

New York City DOB Site Safety Interview Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. What is the minimum distance that must be maintained away from high tension lines?**
 - A. 10 feet**
 - B. 15 feet**
 - C. 20 feet**
 - D. 25 feet**
- 2. What code governs the use of gasoline and diesel fuel in the subway system?**
 - A. FDNY Fire Code**
 - B. OSHA Guidelines**
 - C. Environmental Protection Standards**
 - D. Subway Operating Procedures**
- 3. Who is responsible for determining if a confined space requires an entry permit?**
 - A. Supervising Manager**
 - B. Employees**
 - C. Health and Safety Officer**
 - D. Contractor on Site**
- 4. What is the purpose of a fire watch?**
 - A. To monitor fire hazards during hot work operations and ensure immediate response in case of a fire**
 - B. To supervise the delivery of materials on site**
 - C. To schedule breaks for construction workers**
 - D. To conduct weekly safety meetings**
- 5. What is the purpose of having a designated safety officer on a construction site?**
 - A. To oversee all contractual matters**
 - B. To enforce safety regulations and conduct safety inspections**
 - C. To manage employee payroll**
 - D. To plan the project's financial aspects**

- 6. What does the term "hazard identification" refer to in site safety?**
- A. The process of recognizing potential hazards that could cause harm**
 - B. A method for calculating construction costs**
 - C. A technique for reducing worker hours**
 - D. Identifying workers' skill sets**
- 7. In the event of an accident requiring immediate medical assistance, who should be contacted?**
- A. The Site Manager and 911**
 - B. The Safety Engineer and 911**
 - C. The Supervisor and 311**
 - D. The Project Manager and 411**
- 8. What is one common cause of falls in construction?**
- A. Using outdated tools**
 - B. Lack of proper fall protection equipment or procedures**
 - C. Faulty scaffolding materials**
 - D. Inadequate training of workers**
- 9. What is an "Accident Investigation Report"?**
- A. A document outlining daily work tasks**
 - B. A record of employee attendance during a project**
 - C. A formal document detailing circumstances, causes, and recommendations regarding a workplace accident**
 - D. A summary of safety training sessions held**
- 10. What is the responsibility of a "Competent Person" on a construction site?**
- A. To manage financial aspects of the project**
 - B. To identify hazards, provide training, and ensure compliance with safety standards**
 - C. To supervise the workers without needing to identify specific dangers**
 - D. To report any issues to local authorities**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What is the minimum distance that must be maintained away from high tension lines?

- A. 10 feet**
- B. 15 feet**
- C. 20 feet**
- D. 25 feet**

The minimum distance that must be maintained away from high tension lines is 15 feet. This standard is crucial to ensure safety and prevent electrical hazards. Approaching high tension lines can expose workers to the risk of electric shock or electrocution, especially if equipment or materials inadvertently come into contact with the lines. Maintaining this distance helps to mitigate those risks and provides a buffer zone for workers to operate safely around electrical infrastructure. The regulations regarding the minimum distance vary based on the voltage of the lines and specific site conditions, but 15 feet is a commonly accepted standard for many scenarios. This standard underscores the importance of being vigilant and aware of potential hazards when working in proximity to high tension lines, promoting a culture of safety on construction sites and other work environments.

2. What code governs the use of gasoline and diesel fuel in the subway system?

- A. FDNY Fire Code**
- B. OSHA Guidelines**
- C. Environmental Protection Standards**
- D. Subway Operating Procedures**

The FDNY Fire Code governs the use of gasoline and diesel fuel in the subway system because it is specifically designed to address fire safety regulations within New York City, which includes transportation facilities such as subways. This code establishes safety standards that aim to mitigate fire hazards associated with the storage, handling, and use of flammable liquids, including gasoline and diesel fuel. Compliance with these regulations is essential to ensure a safe environment for both subway operations and the public. In contrast, OSHA Guidelines focus on workplace safety and health standards but do not specifically address the unique requirements of the subway system's operation concerning fuels. Environmental Protection Standards are more concerned with environmental impacts and pollution control rather than operational safety in transit systems, while Subway Operating Procedures would not encompass the regulatory framework for fuel use; instead, these procedures define the general operational conduct of subway systems but are not focused on safety codes.

