

Safety Trained Supervisor in Construction (STSC) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. In storage, gas cylinders must be separated from other combustible materials by a non-combustible barrier that is at least how many feet high?**
 - A. 3 feet**
 - B. 5 feet**
 - C. 7 feet**
 - D. 10 feet**
- 2. What should supervisors remember about Safety Data Sheets (SDS)?**
 - A. They are optional for supervisors to access**
 - B. They dictate the main tasks on the job site**
 - C. They provide crucial information on hazardous substances**
 - D. They should be stored away from the work area**
- 3. Which of the following is NOT an unsafe ladder practice?**
 - A. Face the ladder when ascending or descending**
 - B. Use a ladder that is the right height for the job**
 - C. Do not stand on the top rung**
 - D. Ensure the ladder is on stable ground**
- 4. What must be checked first when responding to an accident on-site?**
 - A. The condition of the power tools**
 - B. The electrical sources in the area**
 - C. The victim's respiration and pulse**
 - D. The layout of the worksite**
- 5. What should a supervisor do regarding open floor holes on a worksite?**
 - A. Ignore them if marked**
 - B. Leave them uncovered for ventilation**
 - C. Cover the holes and inform the crew of load surface restrictions**
 - D. Fill them with debris**

- 6. Which of the following is considered a key role of a Safety Trained Supervisor?**
- A. Conducting all safety training sessions**
 - B. Promoting safety awareness and compliance**
 - C. Managing employee payroll**
 - D. Performing equipment maintenance**
- 7. Who must approve the use of scaffolding at a height of 50 feet?**
- A. The supervisory manager**
 - B. The project engineer**
 - C. The competent person**
 - D. The safety officer**
- 8. How is the rate of heat loss from exposed skin due to wind and cold defined?**
- A. Chill factor**
 - B. Freezing index**
 - C. Wind chill**
 - D. Thermal reaction**
- 9. What action should workers take when monitoring indicates 15% oxygen in a confined space?**
- A. Continue working as normal**
 - B. Evacuate, as the space is oxygen deficient**
 - C. Use additional oxygen supplies**
 - D. Report the level and wait for further instructions**
- 10. What are indirect costs associated with accidents?**
- A. Costs related to direct medical treatment**
 - B. Costs such as loss in earning power, loss of time by supervision, damage to tools and equipment, and cost of training a new worker**
 - C. Costs for additional safety gear**
 - D. Administrative costs only**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. In storage, gas cylinders must be separated from other combustible materials by a non-combustible barrier that is at least how many feet high?

- A. 3 feet**
- B. 5 feet**
- C. 7 feet**
- D. 10 feet**

Gas cylinders are designed to contain flammable or explosive gases, making their safe storage crucial in a construction environment. One of the important safety measures involves keeping them separated from combustible materials to prevent a fire hazard in case of a leak or explosion. The requirement for a non-combustible barrier reflecting a height of at least 5 feet is grounded in safety regulations that are aimed at minimizing risk. This height is designed to ensure that any potential flames or heat from combustibles do not reach the cylinders and ignite the gas inside them. It acts as a protective measure so that any flames are effectively shielded, addressing both the containment of potential hazards and the overall safety of workers in the vicinity. Furthermore, a barrier of this height is effective not only in containing flames but also helps to ensure that if a fire does occur, the gases remain contained, giving time for emergency responses to take place. Therefore, understanding and adhering to this guideline is essential in maintaining safety standards in construction environments where gases are prevalent.

2. What should supervisors remember about Safety Data Sheets (SDS)?

- A. They are optional for supervisors to access**
- B. They dictate the main tasks on the job site**
- C. They provide crucial information on hazardous substances**
- D. They should be stored away from the work area**

Supervisors should recognize that Safety Data Sheets (SDS) play a critical role in maintaining workplace safety, particularly when working with hazardous substances. An SDS provides comprehensive information about the risks associated with specific chemicals, including safe handling procedures, potential health effects, emergency measures, and storage guidelines. Supervisors must ensure that all workers have access to this information so that they can take appropriate precautions to protect themselves and others from hazards. By understanding the specifics outlined in an SDS, supervisors can effectively train employees on safety measures, conduct risk assessments, and ensure compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations. This knowledge promotes a culture of safety and helps prevent accidents and injuries on the job site.

