

Oklahoma Cosmetology Board Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

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- 1. What is the main role of the Oklahoma Cosmetology Board?**
 - A. To promote cosmetology businesses**
 - B. To regulate the cosmetology industry and protect public health**
 - C. To train cosmetologists**
 - D. To provide beauty tips to the public**

- 2. What is the primary purpose of using a shampoo?**
 - A. To add fragrance to hair**
 - B. To cleanse the hair and scalp of dirt and oils**
 - C. To provide additional styling hold**
 - D. To change the hair color**

- 3. Which type of brush is ideal for blow-drying?**
 - A. Flat brush**
 - B. Round brush**
 - C. Teasing brush**
 - D. Wide-tooth comb**

- 4. When should you replace salon tools like scissors and combs?**
 - A. When they look dirty**
 - B. Only when they break**
 - C. When they are damaged or no longer perform effectively**
 - D. At the end of the month**

- 5. Which hair type may require more frequent moisturizing treatments?**
 - A. Straight hair**
 - B. Curly or textured hair**
 - C. Wavy hair**
 - D. Coarse hair**

6. What should be done prior to performing any chemical service on a client's hair?

- A. Conduct a patch test**
- B. Apply a leave-in conditioner**
- C. Shampoo the hair**
- D. Use a styling product**

7. What should be checked before applying hair dye to a client?

- A. The length of the hair**
- B. The hair's porosity**
- C. The client's favorite color**
- D. The hair's texture**

8. What does the term "pH" stand for in hair care products?

- A. Power of Hydrogen**
- B. Potential Hydrogen**
- C. Potential Hardness**
- D. Powerful Hydration**

9. How does hair texture affect hairstyling choices?

- A. All textures react the same to styling products**
- B. Different textures react differently to styling techniques and products**
- C. Texture does not influence hairstyle selection**
- D. Only straight hair requires special styling considerations**

10. Why is it important for a cosmetologist to understand hair anatomy?

- A. To sell more hair products**
- B. To provide effective treatments and styling**
- C. To increase client satisfaction**
- D. To reduce service times**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the main role of the Oklahoma Cosmetology Board?

- A. To promote cosmetology businesses
- B. To regulate the cosmetology industry and protect public health**
- C. To train cosmetologists
- D. To provide beauty tips to the public

The primary role of the Oklahoma Cosmetology Board is to regulate the cosmetology industry and ensure the protection of public health. This involves establishing and enforcing standards for cosmetology practices, licensing professionals, and overseeing educational programs. By regulating the industry, the Board aims to maintain high standards of safety and professionalism, which ultimately protects the health and well-being of consumers receiving beauty services. Promoting cosmetology businesses and providing beauty tips to the public do not fall under the Board's main responsibilities, as its focus is more on regulation and oversight rather than promotion or advice. Training of cosmetologists is typically handled by educational institutions under the Board's guidelines, not directly by the Board itself. Thus, while all aspects are important within the beauty industry, the primary mission centers around regulation and public health protection.

2. What is the primary purpose of using a shampoo?

- A. To add fragrance to hair
- B. To cleanse the hair and scalp of dirt and oils**
- C. To provide additional styling hold
- D. To change the hair color

The primary purpose of using a shampoo is to cleanse the hair and scalp of dirt and oils. Shampoo is formulated with surfactants that create lather and help lift away impurities such as sebum, environmental pollutants, and product buildup. This cleansing action is essential for maintaining a healthy scalp and hair, as it prevents the accumulation of grime that can lead to issues like irritation, dullness, and potential scalp conditions. While adding fragrance to hair, providing styling hold, and changing hair color can be associated with various products, these are not the primary functions of shampoo. Instead, those tasks are typically addressed with conditioners, styling aids, and hair color treatments. Therefore, the focus on cleansing is what makes shampoo a fundamental product in hair care routines.

3. Which type of brush is ideal for blow-drying?

- A. Flat brush
- B. Round brush**
- C. Teasing brush
- D. Wide-tooth comb

A round brush is ideal for blow-drying because it is specifically designed to create volume and curls while helping to smooth the hair as it dries. The cylindrical shape of a round brush allows hair to wrap around it, which encourages the natural movement of the hair and can produce soft waves or added volume at the roots. When using a round brush in combination with a blow dryer, it can help to lift the hair away from the scalp and create body, while also allowing for control over the direction of the curl or wave. This versatility makes it a preferred tool among stylists for achieving a polished and styled blowout look. Other brushes, such as flat brushes and teasing brushes, serve different purposes that do not provide the same level of styling flexibility as a round brush during the blow-drying process. A wide-tooth comb is primarily used for detangling wet hair and would not impart the style that a round brush can achieve with the heat of the blow dryer.

4. When should you replace salon tools like scissors and combs?

- A. When they look dirty
- B. Only when they break
- C. When they are damaged or no longer perform effectively**
- D. At the end of the month

Replacing salon tools like scissors and combs is essential to maintain high standards of hygiene, performance, and client satisfaction. The correct answer focuses on the necessity to replace tools when they are damaged or no longer perform effectively. Over time, scissors may become dull, which can lead to uneven cuts or damage to hair. Similarly, combs can become worn, leading to snagging or pulling on the hair. As professionals, it's crucial to ensure that all tools are functioning optimally to provide the best service possible. While cleanliness is important, tools should not be replaced simply because they appear dirty; proper cleaning and sanitization can address this issue. Waiting for tools to break can lead to significant disruptions in service and negatively affect the stylist's ability to work effectively. Regularly replacing tools based on their performance or condition contributes to overall professional quality and safety in the salon environment. It's also a good business practice to ensure client satisfaction and a positive experience. Therefore, maintaining the condition of your tools is key to your success as a cosmetologist.

