

# Red Seal Welding Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. When shape cutting with PAC, what should your torch angle be?**
  - A. Perpendicular to the plate**
  - B. 45 degrees to the plate**
  - C. Parallel to the plate**
  - D. 30 degrees to the plate**
- 2. What does the letter 'C' stand for in an ER70C-X electrode?**
  - A. Carbon**
  - B. Composite filler metal**
  - C. Compact**
  - D. Cobalt**
- 3. Which shielding gas may require an in-line heater at high flow rates?**
  - A. Argon**
  - B. Helium**
  - C. CO2**
  - D. Nitrogen**
- 4. What type of welder is known for good energy savings?**
  - A. Transformer**
  - B. Inverter**
  - C. Generators**
  - D. Plasma Cutter**
- 5. In PAC, the arc is:**
  - A. Transferred to the workpiece directly**
  - B. Not transferred to the workpiece**
  - C. Only used in non-contact mode**
  - D. Used without an electrode**

- 6. Which type of welding motion is characterized by a side-to-side movement?**
- A. Stringer bead**
  - B. Weave pattern**
  - C. Point welding**
  - D. Rotary motion**
- 7. Which welding process uses a non-consumable tungsten electrode?**
- A. GMAW**
  - B. SMAW**
  - C. GTAW**
  - D. FCAW**
- 8. Amperage is directly related to what aspects of welding?**
- A. Burn off rate and penetration**
  - B. Speed and quality**
  - C. Accuracy and finish**
  - D. Temperature and resistance**
- 9. What is the primary advantage of using the stringer bead technique?**
- A. Quicker welding time**
  - B. Greater penetration**
  - C. Less skill required**
  - D. More control of weld puddle**
- 10. What parameter is critical for ensuring good fusion in a weld?**
- A. Welding speed**
  - B. Electrode diameter**
  - C. Heat input**
  - D. Arc length**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. When shape cutting with PAC, what should your torch angle be?**

- A. Perpendicular to the plate**
- B. 45 degrees to the plate**
- C. Parallel to the plate**
- D. 30 degrees to the plate**

When shape cutting with PAC, the torch angle should be perpendicular to the plate. This is because perpendicular is the only correct angle for evenly cutting through the material without leaving any jagged edges. 45 degrees and 30 degrees would both result in uneven cutting and parallel would result in no cutting at all. Therefore, it is important to make sure the torch angle is perpendicular in order to achieve clean and precise cuts.

**2. What does the letter 'C' stand for in an ER70C-X electrode?**

- A. Carbon**
- B. Composite filler metal**
- C. Compact**
- D. Cobalt**

The letter 'C' in an ER70C-X electrode stands for "composite filler metal." This type of electrode is a combination of pure metal powder and flux, making it different from other pure metal electrodes such as ER1400. Option A, carbon, is incorrect because carbon is not the main component of this type of electrode. Option C, compact, is incorrect because compactness does not describe the composition of the electrode. Option D, cobalt, is also incorrect as cobalt is not the main component of this type of electrode.

**3. Which shielding gas may require an in-line heater at high flow rates?**

- A. Argon**
- B. Helium**
- C. CO2**
- D. Nitrogen**

Carbon dioxide (CO2) gas can create frost and ice buildup when used at high flow rates, which can cause blockages and damage equipment. An in-line heater is used to prevent this issue and ensure smooth and efficient flow of the gas. Argon, helium, and nitrogen do not have the same issue with high flow rates and therefore would not require an in-line heater.

#### 4. What type of welder is known for good energy savings?

- A. Transformer
- B. Inverter**
- C. Generators
- D. Plasma Cutter

Inverter welders are known for good energy savings because they use a different type of power supply that converts the electrical current into a stable form, resulting in less energy loss during the welding process. Transformers, generators, and plasma cutters do not have this same efficient power conversion, making them less energy-efficient options. Therefore, inverter welders are the best choice for someone looking to conserve energy while welding.

#### 5. In PAC, the arc is:

- A. Transferred to the workpiece directly**
- B. Not transferred to the workpiece
- C. Only used in non-contact mode
- D. Used without an electrode

PAC (Plasma Arc Cutting) is a cutting process where the plasma arc is used to melt the material being cut and then blown away with a gas flow to create a cut. In this process, the arc is transferred to the workpiece directly, meaning that the plasma arc actually makes contact with the material being cut. This is what makes option A the correct answer. Option B is incorrect because the arc is indeed transferred to the workpiece. Option C is incorrect because PAC can be done in both contact and non-contact modes. Option D is incorrect because an electrode is necessary for the plasma arc to form.

