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Q361 - Navigation General

1. A magnetic compass card is marked in how many degrees?

- 90
- 180
- **360**
- 400

Note:

A magnetic compass card represents a full circle, which is measured in 360 degrees. Therefore, the correct answer is 360.

2. As a vessel changes course to starboard, which is TRUE concerning the compass card in a magnetic compass?

- The card also turns to starboard
- It first turns to starboard then counterclockwise to port
- The card turns counterclockwise to port
- **The card remains aligned with compass north**

Note:

The magnetic compass card remains aligned with magnetic north as the vessel changes course; the ship rotates around the card.

3. What does the lubber's line on a magnetic compass indicate?

- **The vessel's compass heading**
- Compass north
- Magnetic north
- A relative bearing taken with an azimuth circle

Note:

The lubber's line is a fixed reference mark on a magnetic compass that indicates the vessel's compass heading, aligning with the ship's centerline and showing the direction the bow is pointing on the compass card.

4. Which would influence a magnetic compass?

- Radio
- Iron pipe
- Electrical wiring
- **All of the above**

Note:

Radio equipment, iron pipes, and electrical wiring all generate or interact with magnetic fields, which can disrupt a magnetic compass; therefore, all listed items influence a compass.

5. Which are associated with Cumulonimbus clouds?

- Dense fog and high humidity
- Clear skies with the approach of a cold front
- A rapid drop in barometric pressure followed by darkness
- **Gusty winds, thunder, rain or hail, and lightning**

Note:

Cumulonimbus clouds are thunderstorm clouds characterized by gusty winds, thunder, rain or hail, and lightning. These clouds form in unstable air and produce severe weather phenomena, unlike the conditions described in the other answer choices.

6. What does a barometer showing falling pressure indicate?

- A low dew point
- The approach of a high-pressure system
- A high dew point
- **The approach of a low-pressure system**

Note:

Falling barometric pressure indicates the approach of a low-pressure system, which is associated with deteriorating weather.

7. What is the basic principle of the magnetic compass?

- **Magnetic materials of the same polarity repel each other and those of opposite polarity attract.**
- The Earth's magnetic lines of force are parallel to the surface of the Earth.
- The compass needle(s) will, when properly compensated, lie parallel to the isogonic lines of the Earth.
- Magnetic meridians connect points of equal magnetic variation.

Note:

A magnetic compass functions due to the fundamental principle that opposite magnetic poles attract and like poles repel, causing the needle to align with the Earth's magnetic field.

8. What benefit is a weather bulletin to a mariner?

- It provides a legal reason to cancel a projected voyage.
- It allows the mariner to make long term weather forecasts.
- **It gives the mariner time to prepare for weather changes.**
- It is of little benefit since the weather changes frequently and rapidly.

Note:

Weather bulletins provide mariners with advance warning, enabling preparation for anticipated weather changes. These bulletins offer timely information for voyage planning and risk management, facilitating actions such as securing the vessel or adjusting course, and are essential for safe navigation despite frequent weather fluctuations.

9. Which defines the height of tide?

- The depth of water at a specific time due to tidal effect
- **The difference between the depth of the water and the area's tidal datum**
- The difference between the depth of the water and the high-water tidal level
- The difference between the depth of the water at high tide and the depth of the water at low tide

Note:

Tidal height is defined as the vertical difference between the water surface at a given time and the area's tidal datum; it is not the total water depth, the difference from high water, or the tidal range.

10. How are buoys which mark isolated dangers painted?

- Alternating green and black bands
- Alternating red and white stripes
- **Alternating red and black bands**
- Alternating green and white bands

Note:

Isolated danger marks are painted with alternating red and black bands, as defined by IALA buoyage system standards and U.S. regulations (33 CFR Part 62).
