



SECTION SIX
SYLLABUS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY
FOR THE
SUB-OFFICERS'
PRACTICAL TEST

FOR THE YEAR 2004

ISSUED MAY 2003

INTRODUCTION

This Study Guide specifies the syllabus for the Sub-Officers' Practical Test and identifies the bibliography that the Fire Services Examinations Board uses in relation to the Tests.

- (a) The Study Guide is issued each year and is clearly marked on the front cover with the examination year to which it applies.
- (b) Candidates should ensure that they are using the appropriate edition.
- (c) It is possible that new Fire Service Manuals etc are issued after the publication of the Study Guide. This does not matter, as the practical tests will only be based on technical or reference material that has been published nine months prior to the examination. The Study Guide is therefore the definitive source of study for the Practical Test.

STUDY GUIDE – Sub-Officers' Practical Test

Section A - The Composite Drill

A practical test of ability to conduct a composite drill using two appliances and the equipment thereon.

Candidates will be expected to show their ability to organise an effective composite drill of at least two main parts being satisfied simultaneously (eg ladder and pump), powers of command and leadership by assembling the crews correctly, explaining the purpose of the drill, numbering of the crews, allocating tasks, controlling the conduct of the drill, the make-up of the drill and de-briefing the crew.

Bibliography

Candidates will be expected to conduct the drill in accordance with the principles contained within the Fire Service Manual Volume 4 – Fire Service Training, and in particular the following sections:

The words of command 3.7.3;

Marshalling vehicles 3.9;

Fire Service signals 3.10;

Emergency arrangements 3.11;

Pump drills 4.5;

Ladder drills 4.6;

Foam drills 4.7; and

The safety features outlined in Pump and Ladder drills 4.8

Section B - The Fireground Procedure Test

An exercise in fireground procedure and control.

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

A problem will be set depicting a fire or rescue situation in which a first attendance of no more than two appliances has been made. Candidates will be required to take charge of the situation, lead and command the work of two crews, deploy the appliances and equipment, and send appropriate messages.

Bibliography

Fire Service Manual Volume 4 – Fire Service Training

Fire Service Manual Volume 4 – Fire Service Training, Appendix 2, Fireground Communications

Fire Service Manual Volume 2 – Fire Service Operations, Incident Command, Section 3.3

Manual of Firemanship Book 11, Part 3 (Chapter 8 – Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4(a));

Manual of Firemanship Book 12, Part 1 (Chapter 3 – Sections 6, 7, 8 and 9).

Section C – Instructional Technique

A test aimed to identify the ability of the candidate to consider the operational difficulties associated with a specific risk within the candidate's brigade area, provide an effective plan to deal with it, and communicate this to others in an instructional talk of 25 –30 minutes duration.

Following the presentation the examiners will ask the candidate questions about the risk and the plan.

THREE risks within the candidate's brigade area will be specified by the Senior Examiner of the local examinations board each year.

The list of the THREE risks will be published within the candidate's brigade on the 1 January 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.

Bibliography

Relevant sections of the Manuals of Firemanship, Fire Service Manual Volume 4 – Fire Service Training, Technical Bulletins and relevant publications issued by brigades and/or Local Examination Boards.