

01	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E
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31	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E
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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

Association of Boards of Certification

KGNRTTMJ

WPI Water Distribution Operator Class 3

EDITION

Demo

QUESTIONS

9

ISSUED

September 3, 2026

Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for Association of Boards of Certification **KGNRTTMJ**, 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, **KGNRTTMJ**
- the question number
- the email address on your order

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

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QUESTION 1

SINGLE CHOICE

A distribution operator is reviewing the components of the distribution system. Which of the following is the primary function of a service line in a water distribution system?

- ☐ A To convey finished water from the treatment plant to the distribution main
- ☒ B To convey water from the distribution main to the customer's point of use
- ☐ C To store finished water for use during peak demand periods
- ☐ D To reduce the pressure of water entering the distribution system from the transmission main

ANSWER B

WHY A service line is the pipe that runs from the distribution main to the customer's premises, delivering water to the point of use. Transmission mains carry water from the source/treatment plant to the distribution area, distribution mains carry water throughout the service area, and storage facilities (tanks/standpipes) hold finished water for demand and emergency needs. Pressure-reducing valves lower pressure but are not the primary function of a service line.

QUESTION 2

SINGLE CHOICE

A water main is being flushed through a hydrant. If the flow rate through the hydrant is doubled while the pipe diameter remains constant, the velocity of water in the main will:

- ☐ A Be halved
- ☐ B Remain the same
- ☒ C Be doubled
- ☐ D Be quadrupled

ANSWER C

WHY By the continuity equation ($Q = A \times V$), for a constant pipe cross-sectional area (A), velocity (V) is directly proportional to flow rate (Q). Doubling the flow rate doubles the velocity.

QUESTION 3

SINGLE CHOICE

During a routine inspection, an operator discovers a gate valve that is difficult to turn and appears to be leaking around the stem. Which of the following is the most appropriate first corrective action?

- ☐ A Replace the valve immediately with a new gate valve
- ☒ B Tighten the packing nut to stop the stem leak and exercise the valve through a full cycle
- ☐ C Bypass the valve with a temporary connection and leave it in service
- ☐ D Apply hydraulic cement around the valve box to seal the leak

ANSWER B

WHY A leaking valve stem is most often caused by loose or worn packing. Tightening the packing nut and exercising the valve (opening and closing it through a full cycle) is the standard first corrective action. Replacement is considered only if the valve cannot be operated or is structurally compromised. Bypassing a leaking valve does not address the problem, and sealing the valve box does not stop a stem leak and may damage the valve.

QUESTION 4

SINGLE CHOICE

A new 12-inch ductile iron main has just been installed and is ready to be placed into service. Which of the following is the correct procedure before putting the main into service?

- ☐ A Open all hydrants along the main and flush for 5 minutes
- ☒ B Fill the main, hold disinfectant (typically chlorine) for the required contact time, flush, and then sample for bacteriological analysis
- ☐ C Connect the main directly to customers and monitor pressure for 24 hours
- ☐ D Drain the main and leave it dry until a customer complaint is received

ANSWER B

WHY New and repaired mains must be disinfected before being placed into service. The standard procedure is to fill the main, apply a chlorine solution at an appropriate dose, hold it for the required contact time to achieve disinfection, flush the main to remove the disinfectant, and then collect bacteriological samples to confirm water quality before placing it in service.

QUESTION 5

SINGLE CHOICE

An elevated storage tank is being inspected. Which of the following conditions observed during the inspection should be reported as the highest priority concern?

- ☐ A Faded exterior paint
- ☐ B Minor bird nesting on the roof access platform
- ☒ C Visible structural cracking or significant corrosion on a supporting leg or column
- ☐ D Slight accumulation of debris on the overflow screen

ANSWER C

WHY Structural cracking or significant corrosion on a supporting leg or column threatens the structural integrity of the tank and could lead to catastrophic failure. This must be reported and addressed immediately. The other issues (paint, bird nesting, overflow screen debris) are legitimate maintenance items but are not imminent structural threats.

QUESTION 6

SINGLE CHOICE

Under the Lead and Copper Rule, what is the required action when the lead action level (0.015 mg/L) is exceeded in tap water samples?

- ☐ A Immediately shut off service to all customers served by the system
- ☒ B Implement corrosion control treatment, conduct public education, and (if needed) lead service line replacement
- ☐ C Increase the free chlorine residual throughout the distribution system to 5.0 mg/L
- ☐ D Switch the source of supply to groundwater only

ANSWER B

WHY When the lead action level is exceeded under the Lead and Copper Rule, the water system is required to implement corrosion control treatment (or optimize it if already in place), conduct public education about lead in drinking water, and replace lead service lines if the action level continues to be exceeded. Shutting off service, raising disinfectant residual, or switching sources are not prescribed corrective actions under the rule.

QUESTION 7

SINGLE CHOICE

A customer reports that their meter reading appears unusually high compared to prior usage. The operator's first step should be to:

- ☐ A Replace the meter immediately with a new one
- ☒ B Verify the reading, check for leaks on the customer side, and confirm meter accuracy before replacing
- ☐ C Adjust the meter to a lower reading to match historical usage
- ☐ D Disconnect service until the customer pays the disputed bill

ANSWER B

WHY An unusually high meter reading may be caused by a customer-side leak (such as a running toilet or service line leak) or by meter inaccuracy. Operators should first verify the reading, check for visible leaks on the customer's side of the meter, and test the meter's accuracy before considering replacement. Adjusting a meter reading is not permitted, and disconnection is not appropriate while the issue is being investigated.

QUESTION 8

SINGLE CHOICE

During a main break repair, an operator must enter an excavation deeper than 4 feet. Which of the following safety measures is required before entry?

- ☒ **A** The excavation must be shored, sloped, or otherwise protected against collapse, and a means of egress (such as a ladder) provided
- ☐ **B** The operator must wear a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) regardless of atmospheric conditions
- ☐ **C** The excavation must be filled with sand before entry to prevent collapse
- ☐ **D** No special precautions are required if the excavation is dry

ANSWER A

WHY OSHA excavation safety standards require that excavations deeper than 5 feet (and in many cases 4 feet or greater where there is a risk of cave-in) be protected by shoring, sloping, or a trench box, and that a means of egress such as a ladder be provided within 25 feet of workers. Atmospheric monitoring and SCBA are required where hazardous atmospheres may exist, but they are not required universally regardless of conditions. Filling the excavation with sand is not a recognized safety practice, and dry excavations can still collapse.

QUESTION 9

MULTIPLE CHOICE

An operator is performing routine hydrant maintenance. Which of the following tasks are standard parts of this procedure? (Choose two.)

- ☒ **A** Lubricating the operating nut and stem threads
- ☐ **B** Conducting a flow test to record available flow and pressure
- ☐ **C** Repainting the entire distribution system service area
- ☒ **D** Inspecting the hydrant for leaks and verifying drainage after closure
- ☐ **E** Replacing the entire barrel section of the hydrant

ANSWER A • D

WHY Standard hydrant maintenance includes lubricating operating nuts, caps, and stem threads, inspecting for leaks, and verifying that the barrel drains properly after the hydrant is closed (so that it does not retain water that could freeze or cause internal corrosion). Flow testing is a separate operation performed as needed but is not part of routine maintenance. Repainting the entire system and replacing the barrel are not routine maintenance items.