



SECTION SEVEN
PREPARING FOR THE
PRACTICAL TEST

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PART II - THE PRACTICAL TEST

1. Introduction

The following notes give guidance on how to prepare for these tests and how to approach them on the day of the examination.

2. Assessment

The leading firefighter practical test consists of three sections. To pass the practical test you must obtain a pass mark in each of the sections. If you fail in any section, you fail the whole test.

To obtain a pass in each section, you must obtain 60% of the available marks.

As you will see from the computer mark sheet (see Appendix 3) the candidate will be assessed in each section against a number of 'areas'. More information is given about these in the following pages. For each area the examiners will award a mark on the scale 1 – 5, these numbers being used to represent the following levels of performance:

1. Unsatisfactory
2. Marginally below standard
3. Satisfactory standard
4. Marginally above standard
5. Outstanding.

To pass each section, therefore, you must obtain an average of 3 marks or more in each area. There is however an important qualification to this. If you are awarded a '1' in any area you automatically fail the section and, consequently, the whole practical test.

It is, therefore, imperative that you perform to a satisfactory standard in all the aspects of all the sections and this should be borne in mind when you are preparing for the test.

Should you take the practical test and fail it, your result letter will also indicate your 'Areas of Particular Weakness' which are included to help you remedy particular weaknesses.

3. Preparing for the Tests

In preparing for the tests you must make a thorough and systematic study of all the publications included in the bibliography. This is just as important as it was in your preparation for the written examination.

Again, you can draw upon your experience and training to help you in your tests. These alone, however, are unlikely to be sufficient for you to obtain a pass mark.

The Fire Service Manual - Training is the main source of reference for the practical tests, but you should not overlook the relevant sections of the Fire Service Manuals, Manuals of Firemanship and Technical Bulletins as detailed in Section Six of this Handbook.

Also, for the Section C test, a thorough knowledge of the publications issued by your brigade and/or local examination board on the items of equipment to be used in the examination is essential. You should, therefore, obtain from your brigade training officer a list of the relevant items of equipment and any selected publications, identified for the instructional technique section, as appropriate.

The practical test of the leading firefighters' examination includes a standard drill and it is essential that you have a thorough knowledge of the drills. You must, therefore, study closely the sections of the Fire Service Manual - Training dealing with notes on drills, words of command, preliminary detail to appliance drills and safety on the drill ground.

The individual drills listed in the syllabus of the leading firefighters' examination must be learned thoroughly together with the activities of each crew member. You should pay particular attention to standard items and the relevant words of command with regard to safety.

Although the theory contained in the bibliography is important, you must not forget that you are preparing for a **practical** test.

The examiners will be looking for a demonstration of your skills (eg leadership, command, ability to communicate) as well as your knowledge. It is, therefore, also essential that your preparation includes practice and rehearsals to help you develop a satisfactory style and technique.

It should be remembered that the de-brief is a training tool which should be utilised regularly within your brigade as well as in the examinations.

You must allow time for rehearsing drills, bearing in mind what the examiners will be looking for as outlined in the following sections.

Ask the officer-in-charge of your watch to allow you to drill members of your watch to assist you in your preparation. Also take full advantage of any training arrangements made specifically for candidates within your own brigade.

Similarly, take any opportunity to rehearse fireground procedure exercises so that weaknesses can be identified and strengths developed.

A number of brigades have devised coded message systems for the transmission of messages from the fireground. Where such a system is used by a brigade and is available for use by candidates during the test, candidates from that brigade will be permitted to use that system of coded messages and will be assessed accordingly. Where the system is not available to candidates, they will be expected to provide the appropriate messages by a method of which they will be advised.

To help prepare for the equipment section there is a need for practice in describing the items in a detailed and logical manner and the communication of this to others. You should seek the permission of your officer-in-charge to give practice demonstrations or presentations to members of your watch so that you can develop the necessary skills.

Before attending a practical test, you will receive from the secretary of the local examinations board your examination notice, Instructions to Candidates and other relevant information, eg how to get to the examination centre, messing arrangements, an outline timetable for the day, what kit is required and an indication of whether or not you will be required to act as part of a crew during the day.

The examination notice is your formal confirmation of your examination number, and the date, time, and where appropriate, location of your examination centre. If you have not received your examination notice within 3 weeks of your examination date, you should raise the matter with the secretary of your local examination board or your brigade and if necessary with the Board.