3. Which of the following is NOT an unsafe ladder practice?

- A. Face the ladder when ascending or descending**
- B. Use a ladder that is the right height for the job**
- C. Do not stand on the top rung**
- D. Ensure the ladder is on stable ground**

The correct answer emphasizes the importance of using a ladder that is the appropriate height for the job. When a ladder is correctly sized, it significantly reduces the risk of accidents, such as falling from an inadequate height that forces the user to overreach or climb excessively high. Properly sized ladders also ensure safe stability during use, as they are designed to provide a safe working height without compromising the user's balance or control. The other practices listed are critical for ladder safety. Facing the ladder when ascending or descending helps maintain balance and minimizes the risk of slipping. Standing on the top rung can lead to falls, as this position typically compromises stability and control. Ensuring that the ladder is placed on stable ground is vital, as it provides the necessary support and prevents tipping or sliding during use. Each of these practices contributes to a safer work environment when using ladders.

4. What must be checked first when responding to an accident on-site?

- A. The condition of the power tools**
- B. The electrical sources in the area**
- C. The victim's respiration and pulse**
- D. The layout of the worksite**

When responding to an accident on-site, the initial priority is to assess the victim's condition, specifically checking for respiration and pulse. This is crucial because it directly relates to the victim's life-threatening injuries. Immediate medical attention is often necessary for individuals who may be unconscious or unable to breathe. Stabilizing the victim and ensuring they are alive provides context for subsequent actions, such as calling for emergency assistance and determining any further treatments needed. The other considerations, while important for overall safety and management of the site, come into play after ensuring the victim's basic life support needs are met. Checking the condition of the power tools or the electrical sources can help prevent further accidents, and assessing the layout of the worksite aids in understanding the scene. However, the foremost concern in an emergency situation is to ensure the individual affected is receiving the necessary care to maintain their life.

5. What should a supervisor do regarding open floor holes on a worksite?

- A. Ignore them if marked**
- B. Leave them uncovered for ventilation**
- C. Cover the holes and inform the crew of load surface restrictions**
- D. Fill them with debris**

A supervisor's responsibility regarding open floor holes on a worksite includes ensuring the safety of all personnel on the site. Covering the holes is essential to prevent accidental falls and injuries, which can occur if someone unknowingly steps into an open hole. By covering the holes, the supervisor is actively mitigating risk and creating a safer work environment. Additionally, informing the crew of load surface restrictions is critical because it ensures that workers understand the limitations of the surface they are working on, especially if there are underlying structural concerns. This communication helps prevent overloading and possible compromise of structural integrity, which could lead to further accidents. Other approaches, such as ignoring marked holes, leaving them uncovered, or filling them with debris, do not effectively address safety concerns. Ignoring the hazards posed by open holes, even if marked, is irresponsible and does not eliminate the risk of accidents. Leaving holes uncovered exposes workers to direct fall risks, which are contrary to basic safety protocols. Filling holes with debris may create additional hazards and does not adequately secure or mark the area, leading to confusion and potential accidents. Thus, the most prudent course of action is to cover the holes properly and communicate safety restrictions to the crew.

6. Which of the following is considered a key role of a Safety Trained Supervisor?

- A. Conducting all safety training sessions**
- B. Promoting safety awareness and compliance**
- C. Managing employee payroll**
- D. Performing equipment maintenance**

Promoting safety awareness and compliance is recognized as a key role of a Safety Trained Supervisor because it involves creating a culture of safety within the workplace. This includes ensuring that employees are aware of safety protocols and practices, encouraging them to adhere to these standards, and fostering an environment where safety is prioritized. This proactive approach helps to mitigate potential hazards and reduces the likelihood of accidents and injuries. In contrast, while conducting safety training sessions can be part of a supervisor's responsibilities, it is not the sole focus of the role. Managing employee payroll and performing equipment maintenance are essential functions in their own right but fall outside the specific duties typically associated with a Safety Trained Supervisor's emphasis on safeguarding the work environment and compliance with safety regulations.

