

Polk County Basic Emergency Communications

(Extracted from the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program EC001)

General Examination

(Please indicate the correct answer by circling A, B, C or D.)

1. Processing written messages formally via Amateur Radio from one station to another is generally known as what?
 - A. E-mail.
 - B. Traffic Handling.
 - C. Snail Mail.
 - D. Pony Express.

2. Unless your transmission is longer than ten minutes, you are required to identify how often?
 - A. Only at the end of the transmission or exchange of information.
 - B. At the beginning and end of each transmission.
 - C. Only at the beginning and end of a net.
 - D. None of the above.

3. In Emergency Communications it is important to do which of the following?
 - A. Say as much as possible to convey all of the meaning.
 - B. Say as little as possible, yet convey all of the meaning.
 - C. Make yourself known even when no one is calling.
 - D. Monitor only.

4. A management tool designed to assist anyone who has the responsibility for the successful outcome of an incident is which of the following?
 - A. Incident Command System.
 - B. National Traffic System.
 - C. ARES.
 - D. RACES

5. What are the primary goals of the National Traffic System?
 - A. To train people and to move messages (traffic) rapidly to their destination.
 - B. To train people and to declare emergencies.
 - C. To train people and to provide communications for those directing traffic on sanctioned evacuation routes
 - D. None of the above.

6. What is the correct pronunciation for the number 2064?
 - A. Two Thousand and Sixty Four.
 - B. Twenty Sixty Four.
 - C. Two Oh Six Four.
 - D. Two Zero Six Four.

7. When are you permitted to reveal the existence or contents of a message passed from a served agency to the intended recipient?
- A. Only after the operation has ended.
 - B. Only if it really wasn't important.
 - C. Never.
 - D. None of the above.
8. During an event, if the authorities request you to move, what should you do?
- A. Ask why and tell them you're not allowed.
 - B. Seek permission from the Net Control Station.
 - C. Do so immediately and without comment.
 - D. None of the above.
9. What is the single quality in a person volunteering to provide their services as an Emergency Communications volunteer which makes the strongest initial impression on served agency officials?
- A. Looks.
 - B. Intelligence.
 - C. Number of radios.
 - D. Attitude.
10. Who is the person charged with control of the information flow on the frequency used by a controlled net?
- A. Incident Commander (IC).
 - B. Emergency Coordinator (EC).
 - C. Net Control Station (NCS).
 - D. None of the above.
11. Which of the following is necessary when passing traffic on behalf of a served agency?
- A. You must make it understandable.
 - B. B. You must shorten it as much as possible.
 - C. You must pass it exactly as it was written.
 - D. All of the above.
12. If your served agency is unable to provide workman's compensation insurance, you may do which of the following?
- A. Decline the assignment.
 - B. Participate anyway.
 - C. Ask again to make sure it's not available.
 - D. All of the above.

13. What is the best way to ensure good relations with the public service agency professionals?
- A. Be cooperative and do your job in the best way possible.
 - B. Carry as many radios as you can.
 - C. Impress them by telling them everything you know.
 - D. Show them how to do their job right.
14. What is the best way to verify the origin and timing of a message?
- A. Ask the originator.
 - B. Ask the intended recipient.
 - C. Look in the log.
 - D. None of the above.
15. What is the standard ITU phonetic for the letter Q?
- A. Queen.
 - B. Quebec.
 - C. Quiz.
 - D. Quota.
16. Who should make all statements to the media about an event?
- A. You.
 - B. The Public Information Officer for the public service agency.
 - C. The ARRL Section Manager
 - D. The ARES representative.
17. What is the standard ITU phonetic for the letter U?
- A. Unicorn.
 - B. Unique.
 - C. Uniform.
 - D. Understood.
18. Why is Public Service Communications different from Emergency Communications?
- A. It is a scheduled event, as opposed to an unscheduled emergency event.
 - B. It often uses the same operating techniques (controlled nets, informal & formal nets).
 - C. It requires activation by an emergency management agency.
 - D. None of the above.
19. Which of the following transmissions best exhibits the characteristics of good Emergency Communications?
- A. "Uh, wow. Uh, like there's a cool funnel cloud out here, and it's like, uh, coming really close to the ground!"
 - B. "What are you doing sending me out here? A tornado is about to suck me up into the clouds, you idiot!"
 - C. "A funnel cloud is descending. It's coming out of the cloud ceiling, swirling around a bit, bobbing and weaving, and may touch down very soon."
 - D. "Funnel cloud sighted just northwest of Kohler's Point."

20. Why may the phone company not be able to operate during emergencies?
- A. The telephone poles may be destroyed or down from heavy winds and lightening.
 - B. Trees may be laying on the wires, pulling them to tight to carry impulses.
 - C. Phone systems usually rely on copper or fiber optic cables which are prone to damage when exposed during high winds and storm conditions.
 - D. All the lines may be full of static, rendering them useless.
21. The reason Amateur Radio doesn't experience the disruptions suffered by the telephone system is because?
- A. Our equipment is more reliable.
 - B. Our communications aren't dependent upon wires to carry our signals from one station to another.
 - C. We use less power.
 - D. None of the above.
22. What are the basics of emergency communications?
- A. Brevity and clarity.
 - B. Do not editorialize.
 - C. Listen.
 - D. All of the above.
23. What is your number one priority when responding to an actual emergency?
- A. Providing communications to the served agency.
 - B. Your safety in the situation you are asked to serve in.
 - C. Providing instructions to others in your team.
 - D. None of the above.
24. In the ICS model for operations, an ICS Logistics net corresponds to an ARES:
- A. Tactical net.
 - B. Traffic net.
 - C. Directed net.
 - D. Resource net.
25. What should you have available when responding to an emergency?
- A. ID Cards – ARES ID, operator license, other volunteer service ID cards you may have.
 - B. Equipment – Radio(s), gain antenna, extra feedline, headphone, extra, charged batteries.
 - C. Personal Items – food, water, first aid kit, flashlight, rain suit, hat, gloves, maps.
 - D. All of the above.