REMEMBER:

If you fail to produce your examination notice, and you are not listed on the attendance register, you will not 'under any circumstances' be allowed to take the test.

Make sure you arrive at the examination centre in good time and that you are smart and well turned out.

Don't forget you will be asked to sign a declaration notice on your candidate mark sheet which will confirm your fitness and suitability to take the examination (see Rules – Section 5).

4. Taking the Test

The sequence and timing of the different sections which make up the practical test will depend on local arrangements and you may find, for example, that you are required to give instruction on the item of equipment before undertaking the drill or fireground procedure test.

The notes in this section, however, follow the order identified in Section Five of this Handbook.

When you present yourself for the particular tests give a good impression from the start.

- Be sure that you are well turned out and that your appearance is smart.
- Your manner and bearing are important too and will be taken into account in the assessment of your performance.

You will be off to a bad start if the examiners see you as a slovenly, unkempt candidate with little pride in your uniform and personal appearance.

Before each exercise 'thinking time' will be allowed.

Make sure you use this 'thinking time' to work out your plan for conducting the drill or fireground procedure exercise, or describing the item of equipment .

Do not rush into action as soon as the examiner has finished speaking to you.

Think before commencing the task which has been given to you.

At the conclusion of the drill and fireground procedure elements of the test, the examiners may ask you questions on what you did.

Should such questions be asked, they will be to clarify certain areas of the test or to seek amplification on a particular point.

The leading firefighters' practical test is arranged by your local examinations board on dates in March and/or April each year.

If you wish to enter for the practical test, the secretary of your local examinations board must receive your completed application form, countersigned by your Chief Fire Officer/Firemaster, by 14 January.

REMEMBER:

You must hold a current certificate in first-aid, recognised by the FSEB, before entering Part II of the Leading Firefighters' practical test.

The actual date before which you must submit your application within your brigade will normally be announced in brigade orders.

The object of the leading firefighters' practical test is to make sure that each successful candidate possesses an ability for instructional duties and a satisfactory level of the professional knowledge, skill and competence required of a leading firefighter to command and control an operational crew and to play a significant part in the supervisory and training tasks at station level.

As will be seen from Section 5 of this Handbook, the leading firefighters' practical test is in three sections:

Section A - The Standard Drill

A practical test of ability to conduct a standard drill from the Fire Service Training Manual including the ability to give detailed instructions to, and monitor the performance of, a crew undertaking such a drill.

Each year the Senior Examiner will select any FIVE of the thirteen listed drills in Section 6, and the list of these five drills will be published within the candidate's brigade on 1 December each year prior to the tests.

Section B - The Fireground Procedure Test

An exercise in fireground procedure and control.

This is a practical test of a candidate's ability to deal with an operational situation.

Section C - The Equipment Test

A practical test of knowledge and understanding of an item of fire service equipment and of the ability to instruct others on such matters.

Each year the Board will specify EIGHT items of equipment in general use throughout the fire service that will form the basis of the Section C Equipment Test.

From these EIGHT items the Senior Examiner of the local examination board will select THREE items of equipment known to be available within the candidate's brigade. The list of the THREE items will be published within the candidate's brigade on the 1 December each year prior to the tests.

The item on which the candidate will be required to give the instructional talk will be selected from these THREE items and notified to the candidate immediately before this Section of the practical test.

As explained earlier, to be successful, you must pass in all Sections.

For each test you will be awarded a mark on the 1 to 5 scale for each heading on the computer mark sheet (see Appendix 3).

The detailed basis of assessment is:

Section A Standard Drill Test	Section B Fireground Procedure Test	Section C Equipment Test
7 areas in the test. 5 marks in each area. Minimum pass mark = 21*	6 areas in the test. 5 marks in each area. Minimum pass mark = 18*	3 areas in the test. 5 marks in each area. Minimum pass mark = 9*
Maximum mark = 35	Maximum mark = 30	Maximum mark = 15

* All subject to the restriction that, if you score a '1' in any area of any test you fail the complete practical test.

5. Section A - Standard Drill

The requirement of this test is:

to demonstrate the ability of the candidate to give detailed instruction to, and monitor the performance of, a crew undertaking a standard drill in accordance with the Training Manual. Candidates will be expected to show their powers of command and leadership by assembling the crew correctly, explaining the purpose of the drill, numbering off the crew, allocating tasks, controlling the conduct of the drill and make-up and de-briefing the crew.

