

01	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E
02	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E
03	☐ A	☐ B	☒ C	☐ D	☐ E
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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

World Pet Association – Professional Grooming Credential (WPA-PGC)

PGC

Professional Grooming Credential Exam

EDITION

Demo

QUESTIONS

9

FORMAT

Limited Edition PDF

Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for World Pet Association – Professional Grooming Credential (WPA-PGC) PGC, 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, PGC
- 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 statements about canine and feline skin and coat anatomy are accurate? (Choose two.)

- ☒ **A** The three phases of the hair growth cycle are anagen, catagen, and telogen.
- ☐ **B** Dogs and cats both have apocrine sweat glands distributed across most of the body.
- ☐ **C** The stratum corneum is the deepest living layer of the epidermis in both species.
- ☒ **D** Sebaceous glands secrete sebum, which helps maintain coat waterproofing and skin suppleness.

ANSWER **A · D**

WHY The hair growth cycle in dogs and cats consists of three phases: anagen (growth), catagen (transition), and telogen (rest). Sebaceous glands secrete sebum, which oils the coat and skin, supporting waterproofing and suppleness. Option B is incorrect because dogs and cats primarily use panting and paw pad eccrine glands for thermoregulation; apocrine glands are present but are not the main thermoregulatory mechanism described. Option C is incorrect because the stratum corneum is the outermost, non-living layer of the epidermis, not the deepest living layer.

QUESTION 2

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Which of the following are best-practice handling and restraint techniques used by Professional Grooming Credential holders? (Choose two.)

- ☒ **A** Use a quick-release or slip lead only when the dog has been confirmed to be collar- and leash-tolerant.
- ☐ **B** Support a cat's body by holding the scruff alone for the duration of a full grooming session.
- ☒ **C** Position a small dog on a stable, non-slip surface and use gentle body blocking rather than forceful restraint.
- ☐ **D** Apply an Elizabethan collar to every dog prior to nail trimming, regardless of the dog's temperament.

ANSWER **A - C**

WHY A quick-release or slip lead should only be used after the groomer has confirmed the dog tolerates collar/leash handling, to reduce the risk of neck injury if the dog suddenly moves. Supporting a small dog on a non-slip surface with gentle body blocking is a recognized low-stress handling technique. Option B is incorrect: scruffing is not appropriate for prolonged restraint in adult cats and can cause stress and injury. Option D is incorrect: Elizabethan collars are applied based on the individual animal's needs and safety, not universally on every dog.

QUESTION 3

SINGLE CHOICE

A dog arrives for grooming and the groomer notes strong, foul-smelling waxy debris in both ears with the dog showing discomfort when the ears are handled. What is the most appropriate first action?

- ☐ A Proceed with the bath and pluck the ears afterward using ear powder.
- ☒ B Flag the findings to the owner/manager and recommend veterinary evaluation before continuing with the groom.
- ☐ C Flush the ears with a hydrogen peroxide solution before bathing.
- ☐ D Place cotton in the ear canals and continue with the full groom as scheduled.

ANSWER B

WHY Foul odor, excessive waxy debris, and pain on handling are common signs of otitis externa or ear infection. The groomer's appropriate first action is to communicate the findings to the pet owner (or facility manager) and recommend veterinary evaluation before performing services that could worsen the condition. Aggressive home treatment, ear plucking, or placing cotton in the canal and continuing the groom are not appropriate responses to suspected ear pathology.

QUESTION 4

SINGLE CHOICE

Which tool is most appropriate for removing dead undercoat from a double-coated breed such as a Siberian Husky without damaging the guard coat?

- ☐ A A fine-toothed flea comb
- ☐ B A stripping knife used against the direction of coat growth
- ☒ C An undercoat rake used in the direction of coat growth
- ☐ D A curry brush with hard rubber teeth

ANSWER C

WHY An undercoat rake is designed specifically to lift and remove loose dead undercoat from double-coated breeds while leaving the protective guard coat largely intact when worked through the coat in the natural direction of growth. A flea comb is too fine and is intended for parasite/comb-out work. A stripping knife against the grain is used for terrier coat texturing, not undercoat removal on a Husky. A hard curry brush is a finishing/cleaning tool, not the primary tool for removing dense undercoat.

