

01	A	B	C	D	E
02	A	B	C	D	E
03	A	B	C	D	E
04	A	B	C	D	E
05	A	B	C	D	E
06	A	B	C	D	E
07	A	B	C	D	E
08	A	B	C	D	E
09	A	B	C	D	E
10	A	B	C	D	E
11	A	B	C	D	E
12	A	B	C	D	E
13	A	B	C	D	E

14	A	B	C	D	E
15	A	B	C	D	E
16	A	B	C	D	E
17	A	B	C	D	E
18	A	B	C	D	E
19	A	B	C	D	E
20	A	B	C	D	E
21	A	B	C	D	E
22	A	B	C	D	E
23	A	B	C	D	E
24	A	B	C	D	E
25	A	B	C	D	E
26	A	B	C	D	E

27	A	B	C	D	E
28	A	B	C	D	E
29	A	B	C	D	E
30	A	B	C	D	E
31	A	B	C	D	E
32	A	B	C	D	E
33	A	B	C	D	E
34	A	B	C	D	E
35	A	B	C	D	E
36	A	B	C	D	E
37	A	B	C	D	E
38	A	B	C	D	E
39	A	B	C	D	E

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

ALABAMA CONSTRUCTION

LA9QH9ST

AL Masonry Contractor

EDITION

Demo

QUESTIONS

9

FORMAT

Limited Edition PDF

Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for ALABAMA CONSTRUCTION **LA9QH9ST**, each with its answer key and an explanation. Answer a question before you read its key — the explanation is worth more once you have committed.

If something looks wrong

Send us three things and we will check it:

- the exam code, **LA9QH9ST**
- the question number
- the email address on your order

Write to **support@mometrix.net**. We reply within one business day.

QUESTION 1

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Which of the following mortar types are considered appropriate for use in below-grade exterior foundation walls? (Choose two.)

- ☒ **A** Type M
- ☐ **B** Type N
- ☐ **C** Type O
- ☒ **D** Type S

ANSWER A - D

WHY Type M and Type S mortars are the high-strength designations recommended for below-grade applications such as foundations, retaining walls, and locations subject to high compressive or lateral loads. Type N is a medium-strength mortar used for above-grade exterior walls, and Type O is a low-strength mortar limited to interior non-load-bearing applications. The Alabama Masonry Contractor examination references these mortar classifications under the masonry materials identification objective.

QUESTION 2

MULTIPLE CHOICE

When grouting a reinforced concrete masonry unit (CMU) wall, which of the following items must be embedded within the grout to develop the required composite action? (Choose two.)

- ☒ **A** Vertical reinforcing bars placed in the cell cores
- ☒ **B** Horizontal joint reinforcement placed in the bed joints
- ☐ **C** Face-shell bedding of mortar only, with no grout
- ☐ **D** Anchor bolts set in the top course

ANSWER A - B

WHY Composite action in a reinforced CMU wall is developed by placing vertical reinforcing bars within the grouted cells and embedding horizontal joint reinforcement within the mortar bed joints so that the grout encases the vertical steel and bonds it to the masonry. Face-shell bedding alone does not develop composite action, and anchor bolts, while required for plate attachment, are not the primary reinforcement developing flexural and axial composite behavior.

QUESTION 3

TRUE FALSE

On a masonry jobsite, a properly constructed limited access zone (LAZ) must be established on the unsupported side of a wall being constructed greater than 8 feet in height.

☒ **A** True☐ **B** False**ANSWER A**

WHY True. OSHA 29 CFR 1926.706(a) requires that a limited access zone be established whenever a masonry wall is being constructed greater than 8 feet in height, and the zone must be located on the unsupported side of the wall. The zone must be established before construction starts and remain in place until the wall is adequately supported. This is a tested safety item for the Alabama Masonry Contractor examination.

QUESTION 4

SINGLE CHOICE

Under OSHA scaffolding rules for masonry work, at what height above a lower level must an unprotected side or edge of a scaffold platform have guardrail systems installed?

