

VERSION 07-0



GOLD SEAL SAMPLE QUESTIONS

CANADIAN CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

LEVEL

"PRACTICE EXAMINATION"

NATIONAL GOLD SEAL COMMITTEE

**SAMPLE EXAM QUESTIONS FOR
GOLD SEAL APPLICANTS**

VERSION 07-0

Multiple Choice Questions

SECTION	OCCUPATION	QUESTIONS	# QUESTIONS PER SECTION
Part A – Multiple Choice Questions (value = 50%)			
01	Project Manager	1 – 5	5
02	Superintendent	6 – 10	5
03	Estimator	11-15	5
04	Construction Safety Coordinator	16 – 20	5
Total Number of Questions			20

The following represents sample questions similar to those that appear on the National Gold Seal Certification examination. These questions are generic to all occupations for all construction managers. The actual Gold Seal exams are, however, industry specific.

If you would like to challenge the examination for your occupation, please contact:

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Sample Questions for Project Managers

1. **The proper direction for deviating from the original drawings and specifications during the progress of the work is achieved by:**
 - A. an official addendum.
 - B. verbal authority from the owner.
 - C. written instructions from the owner.
 - D. a change order.

2. **What is the definition of “a project”?**
 - A. A coordinated undertaking of inter-related activities directed toward a specific goal that has a finite period of performance.
 - B. A large, complex undertaking with many objectives, multiple sources of funding and no discernable end point.
 - C. An undertaking of inter-related activities directed toward a specific goal that can be accomplished in less than one year.
 - D. A group of activities headed by a project manager who has cradle-to-grave life cycle responsibility for the end product.

3. **What is the main focus of life cycle costing?**
 - A. To estimate installation costs.
 - B. To estimate the cost of operations and maintenance.
 - C. To consider installation costs when planning the project costs.
 - D. To consider operations, maintenance and capital costs when planning the project.

4. **During the planning and implementation phases, there is often a need to analyze several alternatives. The trade-offs, unlike selection of completing alternatives, are usually made among which factors?**
 - A. Risk and cost schedule.
 - B. Technologies, design and engineering.
 - C. Cost, schedule and quality.
 - D. Conceptual planning and implementation phases.

5. **Once signed, a contract is legally binding unless:**
 - A. one party is unwilling to perform.
 - B. one party is unable to finance his/her part of the work.
 - C. it is in violation of applicable law.
 - D. it is declared null and void by one party.

Answer Key for Project Manager Sample Questions:

1. D
2. A
3. D
4. C
5. C

Sample Questions for Superintendent

- 1. A project has been awarded and the management team meets to review a project estimate. What is the superintendent's principle role at this meeting?**
 - A. To advise on labour and equipment needs.
 - B. To advise on sequence of construction.
 - C. To understand the estimate and gather detailed information about the project.
 - D. To determine deficiencies in the estimate.

- 2. In terms of project costs and productivity, a superintendent should:**
 - A. never use a machine when a person can do the job.
 - B. always look for the lowest cost mix of men/machines consistent with project requirements.
 - C. provide all equipment requested by workers.
 - D. never use a person when a machine can do the job.

- 3. It is sometimes necessary to back charge subcontractors for work done on their behalf such as cleanup. How should they be notified?**
 - A. In writing. Site memo sent to the sub-trade's superintendent with a copy to the sub-trade's head office.
 - B. After the work is done showing the back-charge amount.
 - C. Verbally, just before starting.
 - D. By FAX sent to their head office prior to starting.

- 4. Early into a project, the superintendent determines that the budget is tight. In order to meet budget expectations, the superintendent's first action should be to:**
 - A. look at alternate methods of construction.
 - B. negotiate with the subcontractors for cost savings.
 - C. compromise quality.
 - D. negotiate with the vendors for cost savings.

- 5. An employee was just dismissed for being habitually late. At the same time, a 15-year employee experiencing a personal problem has recently been late everyday for two weeks. What should be done?**
 - A. Dismiss him/her as you set the precedent with the other employee.
 - B. Investigate the problem through discussion with the employee before taking any disciplinary action.
 - C. Give him/her a last warning.
 - D. Give him/her some time off.

Answer Key for Superintendent Sample Questions:

1. C
2. B
3. A
4. A
5. B

Sample Questions for Estimator

- 1. In order to properly assess indirect costs, the estimator must:**
 - A. consult with the owner.
 - B. rely on past experience to recognize and record all indirect costs.
 - C. conduct a pre-construction survey.
 - D. check with an accountant.
- 2. In order to prepare for a job start-up meeting, which task is the most important?**
 - A. Prepare a list of safety requirements.
 - B. Prepare a list of all shop drawings required.
 - C. Prepare agenda and distribute to members.
 - D. Review job schedule and scope of work.
- 3. Upon completion of a bid cost sheet, which is a sound business practice to ensure all items have been included on the sheet?**
 - A. Review the sheet one last time by yourself.
 - B. Assume all those involved have entered their information correctly.
 - C. Have an independent third party review the bid sheet.
 - D. Lay the sheet aside for a time, and then review it at a later date with a fresh mind.
- 4. When reviewing the final summary of cost, prior to submission, which is the most important to have included?**
 - A. Scheduling
 - B. Bonding
 - C. Mark-up.
 - D. Labour
- 5. What important consideration should the estimator be aware of when calculating labour costs on a union project?**
 - A. The hourly rates and burdens.
 - B. The job location and travel allowances.
 - C. The details of the collective agreement.
 - D. The minimum published wage rates in the job specifications.

Answer Key for Estimator Sample Questions

1. B
2. C
3. C
4. D
5. C

Sample Questions for Construction Safety Coordinator

1. The four phases of emergency response are:

- A. Preparedness, Response, Recovery, Mitigation
- B. Preparedness, Response, First Aid, Transportation
- C. Preparedness, First Aid, Transportation, Mitigation
- D. Response, Recovery, Mitigation, Transportation

2. At minimum, Emergency Procedures should include:

- A. Exits; Muster point; First Aid Procedures; Fire Procedures
- B. Exits; Muster point; First Aid Procedures; Fire Procedures; Safety Reps
- C. Exits; Muster point; First Aid Procedures; Fire Procedures; WHMIS
- D. Exits; Muster point; First Aid Procedures; Fire Procedures; Site PPE

3. Inspections are a means to identify existing and potential:

- A. Hazards
- B. Unsafe Acts
- C. Unsafe Conditions
- D. Faulty Equipment

4. The four generalized steps for inspections are:

- A. Plan, Inspect, Report, Follow up
- B. Inspect, Prioritize, Follow up, Report
- C. Plan, Notify, Inspect, Report
- D. Inspect, Report, Notify, Follow up

5. Main purpose of incident investigations is:

- A. To determine causes of the incident
- B. To prevent reoccurrence
- C. To document for due diligence
- D. To look good in a helmet

Answer Key for Construction Safety Coordinator Sample Questions

1. A
2. A
3. A
4. A
5. B