



YOUNG HANDLER QUALIFIER CHAMPIONSHIP 2019 THEORY QUESTIONS

HORSE SPORT IRELAND

Juniors Theory Sample Questions and Answers

Breeding/Reproduction Questions

1. What is the term used to describe a mare which has never been bred?
 - Maiden mare
2. What is the term used to describe a mare that was bred during the breeding season but is not in foal at the end of the breeding season?
 - Barren mare
3. How much of a horse's genetic inheritance comes from each of its parents?
 - 50% from both sire and dam
4. What do you understand by the term 'teasing'?
 - Checking to see if a mare is in season (this much should suffice as correct answer for juniors) – seniors could be probed further - by observing her reactions to contact with another gelding/ entire male horse
5. When is weaning of foals normally conducted in modern sport horse breeding enterprises in terms of months (age)?
 - 6 months of age/ 6 months after foaling

Feeding / Nutrition Questions

1. What does the term 'creep feeding a foal mean'?
 - Feeding a foal while it is still suckling the dam
2. In a 10% Cool and Cooked coarse mix ration what does the 10% stand for?
 - The amount of protein in the feed
3. What is colostrum?
 - The mare's first milk after foaling
4. Name a cereal which may be fed straight without processing?
 - Oats
5. What is the recommended % of body weight for the minimum amount of roughage a horse requires per day?
 - 1%

Stable Management/General Questions

1. When grooming a horse which brush is used for removing mud and dried sweat and has coarse stiff bristles?
 - Dandy Brush
2. Which vice/stereotypic behaviour involves a horse gulping air?
 - Cribbing/ Windsucking
3. How should a handler safely turn a horse into a field?
 - Turn the horse towards the gate upon entry into the paddock and then release (so a safe retreat can be made to the gate)
4. Wide, high banks of bedding laid against the walls in a stable are designed to help prevent what?
 - A horse becoming cast
5. A figure of eight bandage is used where?



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- On the knee
- 6. A horse that toes inwards in the front feet is described as being what?
 - Pigeon toed
- 7. From which points on the horse would you measure to fit a rug?
 - From the centre of the chest to the furthers point of the quarters (point of the buttocks)
- 8. What piece of grooming equipment should not be used on a horse living out on grass?
 - Body brush

Health and Welfare Questions

1. If a horse is suffering from choke what should you do?
 - Remove all hay, feed and water (they may say call the vet!)
 2. What is an adult horse's normal temperature?
 - 37.6 – 38.2 Degrees Celsius
 3. What time of the year do lice usually affect horses?
 - Winter/early spring
 4. Why should the worm dose chemical ingredient (not just the product brand name) used be changed on a regular basis?
 - To prevent increase in worm resistance to the chemical ingredient
 5. How often should a horse's hooves be trimmed?
 - Every 6-8 weeks
 6. What do you understand by the term 'weaving'?
 - A horse repeatedly shifting weight from one front foot to the other
 7. Where on the body is a 'curb' found?
 - Below the point of the hock
 8. Where are the splint bones located?
 - At the sides of the cannon bone
 9. When holding a horse for a vet or farrier where would you stand?
 - On the same side as the vet or farrier
 10. What condition would you suspect if you discovered a black, foul-smelling, moist material in the clefts of the frog?
 - Thrush
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Seniors Theory Sample Questions and Answers

Breeding/Reproduction Questions

1. What is meconium?
 - First dung of the newborn foal
2. What is the normal presentation of a foal at birth?
 - One front leg slightly ahead of the other with the head resting on the knees (soles of the hooves pointing downwards).
3. How many days after ovulation is a mare generally scanned to detect the presence of a heartbeat in the foetus?
 - 28 days
4. The period of time from the mare breaking water to delivering a foal on the ground is usually no longer than what period of time?
 - 30 minutes
5. Immediately when the foal is born/delivered what should you do with the umbilical cord?
 - Allow it to break naturally; then treat with 10% tincture of iodine solution
6. How soon after the birth of a foal should the mare normally pass the placenta?
 - Within three hours
7. How soon after a normal birth should a foal be suckling effectively?
 - Within 3 hours
8. What can the breeder do to start the breeding season earlier than naturally?
 - Use artificial lights to extend the length of daylight
9. An enema is used for what purpose?
 - To assist with the passage of droppings/meconium in the foal
10. What do you understand by the term 'teasing'?
 - Checking to see if a mare is in season (this much should suffice as correct answer for juniors) – seniors could be probed further - by observing her reactions to contact with another gelding/ entire male horse

Feeding/ Nutrition Questions

1. What is the recommended amount of protein in a foal pellet?
 - a. 18%
2. What two minerals does a horse require in the minimum amount, in the proper ratio, and in the presence of vitamin D for proper skeletal growth?
 - a. Calcium and Phosphorous
3. Each day a horse can eat hay and concentrates weighing what percentage of its body weight?
 - a. 2.5%
4. What is the ideal pH of soils for grazing?
 - a. 6 – 6.5

Stable Management / General Questions

1. What part of the horse's foot bears most of the horse's weight?
 - a. The wall



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2. What is the metal curry comb used for?
 - a. Cleaning the body brush
3. The foot sequence of a horse when walking (starting with the near hind) is what? / describe the...
 - a. Near hind, near fore, off hind, off fore
4. The foot sequence when the horse is trotting is what? Describe the...
 - a. Near hind and off fore together, off hind and near fore together (or vice versa)
5. The foot sequence in canter when the left foreleg is leading is what? / Describe the... (commence description with hind leg)
 - a. Off hind, near hind and off fore together, near fore, moment of suspension
6. Bandages over a joint should be applied how?
 - a. In a figure of eight pattern over the joint
7. When is the horse said to be 'straight' when ridden or lunged?
 - a. When the front legs and hind legs are on the same track
8. When you ask the horse for a right lead canter, which leg strikes off first?
 - a. Left (near) hind leg
9. What word is used to describe the shape a horse makes over a fence when jumping in good style / form?
 - a. Bascule
10. What is the correct number of nails normally used when shoeing?
 - o 7 (4 on the outside/ 3 on the inside)

Health and Welfare Questions

1. Excess of which mineral may cause loss of the hoof wall?
 - a. Selenium
2. Cleft palate is a deformity which may be seen in foals. What is a symptom/ how would you recognise if a foal was suffering from cleft palate?
 - a. Milk dribbling down the nostrils after suckling
3. Where on the body is a curb to be found?
 - a. Below the point of the hock
4. At rest the normal adult horse heart rate is what range?
 - a. 35-45 beats per minute
5. The yellow eggs attached to the hair on the legs of horses during late summer and early autumn are the eggs of what?
 - a. The bot fly
6. Where on the body is a windgall to be found?
 - a. Over the fetlock joint
7. Mares should be vaccinated in the 5th, 7th and 9th month of pregnancy to prevent what?
 - a. Equine Herpes Virus Abortion / EHV Abortion
8. What is a parrot mouth/ Describe a parrot mouth
 - a. The top jaw is longer than the bottom jaw
9. Grazing cattle/ sheep and horses together helps to do what?
 - a. Reduce the level of worm/ parasite infestation on the pasture
10. How would you recognise haemolytic disease in the new-born foal/ symptom of...
 - a. Jaundice (yellow colouring of the membranes of eyes/ gums)