NLC Rigging Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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Questions



- 1. What must be considered when calculating the load on a snatch block?
 - A. The type of material used for the block
 - B. Height from the ground
 - C. The angle of the line passing through the snatch block
 - D. The color of the rope
- 2. What is one of the three common configurations for synthetic, wire rope, or chain slings?
 - A. Horizontal
 - B. Choke
 - C. Diagonal
 - D. Twisted
- 3. According to ANSI standards, body harnesses must meet which standard?
 - A. Z359.1
 - **B. ANSI A10.32**
 - C. OSHA 1926.501
 - D. ANSI 101.5
- 4. The lift capacity of a truck depends on which of the following factors?
 - A. The maintenance history of the vehicle
 - B. The stability of the truck and the strength of the surface
 - C. The color of the truck and its age
 - D. The operator's experience
- 5. What role does a body belt play in a fall protection system?
 - A. It is used solely for carrying tools
 - B. It helps keep the worker in a secured position
 - C. It is not necessary if using a harness
 - D. It is used to prevent falls in all circumstances

- 6. What is the maximum arresting force allowed for a worker in a fall arrest scenario?
 - A. 1600 lbs
 - **B. 1800 lbs**
 - C. 2000 lbs
 - D. 2200 lbs
- 7. What is the primary function of a Snubbing knot?
 - A. Hoisting materials
 - B. Controlling tension when untying
 - C. Joining two ropes
 - D. Securing knots
- 8. What is the Grunt knot used for?
 - A. Tying items onto a handline
 - **B.** Hoisting materials
 - C. Controlling tension
 - D. Making splices
- 9. In what position is a boom strongest?
 - A. Fully extended and at a low angle
 - B. Fully extended and at the highest possible angle
 - C. Fully retracted and at the highest possible angle
 - D. Partly extended at a medium angle
- 10. What is another term used for positioning straps in rigging?
 - A. Safety Straps
 - **B. Scare Strap**
 - C. Hold Down Straps
 - **D. Support Straps**

Answers



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



Explanations



- 1. What must be considered when calculating the load on a snatch block?
 - A. The type of material used for the block
 - B. Height from the ground
 - C. The angle of the line passing through the snatch block
 - D. The color of the rope

When calculating the load on a snatch block, the angle of the line passing through the snatch block is critical. The angle at which the load is applied affects the amount of force that is directed through the block. As the angle increases, the tension in the rope can also increase significantly due to the geometry involved. This is often described as the "load effect" where the load increases based on the angle of pull, leading to a higher overall load on the rigging system than what would be expected if the load were applied vertically. Understanding this relationship is essential for ensuring safety and effectiveness in rigging practices, as exceeding the load capacity of the block can lead to equipment failure or accidents. Other factors, while they can be relevant in specific contexts, do not have the same direct impact on the calculation of the load on a snatch block as the angle does.

- 2. What is one of the three common configurations for synthetic, wire rope, or chain slings?
 - A. Horizontal
 - **B.** Choke
 - C. Diagonal
 - D. Twisted

The configuration referred to in this question is the "choke" configuration, which is a common method used in rigging with synthetic slings, wire rope, or chain slings. When a sling is configured in a choke, it is secured by wrapping the working end of the sling around the load and then threading it back through itself, creating a secure hold. This method allows the sling to grip the load tightly, which can be particularly effective for lifting cylindrical objects and ensuring they do not slip during the lifting process. This choking method minimizes the risk of slippage by creating a friction lock between the sling and the load, thus providing a secure lifting configuration. It is important in rigging because it helps distribute the load's weight more evenly, which can prevent damage to both the sling and the load. Additionally, the choke configuration is versatile and can be used in many lifting situations, making it a preferred choice among riggers. The other configurations mentioned, including horizontal, diagonal, and twisted, do not accurately represent the specific and commonly recognized configurations for slings. Horizontal configurations generally describe the orientation rather than a specific mounting method, diagonal could indicate an angle of lift but lacks the specificity of established rigging methods, and twisted does not refer to a

