

01	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☒ E
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37	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☒ D	☐ E
38	☒ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E
39	☒ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Alabama Cosmetology

TYME9ECD

AL Natural Hair Styling - Theory

EDITION

Demo

QUESTIONS

9

FORMAT

Limited Edition PDF

Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for Alabama Cosmetology **TYME9ECD**, 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, **TYME9ECD**
- the question number
- the email address on your order

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

QUESTION 1

SINGLE CHOICE

A natural hair stylist completes a client's service and is preparing to disinfect combs, brushes, and other multi-use implements before the next client. According to standard infection-control practice for cosmetology services, implements that come into contact with a client's skin or hair must be cleaned and then disinfected. Which of the following is the correct sequence the stylist must follow?

- ☐ **A** Place used implements directly in a disinfectant solution, rinse them, and air-dry them.
- ☐ **B** Wipe implements with a clean towel, spray them with a surface disinfectant, and return them to a clean drawer.
- ☒ **C** Wash implements with soap and water (or detergent) to remove debris, rinse, then completely immerse them in an EPA-registered disinfectant according to the manufacturer's directions.
- ☐ **D** Store used implements in a closed container overnight and disinfect them only at the end of the business day.

ANSWER C

WHY Implements must first be cleaned of physical debris by washing with soap/detergent and water, rinsed, and then fully immersed in an EPA-registered disinfectant for the contact time stated on the product label. Skipping the cleaning step, only wiping or spraying, or delaying disinfection until the end of the day violates standard sanitation and disinfection protocols for multi-use implements.

QUESTION 2

SINGLE CHOICE

A client asks her natural hair stylist why her hair is more prone to breakage when it is dry. Which layer of the hair shaft is responsible for holding the natural moisture (water) inside the hair and would help the stylist explain why dry hair breaks more easily?

- ☐ A The medulla, which is the innermost core of the hair shaft
- ☐ B The cuticle, which is the outermost overlapping layer of the hair shaft
- ☒ C The cortex, which is the middle layer containing pigment and is responsible for the hair's strength and elasticity
- ☐ D The hair bulb, which is the actively dividing region at the base of the follicle

ANSWER C

WHY The cortex is the middle layer of the hair shaft and contains the keratin proteins that give hair its strength, elasticity, and ability to hold moisture. When the cortex loses water, hair becomes less elastic and more prone to breakage. The medulla is the central core, the cuticle is the outer protective layer, and the hair bulb is part of the follicle root, not the shaft.

QUESTION 3

SINGLE CHOICE

A natural hair stylist performs a porosity test on a client's strand of hair by sliding two fingers from the ends up toward the scalp. The strand feels rough, snags, and tangles as the fingers move upward. Which porosity classification does this describe?

- ☐ A Low porosity hair, because the cuticle is tightly closed and lies flat
- ☐ B Normal porosity hair, because it absorbs and retains moisture evenly
- ☒ C High porosity hair, because the cuticle is raised or damaged and feels rough
- ☐ D Porosity cannot be determined by a strand test and requires laboratory equipment

ANSWER C

WHY In the standard strand slide test, hair that feels rough and tangles as fingers move from ends toward the scalp has a raised, damaged, or open cuticle, which is characteristic of high porosity hair. Low porosity hair has a tightly closed, smooth cuticle so the fingers glide easily. Normal porosity falls between the two extremes.

QUESTION 4

SINGLE CHOICE

Before using a new chemical relaxer in the salon, the stylist should review the product's Safety Data Sheet (SDS). Which section of the SDS specifically lists the chemical ingredients of the product and identifies them as trade secrets in some cases?

- ☐ A Section 1 – Identification
- ☐ B Section 2 – Hazard(s) identification
- ☒ C Section 3 – Composition/information on ingredients
- ☐ D Section 4 – First-aid measures

ANSWER C

WHY Section 3 of the OSHA GHS-formatted Safety Data Sheet is titled 'Composition/information on ingredients' and lists each chemical ingredient along with its concentration range or trade-secret claim. Section 1 identifies the product, Section 2 lists hazards, and Section 4 describes first-aid measures.

QUESTION 5

SINGLE CHOICE

A client shows the stylist patches of hair loss with smooth, shiny, bare scalp and small broken-off hairs around the bald patches. Which condition is the client most likely exhibiting, and what is the appropriate stylist response?

