NASCLA Accredited Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide

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Questions

1. When stacking masonry blocks higher than 6 feet, the stack must be tapered back how far?

A. Back one-quarter block per tier

B. Back one-third block per tier

C. Back one-half block per tier

D. Back one whole block per tier

2. How often should the visual inspection of equipment take place?

A. Only when malfunction occurs

B. Before each shift

C. Once a month

D. At the end of the workday

3. What factor does cost reduction primarily focus on?

A. Quality and durability

B. First cost

C. Life-cycle cost

D. Operational efficiency

4. What type of plate is recommended for an 8"-13" penetration in steel decking?

A. .045 inch plate

B. .057 inch plate

C. .065 inch plate

D. .075 inch plate

5. What additional layer thickness is required for the top layer of valley lining when using mineral-surfaced roll roofing?

A. 18 inches

B. 24 inches

C. 30 inches

D. 36 inches

6. What must portable power-driven circular saws have for safety?

A. Only an upper guard

B. A guard above and below the base plate

C. Only a lower guard

D. No guards are required

7. What is the weight range of roofing base sheets used in BUR systems?

A. 10 to 25 pounds per square

B. 30 to 50 pounds per square

C. 45 to 80 pounds per square

D. 100 to 120 pounds per square

8. Which organization type requires at least two people to be considered legal?

A. Sole Proprietorship

B. Partnership

C. Corporation

D. Joint Venture

9. What organization is likely to provide the information on accessible parking mentioned in auxiliary resources?

A. Local building authority

B. Department of Transportation

C. Google Drive

D. Accessibility Standards Committee

10. How many ribs should be fastened to extend beyond a 24 inch opening?

A. 1 rib

B. 2 ribs

C. 3 ribs

D. 4 ribs

Answers

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

Explanations

1. When stacking masonry blocks higher than 6 feet, the stack must be tapered back how far?

A. Back one-quarter block per tier

B. Back one-third block per tier

C. Back one-half block per tier

D. Back one whole block per tier

When stacking masonry blocks higher than 6 feet, the stack must be tapered back one-half block per tier to ensure stability and prevent the risk of the stack toppling over. Tapering back the blocks in this manner distributes the weight more evenly and lowers the center of gravity, which provides additional support and enhances the overall safety of the stack. This technique is essential in construction practices, particularly when dealing with material heights that exceed 6 feet, as it mitigates risks that could arise from wind, vibrations, or accidental impacts. By following this guideline, workers can maintain structural integrity and comply with safety standards, making construction environments safer.

2. How often should the visual inspection of equipment take place?

A. Only when malfunction occurs

B. Before each shift

C. Once a month

D. At the end of the workday

Visual inspection of equipment before each shift is crucial for maintaining safety and operational efficiency in any workplace environment. This practice ensures that any potential issues or hazards are identified and addressed promptly before work begins, thereby reducing the risk of accidents and equipment failure during operations. Regular inspections can catch signs of wear and tear, leaks, or other problems that may not completely reveal themselves until equipment is in use. By conducting these inspections daily, organizations create a culture of safety and proactive maintenance, which ultimately contributes to better overall performance. Regular oversight also allows for timely repairs and servicing, fostering equipment longevity and reliability. Frequent checks are essential not just for compliance with safety regulations but also to assure the workforce that their environment is secure for productivity. In contrast, relying on inspections only when malfunctions occur could result in dangerous situations, as problems might go undetected until they lead to failures. Inspections once a month or at the end of the workday may not be frequent enough to ensure safety and equipment integrity, particularly in high-demand or high-stakes environments.

3. What factor does cost reduction primarily focus on?

A. Quality and durability

B. First cost

C. Life-cycle cost

D. Operational efficiency

Cost reduction primarily focuses on the first cost, which refers to the initial expenditure required to procure materials, labor, and overhead when starting a project. This concept is crucial in project management and budgeting, as it aims to minimize the upfront expenses associated with construction or any other procurement processes. Focusing on first costs helps project managers make decisions that contribute to short-term financial savings. While quality and durability, life-cycle costs, and operational efficiency are all important aspects of project management, they tend to have longer-term implications or varying impacts on cost efficiency. Quality and durability ensure that the project meets certain standards and lasts longer, potentially leading to higher long-term costs. Life-cycle cost includes the total cost of ownership over the lifespan of a product or project, not just the initial purchase price. Operational efficiency relates to how effectively resources are utilized during operations, which can indirectly influence costs but is not the primary focus when specifically aiming for cost reduction at the outset. Thus, by concentrating on the first cost, organizations can effectively manage their budgets and allocate resources more efficiently, ensuring they achieve immediate financial benefits while considering how those choices align with overall project goals.

4. What type of plate is recommended for an 8"-13" penetration in steel decking?

A. .045 inch plate

B. .057 inch plate

C. .065 inch plate

D. .075 inch plate

When determining the appropriate plate thickness for anchoring into steel decking with an 8"-13" penetration, one must consider the load-bearing capacity and structural integrity required for the specific application. A plate thickness of .057 inch is generally recommended for this range of penetration due to several factors. First, the .057 inch plate strikes an effective balance between strength and weight. For penetrations in the specified range, this thickness can adequately support the tension and shear forces that might be encountered during normal use and under potential load conditions. The structural design codes often suggest using this thickness to ensure reliability while maintaining the necessary structural performance. Moreover, thicker plates such as .065 inch or .075 inch could be unnecessarily heavy and more challenging to work with, potentially leading to over-engineering for applications that do not require such robustness. The .045 inch plate, while lighter, may not provide sufficient strength and durability for the stresses associated with a penetration in this range. Overall, the .057 inch plate is deemed suitable, as it meets the structural requirements without excessive weight, which ensures ease of installation and efficiency in construction without compromising safety or performance.

