

Stable Design and Fittings

1. Comment on and discuss the design of a stable described or shown to you, including the necessity for ventilation, light, drainage, shelter and warmth:

- Talk about the stable you are looking at, would it be suitable for your horse?
- What do you think about the drainage, the light, the ventilation, is it a warm stable?

2. Discuss what fittings are useful in a stable:

- What fittings do you like to have in a stable?
- Are there any fittings that you prefer not to have?

Tack

3. Discuss the organization and fitting of a tack room:

- If you had unlimited funds how would you design a tack room for about four horses?
- What storage would you have and why?
- How would you organize your spare tack?

4. Explain the families of bits, their characteristics and actions:

- What are the different families of bits?
- How do you know which family a bit belongs to?
- What are the actions of a snaffle/Pelham/lever bit?
- What is the difference between the action of a jointed and unjointed bit?

5. Discuss the probable reactions of the horse to the different types of bits?

- Do horses find jointed or unjointed bits more severe?
- If you ride a horse in a three ring gag how would you expect him to respond?
- Why might I choose to ride my horse in a Pelham?

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d. What effect does a gag have on a horse?

6. Inspect tack for soundness?

- Where do you check to ensure a bridle is safe to ride in?
- Where do stirrup leathers normally show wear?
- How can I tell if a saddle tree is broken?
- What other parts of the saddle might you check for safety?

7. Recognise various types of saddles, martingales and boots and their uses:

- Can you tell me what type of saddle this is, and when you would use it/
- Have you ever ridden in any of these martingales, why did you use it for that horse?
- Are there any boots here suitable for cross-country, show jumping, hacking?

8. Recognise badly fitting saddles, bridles and martingales:

- Does this saddle fit this horse? What points did you consider when deciding whether it fitted or not?
- Can you show me where you look to decide whether this bridle fits or not.
- How should this martingale fit?

9. Know how to store saddlery rugs and bandages:

- How would you store a saddle that you were not going to use for a long time?
- How would you store a bridle?
- How do you prepare rugs for storage, where do you store them?
- How do you store your bandages?

Clothing

10. Fit and discuss a variety of rugs and their uses, tail and poll guards, and other travel protection:

- Put on a turn out/stable rug/fly sheet, and then discuss whether it

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fits and when you would use it?

b. What do you think of the travel protection provided, which would you choose to use and why?

c. What do you like to use on your horse's tail when travelling, why did you choose that?

11. Put on and discuss a stable bandage and when it might be used

a. Put on a stable bandage and discuss when it might be used.

12. Know the safety and road worthiness requirements for horse boxes and trailers, to include amongst other things the suitability of the ramp, safety of partitions, ventilation and draughts, and door fastenings.

13. Discuss the equipment to be taken to a competition.

a. What equipment do you think is vital to take to a competition?

b. What other equipment might be useful?

c. How does the weather affect what you are taking?

14. Discuss loading difficult horses, giving particular consideration to safety.

a. Where would you choose to load a difficult horse?

b. Who would you like to help you?

c. What should you all be wearing?

d. What equipment would you want on the horse?

e. Is there anything else that might be helpful?

f. When are you going to load a horse that might be difficult?

g. How would you go about starting the loading procedure?

h. What might be dangerous for both the horse and the handlers?

Foot and Shoeing

15. Recognise a variety of commonly used shoes, and know what they are used for:

a. Can you identify the (bar, wide web, heart bar, balance) shoe that is on the table.

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b. Why might the owner and farrier have decided to use this shoe?

16. Recognise the farrier's tools, and know their uses?

a. Please pick out the buffer, (hammer, clenching tool etc.), from the tools here.

b. When does the farrier use it and what does he use it for?

17. Describe how a shoe is fitted and removed:

a. Can you describe how the farrier takes off the shoe?

b. What does he do next?

c. Does he always use the hoof cutters?

d. How does he nail on the shoe?

e. How does he finish off?

18. Know the difference between the methods of hot shoeing and cold shoeing, and compare the advantages and disadvantages of each:

a. What are the differences between hot and cold shoeing?

b. Can you think of a situation where it would be advantageous to cold shoe?

Conformation

19. Recognize good and bad conformation on horses and how this will affect the horse's way of going:

a. Could you identify two points of this horse's conformation that you like?

b. Would either of these points help the horse to work easily?

c. Tell me two points of conformation that you do not like.

d. What affect might they have on the horse's way of going?

Feeding and Fitness

Know the rules of watering and feeding, and their reasons.

Please give me one rule of feeding and the reason for that rule?

Why is water before feeding a sensible rule to follow?

Know why water is important to the horse:

a. Water is the most important nutrient for a horse, do you know why?

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22. Recognize a variety of forage and nutrients, how to prepare and use them:

- What is the feed that you are holding? Why would you choose to feed it, and how would you prepare it?
- What type of forage are you looking at, *when* would you feed this instead of grass/hay/haylage?

23. Explain what is meant by a balanced diet:

- Could you explain what we mean by a balanced diet for our horse?
- Why is it important?
- Could you give me an example of a balanced diet?
- What would you consider an unbalanced diet?

24. Discuss the total weight of feed recommended in a day for a selection of horses and ponies, and how that weight might be split into bulk/forage and hard feed/concentrates:

- What would be a suitable feed plan for a 14.2hh pony living out in the winter being ridden quietly at the weekends. Please tell me the total weight, split between bulk and hard food, and give your answer in kilos or pounds.
- What would you feed a 16hh $\frac{3}{4}$ bred horse, in at night, turned out during the day, he is Pony Club eventing at intermediate standard.