The list of drills on which you may be tested is given in Section Six of this Handbook.

Each year the Senior Examiner will select any FIVE of the thirteen listed drills in Section 6, and the list of these five drills will be published within your brigade on 1 December each year prior to the tests.

You must bear this requirement in mind when preparing for the standard drill test, both in studying the bibliography and in rehearsing.

You should also be aware of the 'areas' listed on the computer mark sheet (see Appendix 3) on which the examiners will be concentrating.

When you present yourself on the drill ground, remember that your appearance, manner and bearing are important and will be taken into account by the examiners.

At the start of the standard drill an instruction card looking something like the one below will be read to you and then handed to you to retain throughout the drill should you so wish.

The instruction card will look something like the following example:

<p>LEADING FIREFIGHTERS' EXAMINATION PART II PRACTICAL TEST</p> <p>SECTION A GIVE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS IN AND MONITOR THE PERFORMANCE OF A CREW UNDERTAKING THE FOLLOWING DRILL:</p> <p>Fire Service Training Manual - Drill P4: Crew of 5</p> <p>Getting the appliance pump to work from a hydrant using two lines of soft suction each of one length and two lines of delivery hose, each of one length.</p> <p>A crew of five is to be assembled, numbered off, detailed as to their specific task and got to work. The members of the crew have been given basic training and know how to operate the pump but need familiarisation with the sequence of events.</p> <p>The drill is to be got to work from the mount position.</p>
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After the examiner has handed the card to you two minutes 'thinking time' will be allowed.

If there is anything you do not understand you should check at this time with the examiner; there will be no opportunity to do so later.

Even if you have no questions, do not rush into the drill as soon as you have received the card. Make full use of the time available to plan and work out the sequence of the drill and to memorise any particular points or special instructions you may wish to bring to the attention of the crew to reinforce familiarisation and sequence of events.

Begin your test by making sure your bearing is upright and authoritative.

Assemble the crew correctly when required and establish positive command.

Demonstrate that you have a firm and clear voice delivery and have control and overall command of the crew which you intend to maintain.

You should bear in mind that the crews will respond well to firm and positive orders.

After the correct initial assembly and the numbering off of the crew for the standard drill has been completed, you should inform the crew as to the purpose of the drill, give detailed instructions for the drill **strictly in accordance with the Training Manual**, seek confirmation that the crew members understand what is required of them before the drill commences and monitor and control the performance of the crew undertaking the drill.

Do not let members of the crew decide for themselves the tasks they will carry out: you must instruct them.

Ensure the logical deployment of all crew members from the start of the drill to make sure it is carried out smoothly.

Tell the crew whether you are going to attempt the whole drill or whether (exceptionally) it is your intention to stop them for further instruction at the end of various stages of the drill.

Make sure all your instructions can be heard by all members of the crew and indicate to them the speed at which the drill is to be carried out or any special aspects that should be borne in mind, eg icy conditions.

Before the drill starts, make sure that the relevant words of command in regard to safety are known and understood by all members of the crew.

Once the drill has started the emphasis throughout must be on supervision.

You must observe and be seen to observe the actions of the members of the crew to make certain that the drill is carried out correctly.

Watch the safety of the crew and do not hesitate to stop the drill to check, identify, and correct unsafe practices.

Other faults must also be corrected at the time they occur but you need not stop the drill unless you consider that all members of the crew will benefit by having their attention drawn to a particular fault.

Check minor faults with the individuals concerned and bear them in mind so that you can refer to them during the de-briefing of the crew after the drill.

When checks have to be made and faults corrected, be sure that your manner is firm and positive. If the drill is going well and you have no faults to check do not become concerned. You can be equally effective by giving a word of advice, praise, or encouragement at the appropriate time. There is no need to interfere if a drill is going smoothly.

You must, however, be alert and be seen to be in command. If it becomes necessary, do not hesitate to demonstrate yourself what you want from your crew.

Move around the drill ground smartly and make sure you are in the most advantageous place to observe what is happening and as far as possible keep the drill flowing.

Make certain that the drill completed is the one asked for by the examiner and that you have demonstrated your own ability to control and command.

When you are certain that the drill has been completed, report to the examiner before giving the order to 'make-up'.