3. Who is responsible for determining if a confined space requires an entry permit?

- A. Supervising Manager**
- B. Employees**
- C. Health and Safety Officer**
- D. Contractor on Site**

The responsibility for determining if a confined space requires an entry permit typically falls on the employees who are going to enter that space, especially when they are aware of the specific conditions and hazards present. Employees are expected to recognize potential risks and assess whether the environment poses any dangers to their safety, thus requiring an entry permit. This process ensures that those directly involved in the work have firsthand knowledge of the tasks and conditions, allowing them to take appropriate precautions and adhere to safety protocols. It's essential for the safety of the employees that they are actively engaged in recognizing when a permit is needed, as they will be the ones most affected by any hazards present in the confined space. The other roles listed, such as the supervising manager, health and safety officer, and contractor on site, can certainly provide guidance and support in safety matters, but the ultimate determination regarding the need for a permit rests with the employees who face the conditions during entry, placing the onus of safety on the individuals who are directly exposed to potential hazards.

4. What is the purpose of a fire watch?

- A. To monitor fire hazards during hot work operations and ensure immediate response in case of a fire**
- B. To supervise the delivery of materials on site**
- C. To schedule breaks for construction workers**
- D. To conduct weekly safety meetings**

The purpose of a fire watch is specifically to monitor fire hazards during hot work operations, such as welding or cutting, which can pose a significant risk of igniting fires. In these scenarios, fire watchers are responsible for being vigilant and maintaining a watchful eye on the environment, ensuring that any potential ignition sources are mitigated. They are trained to identify any changes or emerging fire hazards and are equipped to take immediate action should a fire occur, which includes activating alarms, utilizing fire extinguishers, and alerting emergency services. This role is crucial in preventing fires and ensuring the safety of all personnel on-site, particularly when highly flammable materials are present. Other responsibilities, such as supervising material deliveries, scheduling worker breaks, or conducting safety meetings, do not directly relate to the immediate risks and actions associated with fire hazards during active work operations. Thus, they do not fulfill the critical safety need that a fire watch addresses.

5. What is the purpose of having a designated safety officer on a construction site?

A. To oversee all contractual matters

B. To enforce safety regulations and conduct safety inspections

C. To manage employee payroll

D. To plan the project's financial aspects

The role of a designated safety officer on a construction site is crucial for maintaining a safe working environment. This individual is responsible for enforcing safety regulations, ensuring compliance with safety standards, and conducting regular safety inspections to identify potential hazards. By actively monitoring the site for unsafe practices and conditions, the safety officer plays a key role in preventing accidents and injuries, thereby protecting workers and promoting a culture of safety. Having a dedicated safety officer allows for specialized focus on safety management, which is essential in the often hazardous environment of a construction site. Their responsibilities may include training workers on safety protocols, investigating incidents, and implementing corrective measures when necessary. This proactive approach helps to mitigate risks and enhances overall site safety. The other provided choices relate to different aspects of construction management but do not pertain to the specific focus on safety that the safety officer embodies.

6. What does the term "hazard identification" refer to in site safety?

A. The process of recognizing potential hazards that could cause harm

B. A method for calculating construction costs

C. A technique for reducing worker hours

D. Identifying workers' skill sets

The term "hazard identification" specifically refers to the process of recognizing potential hazards that could cause harm in a work environment, particularly within construction sites. This is a critical step in ensuring site safety, as it involves systematically assessing the work environment to identify risks such as falls, electrocution, being struck by objects, and exposure to hazardous materials. By identifying these hazards, safety professionals can implement appropriate measures to mitigate risks, enhance worker safety, and comply with regulations. The other options, while important in various contexts, do not align with the primary focus of hazard identification. For instance, calculating construction costs relates to budgeting and financial planning, while reducing worker hours does not directly address safety concerns but rather relates to labor management. Identifying workers' skill sets focuses on human resources and training rather than on recognizing potential dangers in the work environment. Understanding hazard identification is fundamental to fostering a safe workplace and preventing accidents and injuries.