3. According to ANSI standards, body harnesses must meet which standard?

- A. Z359.1
- **B. ANSI A10.32**
- C. OSHA 1926.501
- **D. ANSI 101.5**

Body harnesses used in fall protection must adhere to the ANSI Z359.1 standard. This standard outlines the requirements for personal fall arrest systems, including the design, performance, testing, and labeling of body harnesses. Compliance with Z359.1 ensures that harnesses are capable of providing adequate protection and support, minimizing the risk of injury in the event of a fall. The ANSI Z359.1 standard is specifically tailored to enhance safety in the use of body harnesses and integrates the latest advancements in safety technology and practices. It establishes a benchmark for manufacturers and users alike, ensuring that harnesses are tested for durability and will perform effectively under the conditions they are intended for. While other standards such as ANSI A10.32, OSHA 1926.501, and ANSI 101.5 focus on different aspects of safety and regulations within the construction or general industry, it is the Z359.1 standard that is directly concerned with the specifications for body harnesses. As a result, for anyone involved in rigging or fall protection equipment, understanding and adhering to the Z359.1 standard is crucial for ensuring safety and compliance.

4. The lift capacity of a truck depends on which of the following factors?

- A. The maintenance history of the vehicle
- B. The stability of the truck and the strength of the surface
- C. The color of the truck and its age
- D. The operator's experience

The lift capacity of a truck is fundamentally influenced by its stability and the strength of the surface on which it rests. Stability is crucial because it determines how well the truck can support and balance the load being lifted. If the truck has a narrow wheel base or is not evenly loaded, it may tip over, especially under heavy lifting conditions. The strength of the surface is equally important, as it must be able to support the weight of the truck along with the load being lifted. A weak or unstable surface can lead to sinking or shifting, which compromises safety and effectiveness. In contrast, while maintenance history can affect overall performance and longevity of the truck, it does not directly determine its lift capacity at any given moment. Similarly, the color or age of the truck has no impact on its lifting ability, nor does the operator's experience directly change the maximum lift capacity of the truck itself. Rather, the operator's experience might influence how safely and effectively the truck is operated within its capacity limits.

5. What role does a body belt play in a fall protection system?

- A. It is used solely for carrying tools
- B. It helps keep the worker in a secured position
- C. It is not necessary if using a harness
- D. It is used to prevent falls in all circumstances

In a fall protection system, a body belt is designed to help keep the worker in a secured position by providing a means to attach the worker to an anchorage point. The primary function of the body belt is to maintain the worker's stability and position while performing tasks at elevated heights. This enhances safety by minimizing the risk of accidental slips or falls. It is important to understand that while body belts can provide support and stabilization, they are not typically used for fall arrest in the same way that a full-body harness is. A full-body harness is generally recommended for fall protection because it distributes the force of a fall across the body, reducing the risk of injury. The information about the other choices reflects that a body belt is not solely intended for tool carrying, is indeed necessary in addition to a harness in certain situations, and does not prevent falls in every scenario. Instead, it plays a supportive role that can complement the overall safety measures in place during work at heights without being the sole means of fall protection.

6. What is the maximum arresting force allowed for a worker in a fall arrest scenario?

- A. 1600 lbs
- **B. 1800 lbs**
- C. 2000 lbs
- D. 2200 lbs

In a fall arrest scenario, the maximum arresting force that a worker can experience is crucial for ensuring safety and preventing injury. The correct answer, which is 1800 lbs, is based on guidelines established by safety organizations such as the OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) and ANSI (American National Standards Institute). These regulatory bodies have determined that an arresting force exceeding 1800 lbs could put an individual at significant risk for injury, specifically regarding the potential for serious harm to the structure of the body during a fall. This limit is primarily in place to mitigate the risk of injury to the worker's internal organs, skeletal structure, and overall bodily trauma that could occur if the fall arrest system exerts too much force upon a sudden stop. Equipment designed to comply with this standard typically includes shock-absorbing components, such as lanyards and harness systems, which help distribute energy more evenly during a fall, thereby reducing the maximum arresting force transmitted to the worker. Options that suggest a higher maximum arresting force would not comply with these regulations, as they could lead to severe injuries or fatalities. It is essential for rigging practices to prioritize the safety of workers while adhering to established industry standards.

