



UCLA Marina Aquatic Center Outside Ocean Sailing Exam

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This is the REQUIRED written portion of the Outside Ocean Sailing qualification for both monohulls and catamarans. Ideally you should turn in your answers into your Instructor within two weeks of completing the Sailing IV course. All of the questions apply to both monohulls and catamarans, but in some cases your course of action may differ. In that case indicate in your answer whether your solution applies to a monohull or catamaran.

Some of these questions are based on information that will be discussed in class, but most will require that you do some outside research in order to answer the question fully. There are a variety of resources that can help you, including sailing textbooks, the coastguards website, etc. One of the goals of this exam is to encourage you to explore those resources and develop an understanding of the larger boating community.

You may collaborate with your classmates on research, but your answers should ultimately be your own since you will be solely responsible for the safety of yourself, your crew and your vessel once you are on your own on Santa Monica Bay. Each individual MUST submit a separate exam!

When answering these questions always keep in mind your training, the principles of good seamanship and common sense. **Safety should always be foremost in your mind when on the water!**

1. **Sketch** a diagram of Marina del Rey and Santa Monica Bay. Include the power and sailing areas of the Main Entrance Channel as well as jetties, piers, navigational aids, and landmarks that might aid in locating Marina del Rey from the ocean. Use Palos Verdes and Malibu as limits for your map. Do NOT just print a chart out from the internet! (We want to evaluate your understanding of the geography of your sailing area more than your artistic ability).
2. What safety and/or navigational equipment is required while underway on a sail-powered vessel which is less than 26 feet in length? Include night-time and restricted visibility requirements.
3. What equipment are you expected to have on board a UCLA vessel (all 16 feet and under) at all times?
4. What is hypothermia (include the symptoms and various stages)?
5. How can you prevent hypothermia while sailing at on the Santa Monica bay?
6. How should you treat hypothermia? What things should you avoid when giving treatment?

7. What types of clothing are required by all sailors who are sailing on Santa Monica Bay?
8. Describe six methods by which to signal for help when in distress.
9. What three methods of signaling for distress are available to you while sailing out of UCLA?
10. The weather conditions on Santa Monica Bay have rapidly deteriorated. The winds have become very strong (>20 knots) and the swells are extremely large (> 7 feet). You are three miles from the entrance channel and after multiple capsize you are not sure that you can make it back in safely. Your crew suggests that you beach your boat. Why would beaching your boat be unadvisable? Please be sure to include the risks of beaching your boat.
11. You have decided to beach your boat even after good sense would tell you that it is impossible. How should you do so? (pay special attention to the shore geography)
12. You have pulled off the impossible and brought your boat into the beach what should you do once you have successfully beached?
13. You are sailing on Santa Monica Bay in 12-15 knots of steady breeze at roughly 2 miles north of the Entrance channel. The wind begins to rapidly increase. It tops out at around 20 knots of steady breeze with even stronger gusts. Your boat is flying and you appear to be in perfect control. What should you do?
14. What is a Santa Ana Wind?
15. How should you launch and get underway from the UCLA dock in a Santa Ana wind?
16. Describe all the actions you would take when you have a collision with another boat. Include UCLA's requirements for reporting the collision as well as those required by the State of California.
17. When does California law require an accident report be submitted to the Department of Boating and Waterways?
18. You are on the ocean, sailing on the starboard tack when the windward (starboard) shroud breaks. What can you do?
19. What could you do if it was your leeward (port) shroud snaps while on a starboard tack?
20. What action would you take if your vessel becomes dismasted?
21. What are your responsibilities and concerns while under tow?
22. What knot should be used to tow your vessel and where should it be attached?

23. While sailing on the ocean in a moderate breeze, your hiking strap breaks and you go overboard. Your crewperson is an inexperienced sailor. What instructions should you have given your guest prior to departing the dock on how to handle emergency situations such as this?
24. In the situation above what directions would you give from the water?
25. While sailing near the Santa Monica pier in a south-westerly breeze, you notice that a thick blanket of fog is approaching rapidly and will reach you before you can get back inside the marina. Describe how you would safely return to the UCLA dock. Be specific about how you would navigate in the fog. (Please describe the fog horns available in the area as well as the navigational lights in your answer.)
26. Describe how you would safely jibe in strong winds and large waves. (hint what is an S-Gybe?)
27. What would you do if your boat turtled in shallow water and the mast became stuck?
28. How would large waves alter your course of action on the above question?
29. At what depth will the mast of a Vanguard 15, Laser, and Hobie 16 get stuck when turtled?
30. Other than the UCLA dockmaster, what rescue support is available to ocean sailors in this area?
31. How would you contact rescue support?
32. On occasion, there are sudden radical changes in the weather. How can you detect the advanced warnings of a potential storm?
33. During what times of year are sudden storms most likely?
34. What resources are available for reliable weather reports prior to sailing on the ocean?
35. The drain plug was not secured prior to launching. Once out on the ocean you realize that your hull(s) is filled with water. What would you do?
36. What would you do if your rudder(s) became unusable?
37. What channel does the dockmaster monitor?
38. Describe three US aids to navigation that you encounter while sailing in or around Marina Del Rey.
39. You are about a mile offshore and your boat has capsized and turtled for the 8th time this afternoon. You are tired and attempting to get home. You are cold and the first signs of hypothermia are setting in. What should you do?

40. How far can YOU swim in the ocean while wearing your PFD?
41. Describe the wind and typical conditions encountered in Marina del Rey during an average summer day? winter day?
42. What actions would cause the MAC to revoke your outside sailing qualifications?
43. What wind conditions are outside qualified sailors allowed to sail in? Who may you take on the Ocean?
44. How far are you allowed to sail from the entrance channel of Marina del Rey?
44. Describe the foghorns you are most likely encounter while in Santa Monica Bay and what distinguishes each one from the other?
45. Assume you are now an outside-qualified MAC sailor. You arrive at the MAC, intending to go sail in the ocean. Under what conditions might you elect to sail inside the channel instead?
45. After passing the exam, you will be permitted to sail a two-person dinghy or Hobie 16 with a passenger whose experience might match or exceed yours. You will also be able to take a complete novice out for an ocean sail. Describe how you would handle these different circumstances.
46. After passing the Outside exam, UCLA allows you to sail a Laser into the ocean only when accompanied by at least one other MAC ocean qualified skipper. How will you determine if that skipper is qualified?
47. You are satisfied that the skipper is outside qualified and sail in Santa Monica Bay. What abilities and traits would you expect of this skipper? What could the consequences be if your expectations were not met?
48. What are the max wind conditions for sailing on the ocean?
49. You and your qualified buddy are skillfully and gleefully surfing the ocean waves, when you notice a vessel in distress. What signs led you to think this boat is in distress? What, if any, are your obligations to assist this vessel and its crew? To your buddy? To yourself?
50. Please honestly assess your sailing skills. What wind and wave conditions are you comfortable sailing in? What are the toughest conditions you would consider sailing in?

Fair winds and following seas.