- ☒ **A** Alopecia areata; the stylist should recommend that the client see a physician and should not attempt to treat or diagnose the condition
- ☐ **B** Androgenetic alopecia (pattern baldness); the stylist should perform a scalp treatment to regrow the hair
- ☐ **C** Tinea capitis (ringworm of the scalp); the stylist should apply an antifungal lotion to the bald area
- ☐ **D** Telogen effluvium; the stylist should prescribe a vitamin supplement and book a series of scalp massages

ANSWER A

WHY Patches of complete hair loss with smooth bare scalp and 'exclamation-point' broken hairs are the classic presentation of alopecia areata, an autoimmune condition. Alabama cosmetology rules prohibit natural hair stylists from diagnosing or treating disorders of the hair and scalp; the stylist must refer the client to a licensed physician (typically a dermatologist).

QUESTION 6

SINGLE CHOICE

When shampooing a client with very dry natural hair, the stylist should focus shampooing primarily where sebum and product buildup accumulate most heavily, while avoiding excessive manipulation of the ends. Which area of the head should the stylist concentrate the shampooing action on?

- ☐ A The ends of the hair, which are the oldest and driest portions of the strand
- ☐ B The mid-lengths of the hair shaft, which carry the most environmental damage
- ☒ C The scalp, because sebaceous oil, sweat, and styling-product buildup concentrate at the scalp
- ☐ D The nape of the neck, because skin oils drain downward from there

ANSWER C

WHY Sebum from the sebaceous glands, perspiration from sweat glands, and most styling-product residue collect at the scalp, so the shampooing motion (massage) should be concentrated there. The lather that forms is then drawn down through the lengths and ends by rinsing, which cleans them gently without stripping their already-dry moisture.

QUESTION 7

SINGLE CHOICE

A stylist is applying a lye (sodium hydroxide) relaxer to a client's virgin natural hair. After smoothing the cream through the sections, what is the maximum amount of time the relaxer should be left on the hair before a strand check, and what must the stylist do once processing is complete?

- ☐ **A** Leave the relaxer on for the full 30 minutes regardless of curl pattern, then rinse with hot water and towel-dry
- ☐ **B** Leave the relaxer on indefinitely until the hair feels straight, then shampoo twice and rinse with cold water
- ☒ **C** Process no longer than the manufacturer's directed time, check elasticity at the ends, and rinse thoroughly with warm water followed by neutralizing shampoo
- ☐ **D** Process for 5 minutes, then blow-dry the hair to set the straightening

ANSWER C

WHY Chemical relaxers must never be left on beyond the manufacturer's recommended processing time because over-processing causes scalp burns and severe hair breakage. The stylist must monitor processing with periodic strand/elasticity checks and then rinse the relaxer thoroughly (typically with warm water) and immediately neutralize the hair with a neutralizing shampoo to stop the chemical action.

QUESTION 8

SINGLE CHOICE

A client asks her natural hair stylist why flat irons set to high temperatures cause more breakage and dryness than flat irons set to lower temperatures. Which statement best explains the relationship between heat and hair damage for the stylist to share with the client?

- ☐ **A** Heat makes hair dry because it freezes the moisture inside the cortex
- ☐ **B** Heat causes the cuticle to contract and close, locking moisture out permanently
- ☒ **C** High heat removes hydrogen bonds and, when excessive, can denature (break down) the protein structure of the cortex, leading to dryness and breakage
- ☐ **D** Heat has no effect on hair; only chemical products cause breakage

ANSWER C

WHY Thermal styling tools temporarily break hydrogen bonds in the cortex to reshape the hair, which is why heat styling works. However, excessive or repeated high heat denatures the keratin protein in the cortex, evaporates the hair's internal moisture, and damages the cuticle, all of which result in dryness, brittleness, and breakage. Lower temperatures and heat-protectant products reduce this damage.

QUESTION 9

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Before beginning any natural hair styling service, the stylist should take steps to protect both the client and themselves. Which two of the following are required safety and sanitation precautions?

- ☒ **A Perform a thorough client consultation and check the scalp for cuts, sores, or signs of infection before any chemical service**
- ☐ **B Reuse single-use items such as cotton neck strips and disposable applicator bottles if they look clean**
- ☒ **C Have the client wear a clean cape and a neck strip, and protect the stylist's own clothing and skin from chemicals**
- ☐ **D Skip handwashing between clients as long as gloves are worn for chemical services**

ANSWER A • C

WHY Both A and C are required precautions: a pre-service consultation that includes a scalp inspection protects the client from receiving a chemical service over broken skin (which can cause burns or absorption into the bloodstream), and using a clean cape, neck strip, and protective clothing/gloves protects both client and stylist from chemicals and cross-contamination. Reusing single-use items (B) is prohibited, and skipping handwashing (D) violates standard infection-control practice even when gloves are used.