The 'make-up' is an important part of the test and the way it is carried out is marked as part of the test, so do not make the mistake of assuming that you are no longer under observation at this stage.

The 'make-up' should be dealt with smartly and in logical fashion.

Be sure you supervise the restowing of equipment.

Ensure that the appliance water tank is replenished when the pump has been used.

Do not leave it for the crew to decide how the equipment will be put away. In supervising this task, you must have regard to both safety and possible damage to equipment and you must decide how the equipment will be stowed and, if in your opinion re-stowed equipment is unsafe, have the crew remove it and re-stow it again.

You must:

- check ladder securing gear and that lines are correctly made-up,
- ensure BA sets are re-stowed and ready for immediate use,
- after all the equipment has been re-stowed, check that all locker doors are closed and securely fastened,
- check that hydrant lids and the covers of open water supplies have been replaced and that the appliance is re-assembled ready for re-deployment.

When the crew re-assembles there is the opportunity for de-briefing together with a constructive summary. Now is the time to reinforce your authority by drawing attention to minor faults and giving praise for good work.

You should go over the drill and summarise its progression, movement by movement, drawing attention to both the good and the bad moves.

Make sure that any necessary criticism of performance is constructive and do not forget to give credit and praise for good work carried out.

When you have completed the de-briefing, report to the examiner that the drill is over.

6. Section B - Fireground Procedure

In accordance with the syllabus:

"a problem will be set depicting a fire or rescue situation at which the candidate arrives as the officer-in-charge of either the only attendance or the first of two appliances, the second of which will not arrive for 15 minutes. Candidates will be required to take charge of the situation, lead and command the work of a crew, deploy the appliance and equipment, and send appropriate messages."

The whole purpose of the fireground procedure test is to determine whether or not you, when acting as officer-in-charge, have the personal qualities, experience and knowledge to satisfactorily take charge of, and exercise operational control at, an operational incident which would fully involve the crew of a pumping appliance for several minutes without further significant assistance.

The tests are designed to examine your ability to:

- (a) assess quickly an operational situation;
- (b) determine an effective tactical plan;
- (c) communicate the details of that plan to subordinates;
- (d) monitor the execution of the plan and modify it if necessary;
- (e) liaise with representatives of other services and/or agencies (as appropriate) and ensure the correct transmission of messages relating to the nature of the incident and its development; and
- (f) brief a senior officer following his arrival regarding the incident, the action being taken to deal with it, and any other details that will assist the senior officer to deal with it.

You must bear this in mind when preparing for the fireground procedure exercise both in studying the bibliography and in rehearsing.

You should be aware of the 'areas' on the computer mark sheet (see Appendix 3) on which the examiners will be concentrating.

As with the standard drill, your appearance, manner and bearing when you present yourself to the examiners is important.

At the start of the test, the examiners will brief you on the procedure to be followed. This will be:

- (a) An instruction card will be handed to you which you will be permitted to retain throughout the exercise. The card will contain brief details of an incident. It will look something like the following example:

**LEADING FIREFIGHTERS' EXAMINATION
PART II PRACTICAL TEST**

**SECTION B: FIREGROUND PROCEDURE
FIRE - CYLINDERS BELIEVED INVOLVED**

EXERCISE No. 1

**11 MINSTER DRIVE
ANYWHERE
NEAR STANHOPE ROAD**

You have a crew of 4 plus yourself.

The PDA is 2 appliances - the second of which will not arrive for at least 15 minutes after your arrival.

The time is NOW.

You will arrive 10 minutes after the call was received.

The weather is as NOW.

Your messages should be passed over the hand held radio to a control operator.

On arrival of a Senior Officer you will carry out a handing over brief.

A drawing/photograph is shown overleaf to assist you and your crew.

- (b) The information on the instruction card will be supported by photographs or drawings to assist you to understand more fully the scenario presented.
- (c) You will then have two minutes to read the card, consult the photographs or drawings and seek clarification from the examiners if you are unsure of what is required.
- (d) At the end of this time you will be issued with means of identification as the officer-in-charge.
- (e) You will then be given a further two minutes to gather the crew together **informally** for briefing which should include:
 - (i) reference to safety words of command;
 - (ii) drawing attention to any special aspects; and
 - (iii) ensuring the crew fully understand the objectives to be achieved.