5. What additional layer thickness is required for the top layer of valley lining when using mineral-surfaced roll roofing?

A. 18 inches

B. 24 inches

C. 30 inches

D. 36 inches

The correct additional layer thickness for the top layer of valley lining when using mineral-surfaced roll roofing is 36 inches. In roofing applications, particularly with roll roofing materials, it's essential to provide adequate coverage and water shedding capabilities, especially at critical points like valleys. Valleys are areas where water can accumulate and are more prone to leaks if not properly covered. By specifying a thickness of 36 inches for the top layer of valley lining, it ensures that there is sufficient overlap and protection against water intrusion. This thickness allows for proper installation and helps to prevent any potential pooling of water at the valley, which can occur if the material coverage is insufficient. This guideline is based on industry best practices that aim at enhancing durability and effectiveness in waterproofing areas prone to weather exposure.

6. What must portable power-driven circular saws have for safety?

A. Only an upper guard

B. A guard above and below the base plate

C. Only a lower guard

D. No guards are required

Portable power-driven circular saws are designed with safety in mind, and having both an upper guard and a lower guard is essential for preventing accidents and injuries. The upper guard covers the top of the blade, protecting the user from potential contact when handling the saw. The lower guard serves to shield the bottom part of the blade, providing additional safety when the saw is in use or when it is being set down. The presence of both guards ensures that the blade is covered except when it is in contact with the material being cut, reducing the likelihood of inadvertent injury. This dual-guard system is a crucial feature for promoting safe operation and is typically mandated by safety standards and regulations governing the use of such power tools.

7. What is the weight range of roofing base sheets used in BUR systems?

A. 10 to 25 pounds per square

B. 30 to 50 pounds per square

C. 45 to 80 pounds per square

D. 100 to 120 pounds per square

The weight range of roofing base sheets used in built-up roofing (BUR) systems typically falls between 45 to 80 pounds per square. This weight range is important because it ensures the sheets are robust enough to provide durability and support for the multiple layers that characterize BUR systems. Base sheets serve several functions, including acting as a foundation layer for the built-up roofing and contributing to the overall water resistance and stability of the roofing system. The weight of 45 to 80 pounds per square indicates that the materials are substantial enough to withstand environmental factors such as wind, rain, and temperature fluctuations while maintaining structural integrity. Heavier weight options, such as those above this range, might be used for specialized applications but generally fall outside standard specifications for BUR systems. Therefore, understanding the standard weight helps contractors select appropriate materials for their roofing projects to ensure both compliance with industry standards and optimal performance of the roofing system.

8. Which organization type requires at least two people to be considered legal?

A. Sole Proprietorship

B. Partnership

C. Corporation

D. Joint Venture

A partnership is defined as a business arrangement where two or more individuals share ownership and management responsibilities. To legally constitute a partnership, it is essential to have at least two partners, as the name implies. This structure allows partners to combine their skills, resources, and efforts to achieve common business goals. In contrast, a sole proprietorship is owned by a single individual and does not require additional partners. A corporation is a more complex structure that can operate with one or more shareholders. While a joint venture can be formed by two or more parties, it is typically a temporary arrangement for a specific project rather than a permanent business structure like a partnership. Therefore, the requirement of having at least two individuals is specific to partnerships, making it the correct answer in this context.

9. What organization is likely to provide the information on accessible parking mentioned in auxiliary resources?

A. Local building authority

B. Department of Transportation

C. Google Drive

D. Accessibility Standards Committee

The correct choice for the organization likely to provide information on accessible parking in auxiliary resources is the Department of Transportation. This organization typically oversees regulations and guidelines related to transportation, including parking accessibility mandates that comply with federal law, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Department of Transportation often issues manuals and resources outlining requirements for accessible parking spaces, including dimensions, signage, and placement. Their focus on public safety and accessibility ensures that individuals with disabilities have equitable access to parking facilities, which is essential in urban planning and community infrastructure. While local building authorities may enforce specific codes within their jurisdictions, they typically rely on the standards set forth by broader organizations like the Department of Transportation. Google Drive, as a file storage and sharing platform, is not a resource-generating organization and doesn't provide authoritative information on accessibility. The Accessibility Standards Committee may contribute to developing regulations but is not typically the primary source for public information regarding accessible parking.

10. How many ribs should be fastened to extend beyond a 24 inch opening?

A. 1 rib

B. 2 ribs

C. 3 ribs

D. 4 ribs

To determine how many ribs should be fastened to extend beyond a 24-inch opening, it is important to consider the structural requirements for reinforcement. In this context, ribs provide necessary support and prevent sagging or failure in the structure. The correct answer indicates that three ribs should be used to ensure that there is adequate support across the entire span of the opening. This number provides a balance between structural integrity and material efficiency, helping to distribute load effectively and maintain stability. Generally, three supporting ribs allow for a more even distribution across the length, especially compared to using just one or two, which may not adequately support the load or could lead to deformation or failure over time. This practice reflects standard guidelines in construction and design that focus on maintaining safety and structural soundness while adequately addressing potential loads and stresses. Having three ribs in place is a common recommendation for openings of this size, ensuring that the design meets or exceeds the necessary safety standards.