

Nevada C-10 Landscape Contractor Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. Why is it important to prune the base wider than the top for hedges?**
 - A. To ensure sunlight reaches all parts**
 - B. To encourage proper drainage**
 - C. To allow for easy maintenance**
 - D. To maintain fullness and aesthetic appeal**
- 2. How often should an established lawn be watered?**
 - A. Daily, heavily**
 - B. Infrequently, evenly, and deeply**
 - C. Twice a week, lightly**
 - D. Weekly, evenly**
- 3. To ensure proper drainage and accommodate swelling, wood decking should be spaced how far apart?**
 - A. 1/16 to 1/8 inch**
 - B. 1/8 to 1/4 inch**
 - C. 1/4 to 1/2 inch**
 - D. 1/2 to 1 inch**
- 4. What is the result of dampening the base material prior to pouring concrete on top?**
 - A. It allows for faster curing**
 - B. It prevents cracking**
 - C. It ensures the base does not absorb excessive moisture**
 - D. It enhances the bond between layers**
- 5. What type of landscape maintenance is intended to enhance the health of trees?**
 - A. Pruning**
 - B. Weeding**
 - C. Mulching**
 - D. Edging**

- 6. What is the minimum percentage of grade allowed for a planter next to a structure?**
- A. 1% to 2%**
 - B. 0% to 1%**
 - C. 3% to 4%**
 - D. 5% to 6%**
- 7. What is the recommended depth for planting bulbs?**
- A. At least three times their height**
 - B. Plant at a depth equal to their height**
 - C. Plant bulbs at a depth twice their height**
 - D. At a depth one and a half times their height**
- 8. Which type of grass is classified as a cool-season grass?**
- A. Bermudagrass**
 - B. Zoysiagrass**
 - C. Kentucky grass**
 - D. Buffalograss**
- 9. An engineered water hammer arrestor must be placed _____ of the valve and as close to the valve as possible.**
- A. On the return side**
 - B. On the supply side**
 - C. Downstream**
 - D. Immediately upstream**
- 10. At what depth should grass seed typically be planted?**
- A. 2 inches**
 - B. 4 inches**
 - C. 6 inches**
 - D. 8 inches**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

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Explanations

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1. Why is it important to prune the base wider than the top for hedges?

- A. To ensure sunlight reaches all parts**
- B. To encourage proper drainage**
- C. To allow for easy maintenance**
- D. To maintain fullness and aesthetic appeal**

Pruning hedges with a base wider than the top is essential for maintaining fullness and aesthetic appeal, which contributes to the overall health and appearance of the hedge. When hedges are pruned in this manner, it allows sunlight to penetrate the lower branches more effectively, promoting healthy growth throughout the entire plant. In this way, the lower foliage receives adequate light, preventing it from becoming sparse or bare. Additionally, this shape can optimize air circulation within the hedge, reducing the likelihood of disease and enhancing the plant's vigor. Furthermore, a wider base leads to a natural tapering effect that can help create a more visually pleasing silhouette, which is often desired in landscape design. This design consideration is particularly important for ornamental hedges, as it enhances their sculptural qualities and overall integration into the landscape. Therefore, the emphasis on maintaining fullness and aesthetic appeal is pivotal in the practice of hedge management.

2. How often should an established lawn be watered?

- A. Daily, heavily**
- B. Infrequently, evenly, and deeply**
- C. Twice a week, lightly**
- D. Weekly, evenly**

An established lawn should be watered infrequently, evenly, and deeply to promote healthy root development and overall lawn health. This method encourages roots to grow deeper into the soil, allowing the grass to become more drought-resistant and resilient to stress. Deep watering encourages the grass to access moisture stored deeper in the soil, reducing the need for frequent watering. When watering deeply, it's essential to ensure that the water penetrates the soil to a depth of 6-8 inches, which allows the roots to access moisture and nutrients effectively. This approach not only conserves water but also reduces the risk of fungal diseases that can thrive in overly moist conditions resulting from daily or light watering. This watering strategy contrasts with other methods that may encourage shallow rooting or over-saturation, which can harm the grass and lead to increased maintenance issues. For example, daily heavy watering can promote shallow root systems and potentially lead to overwatering issues, while weekly light watering may not provide sufficient moisture for deep root growth.