QUESTION 5

SINGLE CHOICE

When using a high-velocity dryer on a dog, which practice is recommended to reduce the risk of injury and stress?

- ☐ A Aim the airflow directly into the dog's open eyes to blow out debris.
- ☐ B Direct airflow into the ears to speed drying of the ear canal.
- ☒ C **Keep the nozzle several inches from the coat and continually move it, never holding it stationary on one spot.**
- ☐ D Set the dryer to maximum heat and hold it in place on damp areas to speed drying.

ANSWER C

WHY Safe high-velocity dryer use requires keeping the nozzle a few inches from the coat, continuously moving it, and never focusing it on a single area, to prevent burns, mat agitation, and skin irritation. Air should never be directed into the eyes, ears, or held stationary on the body. Maximum heat settings are not recommended for routine drying and can cause thermal injury.

QUESTION 6

SINGLE CHOICE

Which statement correctly describes identification of the 'quick' when trimming a dog's nails?

- ☐ A The quick is the hard outer shell of the nail and should be removed with each trim.
- ☒ B **In clear (unpigmented) nails, the quick appears as a pink area of blood and nerve tissue visible inside the nail.**
- ☐ C The quick is located only at the tip of the nail and can be safely cut without bleeding.
- ☐ D In black nails, the quick is easily seen as a dark line at the nail surface.

ANSWER B

WHY The quick is the living core inside the nail containing blood vessels and nerves; in clear nails it can be seen as the pink tissue inside. Trimming into the quick causes pain and bleeding and must be avoided. In black nails the quick is not visible externally, so groomers trim in small increments. The quick is not the hard outer shell, nor is it located only at the tip.

QUESTION 7

SINGLE CHOICE

Which finding during grooming most clearly indicates that the pet should be referred to a veterinarian rather than continuing the groom?

- ☐ A A small amount of seasonal shedding noted on a double-coated breed.
- ☐ B Mild static in the coat after towel drying.
- ☒ C Multiple circular patches of hair loss with reddened, scaly skin.
- ☐ D A small amount of clear ear wax visible at the opening of the ear canal.

ANSWER C

WHY Circular (annular) areas of hair loss with scaling and redness are a classic presentation of dermatophytosis (ringworm) and can also indicate other medical conditions such as demodicosis or alopecia-related endocrine disease. These findings must be referred to a veterinarian and the groomer should take appropriate hygiene and contagion precautions. The other options describe normal or benign findings that do not require veterinary referral.

QUESTION 8

SINGLE CHOICE

Which disinfection approach is appropriate for grooming tools and surfaces between pets to help prevent disease transmission?

- ☐ A Rinse tools with water alone between pets, since most pathogens are not transmissible via grooming tools.
- ☒ B Use a product labeled for veterinary or grooming facility disinfection, following the manufacturer's required contact time.
- ☐ C Wipe tools with a dry towel between pets to remove visible hair.
- ☐ D Disinfect tools only at the end of the day; between pets, rinsing with water is sufficient.

ANSWER B

WHY Approved, labeled disinfectants (such as accelerated hydrogen peroxide or chlorhexidine-based products commonly used in grooming/veterinary settings) must be used according to the manufacturer's contact time and dilution instructions to be effective against pathogens. Water rinsing, dry wiping, or end-of-day-only disinfection do not meet standard infection-control practice.

QUESTION 9

SINGLE CHOICE

Which of the following is the most appropriate course of action when an owner requests a style that the groomer believes is not suitable for the pet's coat type or condition?

- ☐ **A** Perform the requested style regardless, since the owner's choice overrides the groomer's judgement.
- ☐ **B** Decline to style the pet at all and ask the owner to leave the facility.
- ☒ **C** Explain the concern to the owner, offer realistic alternatives, and document the discussion and outcome.
- ☐ **D** Perform the requested style but quietly modify it without telling the owner.

ANSWER C

WHY Professional groomers are expected to educate owners about coat health and realistic outcomes. Communicating concerns, offering alternatives, and documenting the discussion reflects professional standards. Performing a clearly unsuitable style, refusing to serve the pet entirely, or making undisclosed modifications all fall short of those standards.