7. Who must approve the use of scaffolding at a height of 50 feet?

- A. The supervisory manager**
- B. The project engineer**
- C. The competent person**
- D. The safety officer**

The approval for the use of scaffolding at significant heights, such as 50 feet, rests with the competent person. This individual is specifically trained and possesses the necessary knowledge and experience to recognize existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions that are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous. Moreover, the competent person has the authority to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate these hazards. In the context of scaffolding, the competent person must ensure that the scaffold is designed, erected, and used according to safety regulations and standards. This entails evaluating the physical condition of the site, the load requirements, and the adequacy of the scaffolding components. Their expertise is crucial in determining if the scaffolding meets safety protocols, thereby protecting workers from potential accidents and injuries. While others, such as the supervisory manager, project engineer, or safety officer, may also play roles in the overall safety plan and might be involved in the scaffolding process, it is the competent person's specific responsibility and authority that is required to approve scaffolding set up at considerable heights. Their role is fundamentally tied to ensuring that the equipment and processes are safe and compliant with legal and industry standards.

8. How is the rate of heat loss from exposed skin due to wind and cold defined?

- A. Chill factor**
- B. Freezing index**
- C. Wind chill**
- D. Thermal reaction**

The rate of heat loss from exposed skin due to the combined effects of wind and cold is defined as "wind chill." This concept takes into account both temperature and wind speed to determine how cold it actually feels compared to the actual air temperature. When wind flows over the skin, it removes heat from the body more quickly than still air, leading to an increased sensation of cold, which can greatly affect health and safety, especially in cold weather conditions. Understanding wind chill is essential for construction supervisors and workers, as it helps to assess the risks of hypothermia and frostbite in cold environments. By considering both wind and temperature, individuals can make informed decisions about appropriate clothing and work practices to protect themselves from extreme weather conditions.

9. What action should workers take when monitoring indicates 15% oxygen in a confined space?

- A. Continue working as normal**
- B. Evacuate, as the space is oxygen deficient**
- C. Use additional oxygen supplies**
- D. Report the level and wait for further instructions**

When monitoring indicates 15% oxygen in a confined space, the appropriate action is to evacuate because the space is considered oxygen deficient. Normal atmospheric air contains approximately 20.9% oxygen. An oxygen level of 19.5% or higher is considered safe for breathing, while levels below 19.5% can pose serious health risks. An oxygen level of 15% can lead to symptoms such as increased heart rate, shortness of breath, and impaired judgment, which could endanger workers' health and safety. Evacuating the confined space ensures that workers are removed from a potentially hazardous environment, thereby preventing accidents and health-related incidents that could arise from low oxygen levels. After evacuation, it is essential for trained personnel to assess the situation and ensure that proper ventilation or other safety measures are implemented before allowing any return to the space.

10. What are indirect costs associated with accidents?

- A. Costs related to direct medical treatment**
- B. Costs such as loss in earning power, loss of time by supervision, damage to tools and equipment, and cost of training a new worker**
- C. Costs for additional safety gear**
- D. Administrative costs only**

Indirect costs associated with accidents refer to expenses that are not directly tied to medical treatment or immediate incident response but arise from the wider implications of an accident within the workplace. The correct response highlights that indirect costs can encompass a range of factors, including loss in earning power due to employee injury, time lost by supervisors managing the aftermath of the incident, damage incurred to tools and equipment, as well as the expenses involved in training new workers to replace those who were injured. These costs can significantly impact a company's overall financial health, even if they are not immediately apparent. For example, when an employee is injured, their inability to perform their duties affects productivity and may create a ripple effect that leads to financial losses related to delayed projects or decreased workforce morale. Additionally, if tools and equipment are damaged in an accident, that could lead to costs associated with repairs or replacements that go beyond the initial incident. The other options represent more direct costs or categories that do not fully encapsulate the broader scope of indirect costs resulting from workplace accidents. Therefore, focusing on indirect costs is essential for comprehensive safety and financial analysis in any organization.