3. To ensure proper drainage and accommodate swelling, wood decking should be spaced how far apart?

- A. 1/16 to 1/8 inch**
- B. 1/8 to 1/4 inch**
- C. 1/4 to 1/2 inch**
- D. 1/2 to 1 inch**

The correct spacing for wood decking is 1/8 to 1/4 inch to ensure proper drainage and allow for the natural expansion and contraction of the wood due to moisture changes. This spacing helps to prevent water from collecting on the surface, which can lead to issues like mold, rot, or decay. Adequate space accommodates the swelling of the wood as it absorbs moisture, especially in climates where rainfall is prevalent. Additionally, this spacing allows for airflow between the boards, promoting drying and reducing the likelihood of trapped moisture, which can further contribute to wood deterioration. Therefore, maintaining a gap of 1/8 to 1/4 inch strikes an optimal balance between allowing drainage and ensuring structural integrity and longevity of the decking material. This understanding is crucial for landscape contractors to execute proper installation practices effectively.

4. What is the result of dampening the base material prior to pouring concrete on top?

- A. It allows for faster curing**
- B. It prevents cracking**
- C. It ensures the base does not absorb excessive moisture**
- D. It enhances the bond between layers**

Dampening the base material prior to pouring concrete is significant because it helps to ensure that the base does not absorb excessive moisture from the concrete mix itself. If the base material is too dry, it can draw moisture out of the concrete, which can lead to issues such as increased shrinkage and cracking as the concrete cures. By dampening the base, you create a more stable environment where the concrete can retain the necessary moisture for proper curing, promoting better strength and durability in the finished product. While faster curing and enhanced bonding can be secondary benefits, the main purpose of dampening the base is to prevent the base material from absorbing too much moisture, which is critical for the integrity of the concrete slab. The ability to maintain the right moisture levels in the curing process plays a vital role in preventing defects in the concrete, ensuring that the final structure meets strength and longevity requirements.

5. What type of landscape maintenance is intended to enhance the health of trees?

A. Pruning

B. Weeding

C. Mulching

D. Edging

Pruning is a key landscape maintenance practice focused on enhancing the health of trees. This technique involves selectively removing certain parts of a tree, such as branches or buds, to improve air circulation, promote better light penetration, and reduce the risk of disease. By eliminating dead or diseased branches, pruning helps prevent pests and pathogens from taking hold, thus encouraging healthier growth and overall vigor of the tree. Additionally, pruning can be designed to shape the tree, directing its energy toward producing foliage and flowers rather than maintaining unnecessary growth. This not only contributes to the aesthetic appeal but also to the longevity and structural integrity of the tree. In contrast, practices such as weeding, mulching, and edging serve different purposes and are not primarily focused on tree health; they target soil conditions, weed control, and garden aesthetics, respectively.

6. What is the minimum percentage of grade allowed for a planter next to a structure?

A. 1% to 2%

B. 0% to 1%

C. 3% to 4%

D. 5% to 6%

The minimum percentage of grade allowed for a planter next to a structure is critical for ensuring proper drainage and preventing water accumulation, which can lead to structural damage. A grade of 0% to 1% allows for very gentle slopes that facilitate water movement away from the foundation without causing erosion or excessive runoff. This slight gradient is adequate to guide rainwater and irrigation runoff towards drains or away from the building, promoting healthy soil moisture levels while protecting against potential water damage. In landscaping practices, especially near structures, water must be directed away to maintain structural integrity and avoid issues related to water pooling or saturation. Higher percentages, such as those mentioned in other choices, would create steeper slopes that are unnecessary for planters and could result in soil erosion, increased runoff, and difficulties in plant maintenance. Thus, the 0% to 1% range is optimal, balancing effective drainage and practical landscaping needs.

