

ADVANCED RIGGING

VOC Study Guide

CERT LEVEL	QUESTIONS	SECTIONS	YEAR
Advanced Rigging	41	3	2025

How to use this guide

This document is split into two parts. Part 1 contains all questions — use it to test yourself before looking at the answers. Write your responses in the space provided, or cover the answer pages and work through from memory.

Part 2 contains the full answer guide. Each question is repeated with its answer so you can use it as a learning reference before sitting your VOC assessment.

SEC	TOPIC	QUESTIONS
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PART 1 — QUESTIONS

Work through each question and write your answer in the space below, or test yourself from memory before checking Part 2.

SECTION 1 — PLATFORM LOADS & EDGE PROTECTION

- Q1.** What is the maximum total load per bay for persons and materials on a light duty working platform?
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- Q2.** What is the maximum total load per bay for persons and materials on a medium duty working platform?
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- Q3.** What is the maximum total load per bay for persons and materials on a heavy duty working platform?
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- Q4.** When a flexible steel wire rope is used to support a hung scaffold, what is its maximum allowable load?
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- Q5.** When a chain is used to support a hung scaffold, what is its maximum allowable load?
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- Q6.** What fraction of the duty live load per platform per bay are standards assumed to be carrying?
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- Q7.** What is the minimum width of a light duty working platform?
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- Q8.** What is the minimum width of a medium duty working platform?
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Q9. What is the minimum width of a heavy duty working platform?

Q10. When is platform edge protection generally required?

Q11. What is the minimum distance a toeboard must extend above the top surface of the platform?

Q12. Would you use a fibre rope as a guardrail on a scaffold?

Q13. Would you use a flexible steel wire rope as a guardrail on a scaffold?

Q14. What is the minimum height above the platform of a guardrail?

Q15. What is the maximum height above the platform of a guardrail?

Q16. What must be provided between the guardrail and the toeboard?

Q17. Would you use an extension ladder to provide access to a scaffold platform?

Q18. What grade of ladder is prohibited for access to scaffolds?

Q19. What is the minimum and maximum slopes at which a portable ladder can be pitched to provide access to a scaffold?

Q20. What is the minimum height a portable access ladder must extend above the landing?

SECTION 2 — SUSPENDED SCAFFOLDS & CRADLES

Q21. What is the minimum-rated working load for a trolley used to support a suspension rope?

Q22. Would you fix a cradle's working load limit sign to the inside or to the outside of the cradle?

Q23. What is the minimum cradle width for a double rope suspended scaffold?

Q24. What is the maximum cradle width for a double rope suspended scaffold?

Q25. What is the minimum width of a swing stage cradle?

Q26. What is the maximum width of a swing stage cradle?

Q27. What is the minimum width of a work cage?

Q28. What is the maximum width of a work cage?

Q29. What is the minimum height of a stabilizing sheave above the platform of a work cage?

SECTION 3 — NEEDLES, COUNTERWEIGHTS & HOISTS

Q30. Would you fix the inboard end of a needle with friction anchors?

Q31. Can bags of sand be used to counterweight a needle?

Q32. Would you use counterweights to fix a needle which supports two suspension ropes?

Q33. What is the maximum rope tension allowed on a shackle used to support a suspension rope?

Q34. What is the maximum rope tension allowed on a choked sling used to support a suspension rope?

Q35. Where two trolleys are used to support a swing stage, how would you stop them from spreading?

Q36. When a drum-type scaffolding hoist is at its lowest point, how many full turns of rope should remain on the drum?

Q37. With a fully-loaded drum-type scaffolding hoist, how far should the drum flange extend beyond the built-up rope?

Q38. When a climber-type scaffolding hoist is at its lowest point, what is the minimum length of spare rope?

Q39. Would you use bulldog grips to secure a suspension rope?

Q40. What type of suspended scaffold does not need a protective device for each scaffolding hoist?

Q41. What type of scaffolding hoist must be fitted with a load limiting device?

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PART 2 — ANSWER GUIDE

Each question is repeated with its answer. Use this section as a learning reference to build your understanding before your VOC assessment.