You should **NOT**, at this stage, allocate tasks to individual crew members.

- (f) The examiner will inform you when the two minutes have passed following which you are required to immediately instruct the crew to 'get to work'. You and the crew must then immediately mount the appliance and turn out as if in response to an emergency call.

Once the exercise has commenced many of the points given when dealing with Section A of the test are generally applicable to your conduct of the fireground procedure exercise.

Particular differences are the requirement for you to send appropriate messages from the fireground and provide a briefing to a Senior Officer who will arrive at the operational incident.

You must, however, bear in mind all the areas on which the assessment of your performance will be marked, as given on the computer mark sheet (see Appendix 3).

Above all, you must remember that the examiners are looking for evidence of your ability to exercise command, control and leadership at an operational incident.

7. Section C - Equipment

The requirement of this section is to enable candidates to demonstrate their:

knowledge of items of equipment together with an ability to instruct others. Each candidate will be required to give an instructional talk of 15 - 20 minutes duration relating to the design, use, disadvantages and limitations of one item of fire service equipment. Following the presentation, the examiners will ask the candidate questions about the item of equipment.

The purpose of this section is to enable you to demonstrate your instructional competence by:

- (a) displaying a satisfactory level of technical and professional knowledge of the item of equipment selected;
- (b) showing that you are familiar with the use of the equipment, any special design features and the safety factors to be observed in its use;
- (c) describing or demonstrating any disadvantages and/or limitations in the use of the equipment; and
- (d) demonstrating your ability to instruct others within the time period specified.

At the end of the presentation, the Examiners will ask you questions on the subject presented to enable them to assess your ability to deal with them in a satisfactory manner.

You must bear these points in mind when preparing for this section, both in studying the bibliography (including any publications of your brigade or local examinations board) and in rehearsing.

On 1 December before the date of the test a list of the three items of equipment on which you may be examined will be published in your brigade. As the items will be different each year it is essential that you ensure you have the correct list.

Once you have obtained this, you should collect together the bibliography including any material published by your brigade or local examinations board appropriate to each item.

You should then make a thorough study of this and prepare notes to assist you in your presentation on each of the three items. Visual aids which will augment or assist your talk should be carefully prepared so as to be clear, functional and relevant.

The presentations, using these notes and visual aids, should be refined and polished in the light of the reactions you get from your practice sessions with your watch.

The preparation of the visual aids and accompanying notes should be your own work. You should note that if the examiners consider that these have been prepared in collusion with other candidates they may be confiscated and you will be automatically reported to the FSEB and be liable to disqualification from the examination.

Remember that, in addition to demonstrating your knowledge of the item of equipment, you are also required to demonstrate your ability to instruct others.

You should, therefore, ensure that your presentation identifies and achieves its aim and objectives, is detailed and in a logical sequence such as you would use when carrying out instruction to members of a watch in a training session.

The test itself will normally take place indoors in a room or area with sufficient space for tables and chairs for the examiners to sit and for you to sit or stand during your presentation.

The room will be so arranged that no item of equipment other than that you are to be tested on is visible during the examination.

You will be given one minute's advance warning of the item of equipment you will have to describe before you enter the examination room. You should use this time to select the relevant notes and visual aids you have previously prepared which are applicable to the particular item.

The item of equipment will be available in the examination room.

When you enter the examination room an instruction card similar to that shown below will be read to you. This will then be placed where you can see it throughout the test. Do not forget to cover each of the aspects listed on the card.

**LEADING FIREFIGHTERS' EXAMINATION
PART II PRACTICAL TEST**

SECTION C : DESCRIPTION OF EQUIPMENT

Explain the

DESIGN and
USE (including any disadvantages and/or limitations)

of the equipment selected by the Examiner and:

DEMONSTRATE AN ABILITY TO INSTRUCT OTHERS.

The item of equipment will then be handed or shown to you and this will be within your control throughout the test.

You are then given five minutes thinking and preparation time. You should use this to arrange the room layout, to organise your lecture notes and visual aids (see following paragraph), to place the item of equipment in position (and to dismantle it, if you so wish) and generally to prepare yourself.

Facilities (such as a chalk board, overhead projector, or other computer aided equipment normally supplied by your brigade to fire stations for this purpose) will be available for you to augment your talk. However you should note that video recordings are NOT permitted.