7. What is the primary function of a Snubbing knot?

- A. Hoisting materials
- B. Controlling tension when untying
- C. Joining two ropes
- D. Securing knots

The primary function of a snubbing knot is to control tension when untying, which makes it a valuable tool in lifting and rigging applications. This knot is generally used to secure a rope in such a way that it can be easily released or loosened without excessive tension making it difficult to untie. This property is especially important in situations where the knot may be subjected to a heavy load. When using a snubbing knot, the design allows for quick adjustments to the tension without completely releasing the knot. This characteristic is particularly useful for operators who need to regularly secure and release their equipment without the complications or hazards that can arise from other types of knots that may jam or become tightly bound under load. In contrast, the other functions represented by the other options do not align with the specific characteristics of a snubbing knot; it is not primarily intended for hoisting materials, joining two ropes, or securing knots in a manner that locks them in place under pressure. Thus, the functionality of the snubbing knot in controlling tension when untying is essential for efficient and safe rigging practices.

8. What is the Grunt knot used for?

- A. Tying items onto a handline
- **B.** Hoisting materials
- C. Controlling tension
- D. Making splices

The Grunt knot is specifically designed for securing items onto a handline, making it an effective choice for applications where a stable and reliable connection is required. This knot is particularly handy in situations where equipment or materials need to be attached temporarily for lifting or maneuvering. Its unique structure allows it to hold securely while still being relatively easy to untie when necessary. In distinguishing the purpose of the Grunt knot, it's essential to recognize that options involving hoisting materials directly, managing tension, or creating splices are suited for different types of knots that are specifically engineered for those tasks. For instance, knots like the bowline are more appropriate for creating loops for hoisting, while others are tailored for maintaining tension in rigging systems or forming strong, reliable splices in rope or cable. By understanding the function and applications of different knots, one can select the most fitting knot for a particular rigging application.

9. In what position is a boom strongest?

- A. Fully extended and at a low angle
- B. Fully extended and at the highest possible angle
- C. Fully retracted and at the highest possible angle
- D. Partly extended at a medium angle

The strength of a boom is influenced by its configuration and the forces acting upon it. A boom is designed to support a load while minimizing stress; therefore, when it is fully retracted and positioned at the highest possible angle, it acts in a way that maximizes its structural integrity. When the boom is fully retracted, there is less torque acting on it, reducing the strain on its joints and connections. Additionally, at the highest angle, the weight of the load is more efficiently transferred to the base of the rigging system, which helps to reduce bending moments and the risk of failure. This position ensures that the boom can effectively handle loads without exceeding its design limits. In contrast, positioning a boom in fully extended configurations or at unfavorable angles introduces greater leverage and stress that can compromise its ability to support loads safely. Therefore, the optimal configuration for strength and stability is when the boom is fully retracted at the highest possible angle.

10. What is another term used for positioning straps in rigging?

- A. Safety Straps
- **B. Scare Strap**
- C. Hold Down Straps
- **D. Support Straps**

The term "scare strap" is commonly misunderstood in the context of rigging terminology. In reality, this term is not typically associated with positioning straps. Positioning straps, which are critical in ensuring that rigging components are securely held in place during lifting operations, are more frequently referred to by other terms. The correct terminology often includes "hold down straps" or "support straps," which are explicitly designed to secure and stabilize loads during a lift. These straps prevent movement and ensure that the rigging is functioning safely and effectively. Understanding the correct use of these terms is essential for anyone involved in rigging to maintain safety standards and to communicate effectively within the industry. It's important to be familiar with the correct terminology and applications of different types of straps to effectively execute rigging operations and ensure safe practices on site.