7. What is the recommended depth for planting bulbs?

- A. At least three times their height**
- B. Plant at a depth equal to their height**
- C. Plant bulbs at a depth twice their height**
- D. At a depth one and a half times their height**

The recommended depth for planting bulbs is generally considered to be twice their height. This guideline is based on the bulb's size and type, ensuring that they have enough soil coverage to provide stability, moisture retention, and protection from extreme weather conditions. Planting at this depth allows the bulbs to establish their root systems effectively while also facilitating sprouting and growth when the time is right. Maintaining the correct depth is crucial for the health of the bulb; if planted too deeply, the bulbs may struggle to emerge, while if planted too shallowly, they may be more susceptible to pests and environmental factors. Therefore, planting bulbs at a depth twice their height balances these needs, encouraging robust development and preventing potential issues in growth.

8. Which type of grass is classified as a cool-season grass?

- A. Bermudagrass**
- B. Zoysiagrass**
- C. Kentucky grass**
- D. Buffalograss**

Cool-season grasses are those that thrive in the cooler temperatures of spring and fall, typically growing best when temperatures are between 60°F and 75°F. Kentucky bluegrass is a prime example of a cool-season grass. It germinates in the cooler months and establishes deep root systems, allowing it to remain healthy and lush during the milder temperatures. Kentucky bluegrass is particularly valued for its rich color, density, and soft texture, making it a popular choice for lawns and landscapes in northern climates where cool seasons predominate. Its growth pattern aligns with the seasonal temperature changes, allowing it to flourish when other grasses might struggle. In contrast, Bermudagrass and Zoysiagrass are warm-season grasses, thriving in the heat of summer. Buffalograss, while also a warm-season type, is notable for its drought resistance in native prairie regions. Understanding the classifications of these grasses is vital for landscape professionals to select the right types for various environmental conditions and client preferences.

9. An engineered water hammer arrestor must be placed _____ of the valve and as close to the valve as possible.

- A. On the return side
- B. On the supply side**
- C. Downstream
- D. Immediately upstream

The correct placement of an engineered water hammer arrestor is on the supply side of the valve, very close to the valve itself. This positioning is critical because the water hammer arrestor is designed to absorb the shock of the water flow changes caused by the sudden stopping or starting of water movement, typically at faucets or valves. By being on the supply side, the arrestor can effectively mitigate pressure surges before they reach the valve, thus preventing potential damage to the plumbing system. Positioning the arrestor immediately upstream of the valve allows it to function efficiently, as it can absorb the hydraulic shock from the water, reducing the likelihood of hammering noises and stress on the plumbing components. This is vital for maintaining the longevity and integrity of the plumbing system, as well as ensuring safe and smooth operation of fixtures and appliances connected to the water supply. Choosing not to position the arrestor downstream or on the return side would diminish its effectiveness, as these locations would allow for the shock waves to impact the valve and plumbing fixtures before they are mitigated. Thus, situating the engineered arrestor on the supply side underscores its role in protecting the system from water hammer effects.

10. At what depth should grass seed typically be planted?

- A. 2 inches
- B. 4 inches
- C. 6 inches**
- D. 8 inches

Grass seed should typically be planted at a depth of about 1/4 to 1/2 inch. This shallow planting depth is crucial because grass seeds require sunlight, moisture, and warmth to germinate effectively, and burying them too deep can hinder these essential elements. The concept is based on the natural growing conditions of grass, where seeds are often found on the surface of the soil in natural settings and benefit from exposure to light. Depths such as 2 inches or more are excessive for grass seed and would likely lead to poor germination rates due to insufficient light and possibly excessive moisture retention, which can lead to seed rot. Similarly, depths of 4, 6, or 8 inches exceed the optimal range for grass seeds and would not promote the healthy establishment of a lawn. A planting depth of 1/4 to 1/2 inch is ideal for facilitating germination by ensuring the seeds remain in contact with the soil while still receiving the necessary light and moisture.