

## **Sample AH Test Questions 2012 Syllabus**

### **SECTION A - PART I**

#### **Ride and Lead and Leg Up**

- These two horses need to go out for exercise. You are on your own in the yard. Please tack them up /check their tack and put on or take off anything you think they do or don't need. Take them down this track, turn right onto the lane, turn at the end of the hedge and bring them back.
- If you were to take these two horses out again what would you do differently?
- What information would you give anyone else taking these two horses out on Ride & Lead exercise?
- What are the important things to make clear to the person who is receiving a leg up?

### **SECTION A - PART II**

#### **Stable Yard**

- Looking at this stable yard, what do you think of the layout of the stables, tack and feed rooms, muck heap and storage area?
- What precautions are there here against fire and burglary? What else is needed to make it safe and to make the insurance valid?
- State the advantages of Pony Club insurance and discuss other possible forms of insurance:
  - a) For all horse owners what insurance should they have
  - b) How does being a Pony Club member help.
  - c) What insurance would a yard used by others need.

## **Foot and Shoeing**

- Take the tools you would need and go and show me how you would start taking his near fore shoe off.
- Barefoot trimming is very popular at the moment. What do you think about its use?
- Why might a farrier shoe a horse with lateral extensions behind? • What do you think about the balance of this horse's foot? How do collapsed heels affect the horse's lower leg and foot? Grooming • Take what you need, and start strapping this horse. Why might you need to do this?
- How does the way the nervous system works affect the way we deal with horses?
- Explain how you would cool a horse down at the end of a cross country phase on a very hot dry day.

## **Clipping and Trimming**

- Pick up the clippers, put the blades on them and explain how you would adjust them to the correct tension. • What strategies might you use for clipping a difficult horse?
- Show me how you would pull this horse's mane. What other methods could you use if you had a very difficult horse?

## **SECTION B - PART I**

### **Lungeing**

- Decide between you which horse you will each lunge. You will have about 20 minutes to lunge the horse for exercise. I might stop you before the end of your time, so don't worry if this happens as it does not reflect on how you are doing. Is there any tack or equipment you might need which is not here.

- How long would you lunge a fit horse for?
- What sorts of damage might happen to the horse if you lunge it for too long or too often?

## **SECTION B - PART II**

### **Paddock Management**

- If you had just inherited this field to use for grazing, how would you plan to maintain it?
- What acreage would you estimate it is? How many horses could you graze here?

### **Care and Handling of Mares, Foals and Young Stock**

- What are some of the practical thoughts you would consider before actually going ahead with the breeding of your mare?
- What are the veterinary procedures you know are obligatory before sending your mare to stud?
- What are the signs of the mare preparing to foal, and when she is actually in labour?
- Outline how to wean foals safely.

## **SECTION C - PART I**

### **Conformation**

- Please describe this horse to me so I could recognise him in a field of similar horses.

- Look at this horse. Pick one point that you like about this horse that will help to make him a good ride, and also a point that might not help him to be a good ride.
- Do you have any favourite horseman-like terms or phrases? What does herring gutted, common, light of bone, mean?
- What is involved in a 5 stage vetting?

### Lameness

- Explain to your partner how you want this horse run up, and where you will be standing to watch. Do you think the horse is sound? Tell me what you think of the way he moves.
- Scenario: You have taken a horse cross country schooling. On returning to the lorry/trailer you notice a cut beneath the fetlock joint. What would you do? The horse appears sore. On arrival home the horse is very lame. What action would you take and why?
- Show me where you would find a bone spavin? Health and Condition
- This horse has returned from a long day at a competition and is showing signs of stress and/or dehydration. What would make you feel this is the case and how would you deal with it? • Talk me through the urinary system, how does it work and tell me any signs on a day to day basis how the horse might be affected if not functioning properly.
- Have you taken a horse's temperature, can you show me how you would do this, and how to read it? What is a horse's temperature and when would you get a vet?

## **SECTION C - PART II**

### **Feeding, Exercise and Fitness**

- Assess this horse's condition and describe it. How would you condition score it out of 5?
- Tell me how the rules of feeding relate to a good working digestive system. • Why might a vet recommend a high fibre, concentrate-free diet for a horse with possible gastric ulcers? • What is Interval Training and what is the advantage of introducing this method of fittening into your routine?
- What would you expect the respiration/heart rate to rise to when doing fast work? How would you know if you had stressed your horse too much?
- Can you explain the difference between aerobic and anaerobic respiration?
- During your fitness programme what signs in your horse might tell you that he has a problem with his upper respiratory tract / lower respiratory tract?
- What is the purpose of the lymphatic system and how are filled legs related to the way the system functions?

## **SECTION D - PART I**

### **Handling**

- When handling horses in or out of the stable, why is it important that the horse has some good basic stable manners?
- What could you use on the horse instead /as well as a head collar to help to keep it standing quietly whilst being treated?
- You are on the yard and realise one of the horses is thrashing around really badly and is cast up against the wall in the stable, what are you going to do?

- How can you calm the horse down, so that you have time to make a decision as to what to do?

### **Tacking up**

- Please tack this horse up for a cross-country schooling session. Fit the saddle which may not be his, and explain what you are looking for as you do it. He goes across country in a double bridle so please fit that. Tell me about the fitting and the effect the bridle has on the horse's head.
- Please look at the bandages and padding available and put an exercise bandage on this horse's near fore leg. Discuss what you have selected and why.
- Are you aware of the current thinking on the use of boots and bandages heating the tendons? What are your thoughts on this subject?

## **SECTION D - PART II**

### **Common Ailments, Nursing, First Aid**

- Do you worm to a regular programme or do you have a worm count taken first? What types of worms will you be treating for and when? • Your horse has been kicked in the field on the inside of the upper hindleg. He is bleeding copiously. How would you deal with it? Is this likely to be an artery or a vein?
- What would make you suspect your horse had strangles as opposed to equine flu?
- Put a Fig 8 bandage on this horse's knee. Why are broken knees a serious injury?

- Show me where the horse needs to be muscularly developed to support ridden work – explain why. Is this horse weak in his muscular structure anywhere? How might this cause him problems?
- Show me (or chalk on) the bones of his forehead or hindquarters and what are they called.