In your presentation:

REMEMBER:

that you will need to state and achieve the aim and objectives of your presentation.

that you will need to discuss the design and use of the item of equipment including any disadvantages and/or limitations in use. You will need to explain clearly the design principles and be familiar with the use of the equipment.

to use the equipment to assist your presentation - it can enhance your performance and demonstrate confidence in handling the equipment.

to recall the occasions when, to your knowledge, the equipment was brought into use. Did it operate efficiently and was it effective in use? Are there any limitations in the use of the equipment or any obvious disadvantages?

that the reading of a script throughout your talk will not be considered as a demonstration of an ability to instruct others. However, reference to your lecture notes from time to time in order to assist you in providing a logical and planned presentation is considered to be good practice.

to give recognition to the necessity for further training needs relative to the item of equipment in order to make personnel more familiar with its use, and provide an appropriate training programme which would apply to your watch.

to complete your presentation within the time limit of 15 – 20 minutes and to use that time to good effect.

Consideration of these and other relevant aspects of use will assist you in preparing your presentation.

At the end of your presentation when the examiners ask questions, do not repeat what you have already said; re-phrase your explanation so that the point at issue may be more readily understood.

Do not forget to gather your notes, visual aids, etc together and to take them with you when you leave the examination room. You may be asked by the examiners to leave your visual aids with them until the completion of the practical tests in your area.

8. Learning Outcomes

The following is a list of the learning outcomes expected of the candidates in each Section and Sub-section of the Practical Tests

Section A – Standard Drill

Assembly of Crew

Appearance and Manner - You should be clean, smart and correctly dressed and that your attitude to examiners and the crew is positive, helpful and instils confidence.

Manner of Assembling – You should ensure that the crew is assembled effectively with minimum delay using the correct words of command, maintaining concentration to provide a convincing performance.

Command of Crew Established – Your command of the crew should be immediately established using firm and positive orders.

Crew Briefing

Purpose and Drill Identified - You should identify the purpose of the drill and state in a clear, concise manner, confirming that the crew understands by asking questions.

Sequence of Events, Speed and Special Aspects – You should give a clear explanation as to the expected sequence of events, whether the whole drill is to be completed or if it is to be stopped at various stages for further instructions, and the speed at which the drill is to be performed. Reference must be made to special aspects eg icy yard, high winds, etc, together with the appropriate action to be taken during the drill giving specific reasons for each factor.

Instructions Clear, Complete and Audible – You should ensure that instructions to the crew are clear, concise, authoritative and complete.

Allocation of Tasks

Crew Numbered – You should number the crew as detailed in the Training Manual.

Task Allocated – You should ensure that individual members of the crew are allocated the correct tasks leaving them in no doubt, and seek confirmation that the crew understands by asking them questions.

Drill as per Book – You should ensure that detail of the drill given to the crew is in accordance with the Training Manual.

Control of Crew

Observation Of Crew During Drill – You should move smartly around the drill ground in an alert manner, and position yourself to effectively observe the actions of the crew and impart a sense of urgency into the proceedings.

Faults Checked/Corrected – You should ensure that faults are immediately identified, checked and corrected as they occur.

Firm Manner In Correcting – You should ensure that faults are corrected in an authoritative and positive manner, using them as an appropriate case and a learning experience for the crew.

Make-Up

Smartly Supervised Make-Up – You should allocate tasks, impart a sense of urgency, and provide supervision with enthusiasm, and ensure that the task is completed smartly and efficiently.

Make-Up In Logical Order – You should ensure that equipment is replaced on the appliance in a logical manner and that the drill yard is quickly cleared and made available for further use.

Ready for Re-Deployment – You should ensure that the appliance and the crew are made ready for re-deployment, and impart enthusiasm to the crew to ensure completion with the least possible delay.

Command

Correct Drill Carried Out – You should ensure that the correct drill is carried out in accordance with the Training Manual.

Overall Command Established – You should motivate the crew whilst demonstrating excellent command qualities throughout the drill.

De-briefing (Strengths and Weaknesses) – You should carry out an interactive comprehensive debrief, accurately summarising the strengths and weaknesses observed, in order to praise the crew and/or constructively criticise their performance where necessary.

Safety

Safety Words of Command – You should draw the attention of the crew to the relevant words of command in regard to safety before the start of the drill, and confirm that the crew understands by asking questions.