5. Which hair type may require more frequent moisturizing treatments?

- A. Straight hair**
- B. Curly or textured hair**
- C. Wavy hair**
- D. Coarse hair**

Curly or textured hair typically requires more frequent moisturizing treatments due to its structure. The natural oils produced by the scalp have a harder time traveling down the twists and turns of curly hair compared to straight hair. This results in dryness, as the hair can become prone to frizz and brittleness without adequate hydration. Textured hair tends to absorb moisture differently, and thus, it is essential to maintain proper hydration levels to promote health and manageability. Regular moisturizing treatments help to replenish lost moisture, define curls, and reduce frizz, which are specific concerns for this hair type. This need is less pronounced in straight, wavy, or coarse hair types, which may not experience the same level of dryness or require as frequent moisturizing.

6. What should be done prior to performing any chemical service on a client's hair?

- A. Conduct a patch test**
- B. Apply a leave-in conditioner**
- C. Shampoo the hair**
- D. Use a styling product**

Before performing any chemical service on a client's hair, conducting a patch test is crucial. This step helps to determine if the client has any allergic reactions to the chemicals that will be used. The patch test typically involves applying a small amount of the chemical formula to a discreet area of the client's skin, such as behind the ear or on the inner arm, and observing for any signs of irritation or allergic response over a 24-48 hour period. This precautionary measure is vital to ensure the safety and comfort of the client during the chemical service. While applying a leave-in conditioner, shampooing the hair, or using a styling product may play roles in different parts of the hair treatment process, they do not address the critical aspect of assessing the client's sensitivity to the chemicals involved. Without conducting a patch test, a stylist could unknowingly put the client at risk for an adverse reaction, making it an essential step that must not be overlooked.

7. What should be checked before applying hair dye to a client?

- A. The length of the hair
- B. The hair's porosity**
- C. The client's favorite color
- D. The hair's texture

Before applying hair dye to a client, it is essential to check the hair's porosity. Porosity refers to the hair's ability to absorb moisture and chemicals, which is critical when dyeing hair. High porosity hair is more absorbent and may result in a quicker and more intense color outcome, while low porosity hair may resist the dye and require more time or specific products to process effectively. Understanding the porosity can help stylists select the right type of dye and application technique to achieve the desired results while ensuring the hair remains in good condition. Other aspects, such as hair length, a client's favorite color, or hair texture, may influence the final outcome but are not as critical as assessing porosity. For instance, while knowing the preferred color is important for client satisfaction, it won't affect how the hair interacts with the dye. Similarly, hair texture can impact styling but does not play a direct role in dye absorption and processing, making porosity the key factor to evaluate before dye application.

8. What does the term "pH" stand for in hair care products?

- A. Power of Hydrogen
- B. Potential Hydrogen**
- C. Potential Hardness
- D. Powerful Hydration

The correct interpretation of "pH" in hair care products relates to the term "Potential Hydrogen." This term refers to the concentration of hydrogen ions in a solution, which determines its acidity or alkalinity. In the context of hair care, understanding pH is essential because it can significantly affect the health and appearance of hair. Hair products often have varying pH levels, and choosing the appropriate pH level for specific hair types is crucial. For instance, hair is generally healthiest at a slightly acidic pH, usually between 4.5 and 5.5. Products that maintain or restore this pH balance help keep the hair cuticles smooth, promoting shine and manageability while preventing damage. Other terms like "Power of Hydrogen" can be misleading since the more commonly accepted term in scientific contexts is "Potential Hydrogen." "Potential Hardness" and "Powerful Hydration" do not accurately reflect the chemistry that pH measures, which is primarily about the balance between acids and bases in a solution rather than physical properties or hydration levels. Understanding this foundation helps professionals choose appropriate products for their clients, ensuring the best results.

9. How does hair texture affect hairstyling choices?

- A. All textures react the same to styling products
- B. Different textures react differently to styling techniques and products**
- C. Texture does not influence hairstyle selection
- D. Only straight hair requires special styling considerations

Hair texture plays a significant role in hairstyling choices because it determines how hair behaves and reacts to various styling techniques and products. Each hair texture—be it straight, wavy, curly, or coily—has distinct characteristics that impact how it holds styles, responds to heat and styling products, and absorbs moisture. For example, straight hair can often hold styles with less product and is generally easier to manipulate with heat, while curly hair may require specific products to reduce frizz and enhance definition. Textures also differ in porosity, which affects how well hair can retain moisture and product, further influencing the choice of styling methods. Understanding these differences allows hairstylists to tailor their approaches, using the right tools and techniques that enhance the natural beauty of each hair type. This knowledge is crucial for achieving desired results and maintaining the health of the hair.

10. Why is it important for a cosmetologist to understand hair anatomy?

- A. To sell more hair products
- B. To provide effective treatments and styling**
- C. To increase client satisfaction
- D. To reduce service times

Understanding hair anatomy is crucial for cosmetologists as it directly impacts their ability to provide effective treatments and styling. Knowledge of the structure of hair, including its composition and growth cycles, allows cosmetologists to tailor their services to meet the specific needs and conditions of their clients' hair. For example, recognizing the differences between various hair types—such as straight, curly, or coily—enables them to choose the right techniques and products that will enhance the hair's natural characteristics. In addition, a thorough grasp of hair anatomy aids in diagnosing hair and scalp issues, such as dandruff or hair loss, leading to more appropriate treatments. This knowledge also underpins chemical processes involved in coloring or perming hair, ensuring that these procedures are done safely and effectively. As a result, clients receive personalized care that results in improved outcomes, making the understanding of hair anatomy integral to a cosmetologist's skill set and service quality.