from environmental factors. The ability to weld and fabricate steel into various shapes allows for robust and adaptable designs in transformer tanks. While materials like copper and aluminum have their own advantages, they typically do not provide the same level of strength and protection as steel does. Copper is effective as a conductor and is often used in wiring, while aluminum may be lighter and resistant to corrosion but lacks the same mechanical robustness needed for heavy-duty applications like transformer tanks. Polyester, being a type of plastic, is not suitable for structural applications where high strength and durability are required. Thus, steel remains the top choice for constructing transformer tanks that can endure the rigors of electrical operation and environmental conditions.

### 4. Which of these is a characteristic of a heavy loading district for wires?

- A. Low resistance
- **B.** Increased power handling
- C. Limited flexibility
- D. High susceptibility to wear

A characteristic of a heavy loading district for wires is increased power handling. In these districts, wires are designed to manage and transmit higher levels of electrical power efficiently. This involves using materials and designs that can support greater loads without overheating or failing. Higher voltage and current limits necessitate careful consideration of the wire's insulation, gauge, and overall construction to ensure safe operation under heavier power demands. Considering the nature of heavy loading scenarios, wires must effectively accommodate the increased thermal and electrical demands placed on them. This makes the ability to handle more power a critical feature, ensuring reliability and performance in high-demand applications. The other options relate to different attributes that may not align directly with the concept of heavy loading districts. Low resistance is indeed important in all electrical applications, but it does not specifically define what makes a loading district "heavy." Limited flexibility can be a feature of many wires, particularly those designed for high durability or strength, but it doesn't relate directly to the heavy loading aspect. High susceptibility to wear may occur in various wiring conditions, but it does not represent a design feature of heavy loading wires aimed at enhancing power handling.

- 5. When using conductors, how many word names are acceptable for code names?
  - A. One word
  - B. Two words
  - C. Three words
  - D. Four words

The correct choice indicates that only one word name is acceptable for code names when using conductors. This standard simplifies identification and communication regarding these conductors in practical applications. The use of a single word helps streamline conversations and documentation within the electrical field, making it easier for professionals to refer to specific types of conductors without the potential confusion that multi-word names might introduce. Moreover, the regulatory or industry standards may dictate this practice to ensure clarity and efficiency in communication as well as compliance with safety protocols. Single-word names can also facilitate easier memorization and quicker reference, which is essential in fast-paced environments where time and accuracy are critical. The other options suggest multiple words which could lead to ambiguity or misunderstandings, making single-word naming the most effective choice in this context.

- 6. According to electrical standards, the power factor calculation involves which of the following variables?
  - A. Amperes, Ohms, and Volts
  - B. Watts, Volts, and Amps
  - C. Volts, Amps, and Ohms
  - D. Watts, Ohms, and Amperes

The power factor is a crucial aspect in the field of electrical engineering, as it quantifies the efficiency with which electrical power is converted into useful work output. It is defined as the ratio of the real power (measured in Watts) used in a circuit to the apparent power (which is the product of voltage and current), represented in volt-amperes (VA). In the context of the choices provided, the calculation of power factor specifically relies on the values of Watts (the real power), Volts (the voltage in the system), and Amps (the current flowing through the circuit). This relationship allows one to determine how effectively the electrical power is being utilized in a system by assessing the real power against the total power flowing through the circuit. The other options present incorrect combinations of units that do not accurately reflect the components required for calculating power factor. The chosen answer encompasses the essential variables for measuring how well the power is being converted from the source to actual work, making it the correct choice for understanding power factor in electrical systems.

#### 7. What is the frequency range for Aeolian vibrations?

- A. 0-50 Hz
- **B. 3-150 Hz**
- C. 100-300 Hz
- D. 50-200 Hz

The frequency range for Aeolian vibrations is correctly identified as 3-150 Hz. This type of vibration occurs when wind interacts with structures, such as suspension bridges or tall poles, causing oscillations at relatively low frequencies. The range of 3 Hz to 150 Hz is significant because it encompasses the frequencies typically induced by wind forces acting on these structures, allowing for resonance phenomena that can lead to noticeable vibrations. Understanding this range is essential for structural engineers and designers to ensure that the design can withstand or mitigate the effects of such vibrations. In contrast, the other ranges provided do not accurately capture the frequencies associated with Aeolian vibrations. For example, the range from 0-50 Hz is too broad and does not reflect the specific nature of these oscillations, while the ranges of 100-300 Hz and 50-200 Hz are higher than what is typically observed in Aeolian scenarios, focusing instead on higher frequency effects not primarily caused by wind interactions.

# 8. What is the primary reason for cleaning climbing equipment regularly?

- A. To maintain appearance
- B. To enhance performance
- C. To prolong lifespan
- D. For safety reasons

Cleaning climbing equipment regularly is fundamentally important for safety reasons. Over time, dirt, grime, and other contaminants can accumulate on climbing gear, which can interfere with its functionality. For instance, dirt can affect the operation of carabiners and belay devices, potentially leading to malfunction during a climb. While maintaining appearance and enhancing performance can be secondary benefits of cleaning equipment, the most critical reason revolves around ensuring that the gear operates effectively and safely when needed. Additionally, regular cleaning helps prevent wear and damage that could compromise the gear's integrity and reliability. Therefore, prioritizing safety underscores the necessity of keeping climbing equipment clean and well-maintained.

### 9. What percentage of total resistance around a ground rod is found within a 6 to 10 foot radius?

- A. 70%
- **B. 80%**
- C. 90%
- D. 100%

The concept of total resistance around a ground rod is significant for understanding how effectively the ground rod can dissipate electrical currents into the earth. This phenomenon is crucial for ensuring safety and performance in electrical installations. The correct answer of 90% indicates that a vast majority of the grounding resistance occurs within a relatively close proximity-specifically, within a 6 to 10 foot radius around the ground rod. Grounding systems are designed in a way that the earth acts as a conductor to carry the fault currents safely away. The resistance decreases with the distance from the ground rod, primarily because the conductivity of the soil can be more effectively utilized closer to the rod. Various parameters such as soil moisture, temperature, and type of soil can influence this conductivity, and the immediate area around the ground rod plays a critical role in establishing a low-resistance path. Understanding that 90% of the resistance is concentrated within the vicinity of the ground rod emphasizes the importance of proper installation and the maintenance of that area to ensure efficient grounding. It also informs engineers and electricians about the effectiveness of ground systems and guides them in designing and placing ground rods strategically for optimal performance.

# 10. Which of the following is NOT a treatment for wood poles?

- A. Pentachlorophenol
- **B.** Chromate copper arsenates
- C. Aluminum oxide
- D. Copper naphthenate treatment

The correct answer identifies aluminum oxide as not being a treatment for wood poles. Treatments for wood poles are typically applied to prolong their lifespan and protect them from decay, insects, and environmental factors. Pentachlorophenol, chromate copper arsenates, and copper naphthenate are all commonly used wood preservatives. Pentachlorophenol is effective against a range of fungi and insects, providing long-lasting protection. Chromate copper arsenates are a well-known wood preservative that combines copper, chromium, and arsenic to prevent decay. Copper naphthenate is another wood treatment that protects against fungi and insects, helping prevent rot. Aluminum oxide, in contrast, is primarily known as a compound used in processes such as the production of aluminum metal and does not serve the purpose of treating wood to protect it from degradation. As such, it does not fit within the category of treatments for wood poles. Understanding the specific uses and effects of each compound helps clarify why aluminum oxide is not applicable in this context.