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How to take this course.

1. Download and Print the test questions.
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4. Begin viewing the web pages. Refer to your printed test to find the correct answers. The questions track the web pages.
5. As you find the answers, circle them on your printed copy.
6. At the end of each section, you'll enter the quiz which is the same as your printed test. Refer to your circled answers when actually answering the quiz on the web.

7. Upon passing, you will proceed to the next section. If failed to pass, you will be moved to the beginning of that section for more review.

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Quiz 1

1. Most accidents occur in trenches that are _____.
 - 1 ft. to 4 ft. deep
 - 5 ft. to 15 ft. deep
 - 15 ft. to 20 ft. deep
 - 20 ft. and deeper
 - all of the answers provided
2. _____ of people covered by dirt in a cave-in will die.
 - 20%
 - 30%
 - 40%
 - 50%
 - 90%
3. The federal laws that regulate excavation procedures are under the jurisdiction of _____.
 - OSHA
 - FEMA
 - Department of the Interior
 - US Health Department
 - Mine Safety Task Force
4. By definition, a trench has a width of less than _____.
 - 3 feet
 - 6 feet
 - 12 feet
 - 15 feet
 - 20 feet

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5. Most soils weigh about _____ pounds per cubic yard.
 - 1000
 - 2000
 - 3000
 - 4000
 - 5000
 6. Soil consists of the following major parts except _____.
 - pebbles
 - sand
 - clay
 - silt
 7. Type A soil has an unconfined compressive strength of _____.
 - greater than 1.5 tons per square foot
 - greater than 0.5 and less than 1.5 tons per square foot
 - greater than 0.1 and less than 0.5 tons per square foot
 - at least 1750 Torvanes
 8. Type A soil _____. (check all that apply)
 - may be fissured
 - may be subject to vibration
 - may be previously disturbed
 - may have water present
 - none of the answers provided
 9. Type B soil has an unconfined compressive strength of _____.
 - greater than 1.5 tons per square foot
 - greater than 0.5 and less than 1.5 tons per square foot
 - between 0.1 and 0.5 tons per square foot
 - at least 1750 Torvanes
 - at least 2.1 on the Richter Scale
 10. Type C soil is the most cohesive soil.
 - True
 - False
 11. The person on the job site who is responsible for soil testing is called _____.
 - the responsible person
 - an idiot
 - the competent person
 - the incompetent person
 12. During a visual test, which of the following is NOT done?
 - Checking for tension cracks
 - Checking for previously disturbed soil
 - Checking for indications of layered geologic structuring
 - Performing a sedimentation test
 13. Which of the following is a manual soil test?
 - Thumb penetration
 - Pocket penetrometers
 - Sedimentation
 - All of the answers provided
 14. A penetration of 1/4" would indicate _____.
 - solid rock
 - a Type A
 - a Type B
 - a Type C
 - a Type D
 15. Following a brief rainstorm, the soil must be retested.
 - True
 - False
 16. To accurately determine the amount of silt in soil, the following _____ test should be performed.
 - thumb penetration
 - pocket penetrometer
 - sedimentation
 - wet thread
 - ribbon
- Quiz 2**
1. Cave-ins usually give a warning prior to happening.
 - True
 - False
 2. Typical soil that is 5 feet in height will exert approximately _____ pounds per square foot in a sideways direction at the base of the soil.
 - 100
 - 150
 - 200
 - 250
 - 500

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3. Which of the following is a standard description of a cave-in?
 - Sliding
 - Toppling
 - Subsidence and bulging
 - Boiling
 - All of the answers provided
4. Which is/are the most common reason(s) for a trench collapse?
 - Moisture in the soil, too much or too little
 - Soil previously disturbed
 - Soil has repeated freezing and thawing
 - All of the answers provided
5. Spoils shall be placed no closer than _____ from the edge of the excavation.
 - 1 ft.
 - 2 ft.
 - 3 ft.
 - 4 ft.
 - none of the answers provided
6. Currently, a popular method of shoring is _____.
 - hydraulic
 - timber
 - whaler
 - screw jack
 - Dinah Shore

Quiz 3

1. Generally, excavations less than _____ in depth don't require a protective system.
 - 4 ft.
 - 5 ft.
 - 6 ft.
 - 8 ft.
 - none of the answers provided
2. Which of the following is a method for excavation protection?
 - Sloping
 - Benching
 - Shoring
 - Trench shield
 - All of the answers provided
3. Type C soil may have a slope not exceeding _____ degrees.
 - 53
 - 45
 - 34
 - 22-1/2
 - 15
4. Benching is NOT allowed for which of the following types of soil?
 - Type A
 - Type B
 - Type C
 - Type D
 - All of the answers provided
7. A support or shield should extend a minimum of _____ above the surrounding soil.
 - 12 inches
 - 16 inches
 - 18 inches
 - 24 inches
 - 36 inches
8. The maximum depth an excavation can be dug without a professional engineer designing the system is _____.
 - 10 ft.
 - 15 ft.
 - 20 ft.
 - 25 ft.
 - no limits
9. A trench shield can be stacked on each other.
 - Yes, always
 - Yes, but only if it is designed for "double stacking"
 - Yes, if the competent person says so
 - No, never allowed
 - No, the shield can never be greater than 8 feet in depth.

Quiz 4

1. The major problem with water in a trench is _____.
 - that the soil quickly loses structural strength
 - the workers cannot clearly see the bottom of the trench and may slip
 - the workers can drown in deep water
 - the workers' boots and clothes become wet and can increase the chance of pneumonia
 - the electrical shock hazard increases

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2. Prior to entering a trench, which of the following should be tested?
 - Oxygen level
 - Combustible gas
 - Hazardous substances
 - All of the answers provided

3. A ladder, stairway or ramp is needed if the excavation is more than _____ in depth.
 - 3 ft.
 - 4 ft.
 - 5 ft.
 - 6 ft.
 - 8 ft.

4. Ladders shall be spaced so that workers don't need to travel more than _____ in lateral distance.
 - 10 ft.
 - 15 ft.
 - 20 ft.
 - 25 ft.
 - 50 ft.

5. Ladders shall extend _____ above the edge of the trench.
 - 1/2 ft.
 - 1 ft.
 - 2 ft.
 - 3 ft.
 - 4 ft.

6. On the job site, employees must wear hard hats.
 - True
 - False

Quiz 5

1. On a guard rail, the upper rail must be _____.
 - between 42 to 45 inches
 - between 36 to 42 inches
 - between 36 to 48 inches
 - between 40 to 46 inches