SECTION 1 — PLATFORM LOADS & EDGE PROTECTION

- Q1. What is the maximum total load per bay for persons and materials on a light duty working platform?**
- A. 225 kg (or 2.2 kN).
- Q2. What is the maximum total load per bay for persons and materials on a medium duty working platform?**
- A. 450 kg (or 4.4 kN).
- Q3. What is the maximum total load per bay for persons and materials on a heavy duty working platform?**
- A. 675 kg (or 6.6 kN).
- Q4. When a flexible steel wire rope is used to support a hung scaffold, what is its maximum allowable load?**
- A. One sixth of the breaking load.
- Q5. When a chain is used to support a hung scaffold, what is its maximum allowable load?**
- A. One sixth of the breaking load.
- Q6. What fraction of the duty live load per platform per bay are standards assumed to be carrying?**
- A. One third.
- Q7. What is the minimum width of a light duty working platform?**
- A. 450 mm (or 2 planks).
- Q8. What is the minimum width of a medium duty working platform?**
- A. 900 mm (or 4 planks).
- Q9. What is the minimum width of a heavy duty working platform?**
- A. 1000 mm (or 5 planks).
- Q10. When is platform edge protection generally required?**
- A. Where a person or object could fall more than 2 m.

Q11. What is the minimum distance a toeboard must extend above the top surface of the platform?

A. 150 mm.

Q12. Would you use a fibre rope as a guardrail on a scaffold?

A. No.

Q13. Would you use a flexible steel wire rope as a guardrail on a scaffold?

A. No.

Q14. What is the minimum height above the platform of a guardrail?

A. 900 mm.

Q15. What is the maximum height above the platform of a guardrail?

A. 1100 mm.

Q16. What must be provided between the guardrail and the toeboard?

A. Midrails (or infill, or brickguards, or mesh).

Q17. Would you use an extension ladder to provide access to a scaffold platform?

A. No.

Q18. What grade of ladder is prohibited for access to scaffolds?

A. Domestic grade.

Q19. What is the minimum and maximum slopes at which a portable ladder can be pitched to provide access to a scaffold?

A. 4 in 1 and 6 in 1.

Q20. What is the minimum height a portable access ladder must extend above the landing?

A. 900 mm.

SECTION 2 — SUSPENDED SCAFFOLDS & CRADLES

Q21. What is the minimum-rated working load for a trolley used to support a suspension rope?

A. 500 kg.

Q22. Would you fix a cradle's working load limit sign to the inside or to the outside of the cradle?

A. To the inside.

Q23. What is the minimum cradle width for a double rope suspended scaffold?

A. 900 mm.

Q24. What is the maximum cradle width for a double rope suspended scaffold?

A. 1.7 m.

Q25. What is the minimum width of a swing stage cradle?

A. 450 mm.

Q26. What is the maximum width of a swing stage cradle?

A. 900 mm.

Q27. What is the minimum width of a work cage?

A. 750 mm.

Q28. What is the maximum width of a work cage?

A. 1.5 m.

Q29. What is the minimum height of a stabilizing sheave above the platform of a work cage?

A. 2 m.

SECTION 3 — NEEDLES, COUNTERWEIGHTS & HOISTS

Q30. Would you fix the inboard end of a needle with friction anchors?

A. No.

Q31. Can bags of sand be used to counterweight a needle?

A. No.

Q32. Would you use counterweights to fix a needle which supports two suspension ropes?

A. No.

Q33. What is the maximum rope tension allowed on a shackle used to support a suspension rope?

A. 80% of rated working load (or 80% of SWL).

Q34. What is the maximum rope tension allowed on a choked sling used to support a suspension rope?

A. 40% of rated working load (or 40% of SWL).

- Q35. Where two trolleys are used to support a swing stage, how would you stop them from spreading?**
- A. Connect them with a spacer tie (or spreader bar).
- Q36. When a drum-type scaffolding hoist is at its lowest point, how many full turns of rope should remain on the drum?**
- A. 3.
- Q37. With a fully-loaded drum-type scaffolding hoist, how far should the drum flange extend beyond the built-up rope?**
- A. 2 rope diameters.
- Q38. When a climber-type scaffolding hoist is at its lowest point, what is the minimum length of spare rope?**
- A. 1 m.
- Q39. Would you use bulldog grips to secure a suspension rope?**
- A. No.
- Q40. What type of suspended scaffold does not need a protective device for each scaffolding hoist?**
- A. A double rope suspended scaffold.
- Q41. What type of scaffolding hoist must be fitted with a load limiting device?**
- A. An electrically powered scaffolding hoist.