25. Discuss what effect the different types of feed may have on condition and behavior:

- Which feeds would you expect to make your horse more energetic to ride?
- What would you feed if you wished to put condition on your horse?
- What would you avoid feeding to an excitable horse?
- If you want to maintain good behavior when you are not working your horse hard what might you feed?

26. Explain what issues may affect a horse's diet?:

- What can cause a horse to lose weight?
- When are horses likely to put on weight? Could you think of more examples than just too much grass?

27. Discuss how to administer medicine in food:

- Can you tell me how you would give a horse powders in the feed.
- If the horse is suspicious of the taste is there anything you can do to

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help conceal the taste?

28. Have a clear knowledge of exercise requirements for a grass kept pony and a stabled horse:

a. Discuss the different requirements between the exercise required for a grass kept horse and pony or a stable kept horse or pony.

29. Discuss a fitness program and a daily plan for horses or ponies competing up to Pony club Intermediate area competitions:

a. Describe how you get a horse fit for a PC Intermediate, this horse has had six months rest.

b. Describe what fittening work you would do to prepare your horse for a PC Intermediate, this horse has been ridden quietly for about an hour for the past six months.

30. Be able to discuss issues which might affect a horse's fitness program:

a. What might upset your fittening program?

31. Show knowledge of good practice in the care and management of horses and ponies.

a. What points would you like to include when looking after your horses well?

b. Could you tell me something that you have seen which you would never do when looking after your horse?

32. Know how horses may behave when turned out, and discuss how this affects their welfare:

a. How do horses sometimes behave when they are turned out?

b. What might they do if you add a new horse to the group?

c. What do horses sometimes do if the feed or water area gets very muddy?

d. Can any of these behaviors have any affect on their welfare?

Care of the Horse's Health

33. Identify the signs of good health in the horse presented:

a. Can you name two signs of good health in this horse?

b. Do you think this horse looks healthy? Why do you think so?

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34. Describe the contents of a correctly stocked first aid cabinet:

- a. What items do you consider essential in your first aid cabinet?
- b. What other items might be useful?
- c. Have any of you anything else you like to have in your first aid cabinet?

35. Understand the methods of worm control, and the problems caused by worms.

- a. Can you tell me why it is desirable to control our horse's worm burden?
- b. What does a horse with a large worm burden look like?
- c. How might this affect his performance?
- d. What method of worm control have you used?
- e. Is there only one way to control worms?
- f. We used to worm horses every six weeks, is there a more modern approach?

36. Describe the different ways that wormers are administered?

- a. How do you worm your horse?
- b. Is there another way of giving the wormer?

37. Recognize which leg a horse is lame on:

- a. What do you look for first if trying to identify where a horse is lame?
- b. Can the horse's hips offer a clue to where the horse is lame?
- c. What do you look for if standing to the side watching a lame horse trotting past.

38. Recognise and manage the most common causes of lameness and ill health including: minor wounds, colic, strangles, laminitis, tying up and atypical myopathy:

- a. What might make you suspect your horse had an abscess in the foot?
- b. What you would do?
- c. What are the symptoms of a cold, how do you treat it?
- d. What would make you worried that your horse may have flu, not a cold?
- e. Does the treatment differ?
- f. What are the symptoms of colic, what do you do?
- g. Can you tell me what you have heard about strangles?

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- h. How do you recognize when a horse has laminitis?
- i. What do you do?
- j. How can laminitis generally be prevented?
- k. What is tying up? How would you manage it?
- l. Where would I find a horse with atypical myopathy, can it be prevented?

39. Know the most appropriate time to call the vet for any of the above:

- a. Which wounds require veterinary attention?
- b. If you think your horse has colic when do you call the vet?
- c. Should you try to deal with stranglers without veterinary help, why?
- d. At what stage might you call the vet if a pony has laminitis?
- e. When would the vet be helpful if your horse was tying up?
- f. Could you deal with atypical myopathy without the vet, or when would you call the vet?

40. Know how to apply poultices, hose legs, and tub feet, and know when and why these are done.

- a. Why might you hose a leg? How often and for how long?
- b. When do we tub feet? How often and for how long?
- c. Why do we use poultices, where can they usefully be applied, could you tell me how to put one on a foot?

41. Explain how to take a horse's temperature, pulse and respiration rates and know what these should be:

- a. What does TPR stand for.
- b. We are not going to take this horse's temperature, but can you show me how you would go about and where you would stand?
- c. What is a normal temperature?
- d. How do you take a horses pulse, what is a normal pulse rate.
- e. How do you take the respiration rate, and what is a normal rate?

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42. Recognize the signs of poor condition and know a variety of causes:

- a. How would you recognize poor condition?
- b. What is condition scoring? How would this horse you are looking at score? What score is poor condition?
- c. Have you ever had to deal with a horse in poor condition, what caused that condition.
- e. Can you name a few causes of poor condition?

43. Know the need for and timing of vaccinations and that these should be recorded in the horse's passport:

- a. What vaccinations is it advisable to give your horse?
- b. Are there any vaccinations that are especially important?
- c. Where should these vaccinations be recorded?

44. Know when the passport should be with the horse?

- a. Where should the horse's passport be kept?
- b. What happens when the horse is travelled?