



Accreditation Exam Study Guide

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Allow 30 minutes to complete these 21 questions.

Answer Key will be provided upon request to Qualifying Agents actively working on their accreditation.

Send Requests to: gettheseal@naturalstoneinstitute.org



Question #1

- The strength of a quartz based stone is a measure of it's ability to resist stresses. The strength depends on several factors: the amount of free silica, degree of cementation, its porosity, and the degree to which the stone is _____?
 - A) igneous
 - B) metamorphosed
 - C) sedimentary
 - D) layered

Question #2



- The partial removal, or "plucking", of biotite and other mica minerals from the surface of a granite slab during fabrication processes is more commonly referred to as:
 - A) pitting
 - B) exfoliation
 - C) texture
 - D) fissuring

Question #3



- Travertine can be cut in two directions. If the stone is cut across the bedding planes, which exposes the linear edge of the bedding planes of the stone, it is called a "Vein" cut. The other option is to cut travertine along the bedding plane of the stone, which is called a _____?

- A) Fleuri Cut
- B) Modern Cut
- C) Chain Saw Cut
- D) Bookmatch Cut



Question #4

- To eliminate misunderstandings about the location and size of all countertop seams, the customer can be provided with _____.
- A) A copy of the change order form
- B) A copy of the original contract
- C) A copy of the shop drawing showing seam locations
- D) Referred to the company's website



Question #5

- The MIA classifies a marble as Class "C" if it:
 - A) Metamorphosis is not complete.
 - B) Contains geological flaws (holes, voids, fissures).
 - C) Generally not suitable for exterior work.
 - D) All of above.



Question #6

- The MIA recommends that exterior coping and sills have what percentage of bonding material coverage?
 - A) 50%
 - B) 60%
 - C) 80%
 - D) As close to 100% as possible.



Question #7

- Installation of stone slabs in a steamer / shower must be done using a(n) _____ method.

- A) Adhered
- B) Exterior
- C) Thinset



Question #8

- A conventionally framed floor system using wood framing members spanning 15 ft has an allowable deflection of _____ according to the MIA *Dimension Stone Design Manual*.
 - A) $1/32"$
 - B) $1/16"$
 - C) $1/8"$
 - D) $1/4"$



Question #9

- Unsupported overhangs for 2 cm material shall not exceed 6" and for 3 cm material, shall not exceed _____.
- A) 8"
- B) 9"
- C) 10"
- D) 12"



Question #10

- Using a saw blade to cut a slot into the edge of a stone for the insertion of anchors would create a _____.
- A) Hitch
- B) Kerf
- C) Latch
- D) Grain

Question #11



- A rounded edge profile that has a radius equal to the thickness of the stone is called _____.
- A) Demi-bullnose
- B) Bullnose
- C) Full bullnose
- D) Platner



Question #12

- A kitchen with no backsplashes has 2 tops 26" x 108", 2 tops 26" x 48", 1 top 26" x 60" and 1 top 26" x 84". The slabs to be used are absolute black and have a useable area of 60" x 120". How many slabs will be required for this kitchen?
 - A) 1
 - B) 2
 - C) 3
 - D) 4



Question #13

- A stone slab 4' 6" X 7' 9" used on a shower wall requires how many anchors?
 - A) 4
 - B) 6
 - C) 7
 - D) 10



Question #14

- The acceptable method of installing a cast iron undermount sink would be _____.
- A) To build a frame with blocks and shims
- B) Drill the stone and insert mechanical fasteners
- C) Use 100% epoxy to adhere the sink to the underside of the stone
- D) Drill the stone, insert mechanical fasteners and epoxy the sink to the underside of the stone



Question #15

- What is the MIA's recommended drying time for a poultice?
 - A) 30 minutes
 - B) 8 hours
 - C) 24 to 48 hours
 - D) 72 hours

Question #16



- Regular exterior building cleaning of exterior building stone should be done by what method?
 - A) Hosing down with plain water
 - B) Pressure washing
 - C) Wash with hand cloth, soap and water
 - D) Chemical cleaning



Question #17

- What products can be used to poultice an oil stain with?
 - A) Baking soda and water
 - B) Commercial alkaline degreaser
 - C) Powdered poultice materials and mineral spirits
 - D) All of the above



Question #18

- What test result could be used to tell if the floor refinishing job you are bidding on is actually granite, and not marble, limestone or travertine?
 - A) Granite will etch with acid.
 - B) Granite will not scratch with an average pocket knife
 - C) Granite has a satin-smooth appearance but marble, limestone or travertine will look shiny.
 - D) Marble is known for its distinctive vein patterns. If the stone does not have veins, then it must be Granite.



Question #19

- As an employer, you are required to have OSHA Form 301 reports for the previous _____ year(s).
 - A) 1
 - B) 2
 - C) 3
 - D) 5



Question #20

- For stone requiring a color range to be matched, the stone contractor must prepare at least ____ set(s) of four matched samples each.
 - A) 1
 - B) 2
 - C) 3
 - D) 4



Question #21

- A project specification calls for granite to be supplied from a quarry having adequate capacity. The project requires 2,400 net cu. ft. of granite, and must be completed in a year. The quarry has a capacity of 4,000 cu. ft. per month, of which the net yield is only 10%. 50% of the quarry's production is already committed to other projects. Does this quarry have the capacity to supply this project?
- A) No, unless they work overtime on weekends.
 - B) Yes, provided no other supply commitments are made.
 - C) Yes, and 5 more projects of similar size.
 - D) There is not enough information provided to answer this question.



Bonus Question

- Which of the following is the hardest cementing mineral in sedimentary stone?
 - A) Carbonate
 - B) Iron oxides
 - C) Silica
 - D) Clay minerals