☐ **A** 4 feet☐ **B** 6 feet☐ **C** 8 feet☒ **D** 10 feet**ANSWER D**

WHY OSHA 29 CFR 1926.451(g)(1) requires guardrail systems on scaffolds more than 10 feet above a lower level. The 4-foot trigger applies to general industry floor edges (1910.28(b)(1)), the 6-foot figure applies to fall protection in construction (1926.501), and the 8-foot figure applies to the limited access zone rule for masonry walls. The candidate must select the scaffold-specific 10-foot threshold.

QUESTION 5

SINGLE CHOICE

A contractor is laying brick on an exterior wall that will be exposed to severe weathering and moderate structural demand. Which ASTM mortar type is most appropriate?

- ☐ A Type O
- ☒ B Type N
- ☐ C Type S
- ☐ D Type K

ANSWER B

WHY Type N is the general-purpose mortar recommended by the Brick Industry Association and the International Building Code for exterior above-grade walls exposed to severe weathering with normal structural loading. Type O is too soft for severe exposure, Type S is used where higher bond or lateral strength is required, and Type K is no longer referenced in modern building codes as a primary specification.

QUESTION 6

SINGLE CHOICE

When placing a horizontal bond beam in a CMU wall, the most common reinforcement installed in the bond beam course consists of:

- ☒ A Two #4 bars placed in the face shells with grout fill
- ☐ B Two #5 bars placed in the cells with grout fill
- ☐ C One #3 bar placed in the bed joint only
- ☐ D Prefabricated trussed wire reinforcement only, with no grout

ANSWER A

WHY A standard horizontal bond beam in CMU construction typically uses two longitudinal reinforcing bars (commonly #4) placed within the U-shaped bond beam block, surrounded by grout to fully develop composite action. Placing bars only in the bed joint, omitting grout, or using joint reinforcement alone does not satisfy bond beam requirements. The question tests the candidate's knowledge of bond beam reinforcement placement.

QUESTION 7

SINGLE CHOICE

When estimating the quantity of concrete masonry units (CMU) needed for a wall from blueprint dimensions, the standard practice is to calculate the number of units based on:

- ☒ **A** The nominal dimensions of the CMU times the wall area
- ☐ **B** The actual (manufactured) dimensions of the CMU times the wall area
- ☐ **C** The volume of grout in the wall cells
- ☐ **D** The total weight of the wall divided by the weight of a single unit

ANSWER A

WHY Standard masonry estimating practice uses nominal unit dimensions (the design size plus the standard mortar joint) so that wall area divided by nominal unit face area yields the number of units required. Using actual manufactured dimensions undercounts units, and the grout volume or unit weight methods are not standard estimating procedures taught for the Alabama Masonry Contractor exam.

QUESTION 8

SINGLE CHOICE

Mortar that has stiffened due to evaporation of mixing water should be:

- ☐ **A** Re-tempered by adding water and mixing to restore workability
- ☒ **B** Discarded and not used
- ☐ **C** Combined with fresh mortar in equal portions
- ☐ **D** Used only for setting floor units, not wall units

ANSWER B

WHY Mortar that has stiffened from water loss has begun to hydrate and set; re-tempering by adding water after initial set has begun weakens the finished mortar and reduces bond strength. Accepted practice, consistent with ASTM C270 guidance referenced in masonry codes, is to discard such mortar. The Alabama Masonry Contractor exam tests this point because improper re-tempering is a common jobsite defect.

QUESTION 9

SINGLE CHOICE

A masonry contractor is required to provide a Material Safety Data Sheet (SDS) on a jobsite primarily to:

- ☐ A Comply with the IRS recordkeeping rules for material purchases
- ☒ B Inform workers and emergency responders about chemical hazards and handling procedures
- ☐ C Provide proof of product warranty to the owner
- ☐ D Document that materials meet ASTM specifications

ANSWER B

WHY OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1926.59) requires that employers maintain Safety Data Sheets for hazardous chemicals present on a jobsite and make them accessible to workers and emergency responders. SDSs communicate hazard identification, first-aid measures, and handling requirements. They are not tax documents, warranty paperwork, or ASTM certification records.