#### 6. Which type of welding motion is characterized by a side-to-side movement?

- A. Stringer bead
- B. Weave pattern**
- C. Point welding
- D. Rotary motion

The weave pattern is characterized by a side-to-side movement, which involves the welding electrode moving laterally while advancing along the joint. This technique allows for better penetration and fusion of materials by creating wider and more defined beads, making it particularly effective for welding thicker materials or in positions where consistency in bead shape is crucial. Using a weave motion can also help to control the heat input, minimizing warpage or distortion in the workpiece, and enables the welder to fill gaps in joints more effectively. This method is often employed in various welding processes such as MIG (Metal Inert Gas) and TIG (Tungsten Inert Gas) welding, where the quality of the weld and the bead profile are essential considerations.

**7. Which welding process uses a non-consumable tungsten electrode?**

- A. GMAW**
- B. SMAW**
- C. GTAW**
- D. FCAW**

The process that uses a non-consumable tungsten electrode is Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW). In this method, the tungsten electrode creates an arc between the electrode and the workpiece, generating enough heat to melt the base metals and allow for fusion. Since the tungsten is non-consumable, it does not melt or get used up during the welding process, which allows for better control over the weld pool and higher precision in welding applications. GTAW is particularly valued in situations where high-quality welds are crucial, such as in aerospace, pipework, and industries dealing with exotic metals since it provides clean, strong welds with minimal contamination. The non-consumable nature of the tungsten electrode helps maintain a stable arc and prevents the addition of unwanted materials into the weld. In contrast, the other welding processes mentioned involve consumable electrodes or filler materials. For instance, GMAW (Gas Metal Arc Welding) and FCAW (Flux-Cored Arc Welding) both use consumable electrodes that melt away and contribute to the weld, while SMAW (Shielded Metal Arc Welding) involves a consumable electrode as well which literally melts into the weld puddle.

**8. Amperage is directly related to what aspects of welding?**

- A. Burn off rate and penetration**
- B. Speed and quality**
- C. Accuracy and finish**
- D. Temperature and resistance**

Amperage, or the flow of electric current, is an important factor in welding as it directly affects the burn off rate of the welding material and the depth of penetration into the base metal. This means that higher amperage will result in faster burn off and deeper penetration, while lower amperage will result in slower burn off and shallower penetration. Therefore, options B, C, and D are incorrect as they do not directly relate to amperage. Speed and quality are affected by other factors, such as technique and material compatibility, while accuracy and finish are determined by the settings and tools used. Temperature and resistance may indirectly affect the weld, but they are not directly related to amperage.

**9. What is the primary advantage of using the stringer bead technique?**

- A. Quicker welding time**
- B. Greater penetration**
- C. Less skill required**
- D. More control of weld puddle**

The stringer bead technique is primarily valued for its ability to provide more control over the weld puddle. This technique is characterized by a straight line of weld metal deposited without weaving or oscillation. Because the welder moves the electrode in a linear path, it allows for a more stable and focused weld puddle, resulting in precision and accuracy during the welding process. Greater control over the weld puddle is essential, especially when working with materials that require careful manipulation to avoid defects such as undercutting or excessive porosity. The welder can effectively manage the heat input and the molten pool, which is particularly critical in thin materials where excessive heat can lead to burn-through. While the stringer bead technique may also lead to quicker welding times or potentially greater penetration under certain circumstances, its hallmark is the enhanced control it offers. This allows for a more refined and effective welding operation, which can be especially beneficial for achieving high-quality welds in critical applications.

**10. What parameter is critical for ensuring good fusion in a weld?**

- A. Welding speed**
- B. Electrode diameter**
- C. Heat input**
- D. Arc length**

Heat input is a critical parameter for ensuring good fusion in a weld because it directly influences the melting of base materials and the filler metal at the joint interface. Adequate heat input ensures that the base materials reach their melting point properly and blend together, forming sound welds with good penetration and strength. If the heat input is too low, the weld may be weak and not penetrate adequately, potentially leading to incomplete fusion or defects. Conversely, excessive heat input can lead to issues such as burn-through, distortion, or excessive grain growth in the heat-affected zone. Achieving the correct heat input is essential in creating a weld that meets the required specifications for structural integrity and performance.