7. In the event of an accident requiring immediate medical assistance, who should be contacted?

- A. The Site Manager and 911**
- B. The Safety Engineer and 911**
- C. The Supervisor and 311**
- D. The Project Manager and 411**

In the context of a construction site and responding to an emergency requiring immediate medical attention, it is crucial to ensure that the appropriate emergency services are contacted swiftly. The correct choice emphasizes contacting both the Safety Engineer, who plays a critical role in managing safety protocols on site, and 911, which is the emergency number that connects callers to police, fire, or medical assistance. This combination is essential because while the Safety Engineer can provide oversight on safety measures and help coordinate the emergency response on site, calling 911 ensures that the necessary medical help is dispatched right away. Shortly after the emergency services, it is also vital that key personnel, such as site managers or supervisors, are informed to facilitate a good response and manage resources on site. Meanwhile, options mentioning 311 and 411 are not applicable for immediate medical emergencies, as these numbers are not designed for urgent situations but for non-emergency inquiries or general information. Thus, the proper response combines immediate alerting of emergency services along with site safety management.

8. What is one common cause of falls in construction?

- A. Using outdated tools**
- B. Lack of proper fall protection equipment or procedures**
- C. Faulty scaffolding materials**
- D. Inadequate training of workers**

Lack of proper fall protection equipment or procedures is indeed a common cause of falls in construction settings. Falls are one of the leading causes of injuries and fatalities in construction, and without the right equipment—such as harnesses, guardrails, and safety nets—or clear procedures for preventing falls, workers are at significant risk. Proper fall protection is essential to maintain safety standards and comply with regulations, which are designed to protect workers from such hazards. Using outdated tools or faulty scaffolding materials can contribute to unsafe conditions, but they do not directly address the specific issue of fall protection. While inadequate training of workers is also a relevant concern, it is the absence of the proper protective measures that often leads directly to fall incidents. Thus, ensuring that adequate fall protection is in place is paramount in preventing accidents on construction sites.

9. What is an "Accident Investigation Report"?

- A. A document outlining daily work tasks
- B. A record of employee attendance during a project
- C. A formal document detailing circumstances, causes, and recommendations regarding a workplace accident**
- D. A summary of safety training sessions held

An "Accident Investigation Report" is a formal document that serves a critical role in workplace safety management. Its primary purpose is to detail the circumstances surrounding an accident that occurred on the job site. This includes a thorough analysis of the events leading up to the accident, the causes identified, and any contributing factors. Furthermore, the report often includes recommendations for preventing similar incidents in the future, making it an essential tool for improving workplace safety and compliance with regulations. By systematically documenting the findings, organizations can implement corrective actions, train employees, and refine processes, thereby reducing the likelihood of future accidents. In contrast, the other choices do not encompass the key elements of what an Accident Investigation Report entails. Daily work tasks, employee attendance, and summaries of safety training sessions, while important for general operations, do not provide the specific focus on analyzing accidents and their root causes, which is the essence of an Accident Investigation Report.

10. What is the responsibility of a "Competent Person" on a construction site?

- A. To manage financial aspects of the project
- B. To identify hazards, provide training, and ensure compliance with safety standards**
- C. To supervise the workers without needing to identify specific dangers
- D. To report any issues to local authorities

The responsibility of a "Competent Person" on a construction site primarily revolves around the identification of hazards, providing training, and ensuring compliance with safety standards. A Competent Person is someone who has the knowledge, experience, and authority to recognize potential hazards and proactively address them to prevent accidents and injuries. This individual plays a vital role in assessing the work environment and implementing safety measures, making sure that workers are educated about risks associated with the job site and know how to operate safely. In the context of the construction industry, the presence of a Competent Person is critical for maintaining a safe work atmosphere, as they are typically familiar with OSHA regulations and best practices for safety. Their ability to provide necessary training means that workers are equipped with the skills and awareness needed to execute their tasks while minimizing risks. This differs from the other roles mentioned in the other options. Managing financial aspects does not directly relate to safety responsibilities. Supervision without recognizing specific dangers would not fulfill the essential criteria of a Competent Person, as awareness of hazards is a key component of their role. Reporting issues to local authorities, while important, does not encompass the full scope of responsibilities that a Competent Person holds on-site, which focuses primarily on hazard identification and safety compliance within the team.