

THEORY EXAM SAMPLE/PRACTICE QUESTIONS – A LEVEL - BIG TOUR

The following practice questions have been developed by the Equestrian Australian Dressage Judges Committee (EADJC) and it is hoped that these will assist upgrading judges in their preparation for the theory exam.

General Information Applicable to all Levels:

- You need to gain at least 80% to be classed as 'competent'
- Theory exam duration is 2.5 hours
- The theory exam is split into sections:
 - Section 1 – Rules – Multiple choice questions – there are usually 10 of these questions. No practice questions included in this document – similar to the questions asked in the G level ORBT and the re-accreditation ORBT
 - Section 2 – Rules and Event Structure – Short Answer questions
 - Section 3 – Judging Theory Questions
 - Section 4 – Freestyle Questions – Applicable E level and above
 - Each question will be numbered and will note the number of points the questions is worth

SAMPLE/PRACTICE QUESTIONS:

List all elements of the training scale in order and describe each

Which are the critical ones for correct training of the Prelim/Nov horse

When all components of the training scale have been correctly trained, what additional developed qualities can we see, appreciate and reward as judges. One word answers

What qualities would you want to see in a highly developed collected walk

Does a faulty walk rhythm throughout affect the rider mark? Why or why not?

Describe the differences between a collected trot and passage

Describe a swaying passage

Describe base wide

Describe the word 'reach' often used when commenting on half passes

How would you mark and comment on a canter pirouette made in 5 strides?

Which way should a pirouette be flexed and why is this an important factor?

Can a pirouette 'fall in'? If yes, describe and offer reasons how this could this happen?

Can a pirouette be too much on the forehand? Describe why this could occur?

Describe 'swaying' flying changes

What is the worst in the 15 one time changes - two less or two extra! Why?

Describe GP collection

How do you know the horse is collected?

What is self carriage?

Describe the relationship between collection and self carriage

Describe a good transition piaffe to passage and passage to piaffe

What penalty would you apply when the transition passage to canter in the GP is made with the hind legs together?

Why do we consider transitions as an important aspect of training the dressage horse?

Why are transition marks to and from extended work often written as an extra marked movement in a test?

Which is the more serious in incorrect training results, a horse sitting behind the contact or the horse against the contact? Why?

If you see resistance in the contact only once in the GP test, does this affect your rider mark?

Which is worst - a horse with a normally placed neck but always behind the vertical, or a horse always short in the neck but sitting on the vertical? Why?

Describe why nose tilting to the outside occurs and how do we penalise this?

What qualities do you want to see in the GP horse as compared to the small tour horse?

Why is there an extra mark for the rider in the collective mark at the end of the test?

What are you considering when allocating the rider mark?

Describe what 'thoroughness' is?

Describe falling in and the reasons this occurs?

What is the difference and what would convince you to go from a 9 to a 10 for a movement?

When can we allocate a zero for the movement, give 2 situations where this is possible

Why would you give a one for a movement instead of a zero? Name 2 situations where this could occur?

FREESTYLE QUESTIONS

Name as many ways you can think of that a piaffe can be shown or produced in a GP freestyle test

Name as many ways you can think of that a passage can be shown or produced in a GP freestyle test

Does piaffe have to be shown from and into passage in the GP freestyle?

Can a canter pirouette in GP freestyle be shown only from and into canter half pass on either rein? If the answer to this is 'no', what are the penalties applied when this occurs?

What is interpretation of the music?

Should the total of the artistic marks generally be lower than the total for the technical marks in a freestyle test?

When can the artistic marks be lower than the technical marks? Why?

What is the Degree of Difficulty?