Safety Procedures Observed – You should ensure that the crew are reminded of their responsibilities in relation to safety, and the procedures to be adopted in the event of unsafe conditions arising to ensure safety rules are observed.

Unsafe Practices Corrected – You should ensure that unsafe practices are identified and effectively corrected in a firm and positive manner, using these as a learning experience for the crew.

Section B – Fireground Procedure

Risk Assessment

Incident Evaluation - You should carry out a swift and accurate incident evaluation at an early stage, and the anticipated risks known involving life, property and the environment.

Information Gathering - You should gain comprehensive information rapidly and accurately from all sources regarding the incident.

Hazard Identification - You should quickly identify all hazards.

Action/Priorities

Action/Priorities – You should ensure that a comprehensive yet flexible action plan, deploying the appropriate resources is formulated, that will effectively deal with the incident in a balanced and prioritised manner.

Safe System of Work - You should quickly and efficiently employ the most appropriate safe system of work, which is based upon full consideration of the identified risks, the objectives, the effectiveness of the resources and the safety of personnel.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – You should ensure that the deployment of PPE is balanced and prioritised against known and anticipated risks.

Command

Overall Command Established/Maintained - You should immediately assert authority and command, display leadership qualities ensuring that you are constantly seen as being in charge of the crew throughout the incident.

Control of Incident - You should immediately assert effective control and maintain it throughout the incident.

Make-Up - You should prioritise the make-up, ensuring that the equipment, appliance and crew are made ready for re-deployment, also impart enthusiasm to the crew to ensure completion with the least possible delay.

Review

Risk Assessment - You should continuously review and modify the risk assessment and rapidly respond to changes in the nature and extent of the incident.

Action & Priorities - You should continuously review and modify actions and priorities, and rapidly respond to changes in the nature and extent of the incident.

De-brief - You should carry out an interactive, comprehensive debrief, accurately summarising the strengths and weaknesses observed, in order to praise the crew and/or constructively criticise performance where necessary.

Communication

Communication with Crew - You should establish and maintain effective communication which is accurate, complete, and confirmed with personnel using the most appropriate means available.

Messages – You should ensure that operational messages are concise, totally satisfactory and without any errors, providing a clear picture of the incident.

Senior Officer Briefing - You should carry out a clear, concise, comprehensive and effective senior officer briefing.

Liaison – Other Services/Agencies - You should establish and maintain an interactive liaison with other services/agencies, which enables the successful conclusion of the incident, which presents the service in a professional manner.

Safety

Safety - You should ensure early identification and rectification of any unsafe, or potentially unsafe, practice, procedure or occurrence.

Section C - Equipment

Design

Equipment Comprehensively Described - You should give a comprehensive description and demonstrate a sound knowledge of the item of equipment.

Working Principles Outlined – You should be able to identify and explain, showing a clear understanding of the working principles of the item of equipment.

Safety Features Described – You should be able to identify all the safety features incorporated in the design, and the measures which should be taken to mitigate operator malfunction.

Use

Manner in Which Equipment is Used Clearly Described - You should comprehensively describe the manner in which the item of equipment may be used, revealing your sound knowledge and understanding of all matters relating to its operational use.

Safety Factors in the Use of Equipment Covered – You should be able to identify all the safety factors to be considered whilst using and stowing the item of equipment, and outline the measures to be taken to avoid its possible malfunction.

Reference Made to Disadvantages and Limitation in the Use of Equipment – You should ensure comprehensive reference is made to all the disadvantages and limitations of the item of equipment including any which may not be recognised uses.

Training Delivery

Communicating Clearly and Effectively (Tone, Manner and Pace) - You should communicate clearly and effectively with good use of voice tones in an articulate manner and at a pace which is easily followed, supported by instructional aids which are clear, of good functional value, relevant, and simple in design.

Presentation, Logical, In Sequence and Summarised – You should state aims and objectives clearly and ensure that they are fully achieved by giving a well rehearsed and skilful presentation using a non-repetitive, logically staged sequence, with a summary outlining all the main features, presenting a polished performance.

Further Training Needs – You should recognise the need for further training on this subject and make appropriate observations regarding the detailed training programme provided.

Instruction Completed Within the Time Allocated – You should ensure that the presentation is completed within the time allocation making the most effective use of that time.

Questions Dealt with Effectively – You should deal with questions from examiners positively, effectively and with confidence.