
PRE-COURSE TEST



Instructions: This test will help you to determine topics in the course with which you are familiar—and those that you must pay careful attention to as you complete this Independent Study. When you have finished, check your answers against the Pre-Course Test Answer Key following this Pre-Course Test. Then, proceed through the course materials at a pace that is comfortable for you.

Read the scenario below, and refer to it to answer questions 1 through 13.

Scenario 1:

A call came in to 9-1-1 at 11:03 a.m. reporting a fire at the Wal-Mart, which is located in the Highview Shopping Center at Spring Avenue and Route 102. The 9-1-1 dispatcher dispatched Engine Companies 5, 7, and 11 to the scene.

Company 5 was the first to arrive on the scene, followed by Companies 11 and 7, both of which arrived within 5 minutes of Company 5. Upon arriving at the scene, the Fire Captain from Company 5 assumed command and ordered an initial sizeup of the situation. Although only 7 minutes had passed since the initial 9-1-1 call, the west end of the Wal-Mart, where the garden center was located, was fully involved. The initial sizeup indicated that:

- ◆ Two Wal-Mart employees were not accounted for. Both were assigned to the garden center. Several other employees were suffering from smoke inhalation.
 - ◆ Although the sprinkler system in the store had activated, many of the combustibles in the store could not be suppressed with water.
 - ◆ The garden center contained an undetermined amount of fertilizers and other toxic substances. The warehouse, which was located at the rear of the store, contained 12 pallets of fertilizer and additional toxic substances, ranging from household cleaners in aerosol cans to butane canisters for use with camp stoves. Other toxic substances were located throughout the store.
 - ◆ Fanned by winds from the southwest at 15 miles per hour, the fire appeared to be spreading quickly. Adjacent businesses, including a shoe store, a walk-in medical clinic, and a convenience store would be threatened by the fire.
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1. Fire Companies 5, 7, and 11 each consisted of one truck and one engine. Each truck was staffed with four firefighters, and each engine was staffed with three. At what point was the Incident Commander's span of control exceeded?
 - a. When Fire Company 11 arrived at the scene
 - b. When Fire Company 7 arrived at the scene
 - c. When all fire companies had arrived at the scene
 - d. The Incident Commander's span of control was not exceeded.



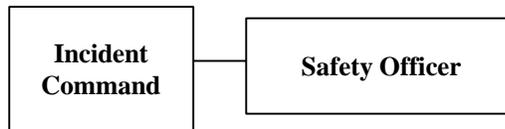
2. Which of the **Command Staff** positions should the Incident Commander have established immediately?
 - a. Information Officer
 - b. Media Officer
 - c. Safety Officer
 - d. No Command Staff positions are necessary at this time.

3. The Fire Captain from Fire Company 5 has assumed the position of Incident Commander. The presence of two other Fire Captains on the scene is an example of:
 - a. Unity of command.
 - b. Unified command.
 - c. Comprehensive resource management.
 - d. Integrated communications.
 - e. None of the above.

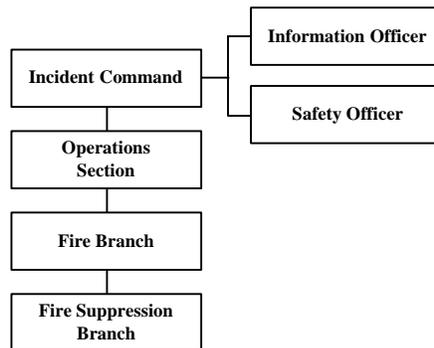


4. The initial ICS organization for this incident probably should look like which of the following organization charts?

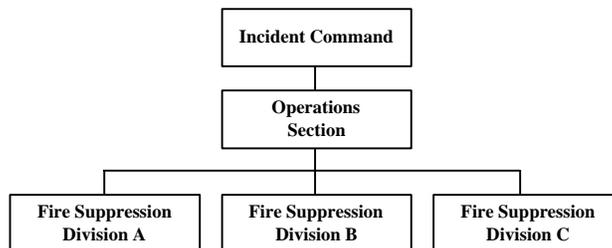
a.



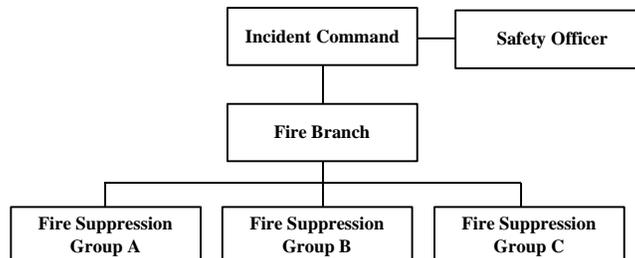
b.



c.



d.





5. The Incident Commander has established an Incident Command Post (ICP) in a parking lot on the south side of and across the street from the shopping center. What critical factor must he or she monitor as the incident progresses to determine if there is a need to relocate the ICP?
 - a. Whether the site is large enough for the media
 - b. The wind direction
 - c. How many response personnel arrive at the incident site
 - d. Whether there is a need to activate the Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

6. This incident will not require the activation of which incident facility?
 - a. Staging Area
 - b. Camp
 - c. Incident Command Post (ICP)

7. When the Battalion Chief arrives at the scene, he might become the Incident Commander because:
 - a. He is more highly qualified.
 - b. This incident involves hazardous materials.
 - c. This incident involves fire department personnel only.
 - d. He is more experienced in dealing with the media that will be drawn to the scene.

8. When the Battalion Chief arrives at the scene:
 - a. There will be two Incident Commanders.
 - b. He will establish his own ICP.
 - c. The outgoing Incident Commander will give him a briefing.
 - d. No one needs to be notified because dispatch knows that he has arrived.

9. By Federal law, the ICS structure **must** be used for this incident because:
 - a. Only fire department personnel will be involved.
 - b. Only fire, law enforcement, and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel will be involved.
 - c. Hazardous materials are involved in the incident.
 - d. There is a high risk that the incident will expand.

10. The Incident Commander has established a Staging Area for this incident. He also will appoint a Staging Area Manager. To whom will the Staging Area Manager report directly?
 - a. The Safety Officer
 - b. The Operations Section Chief
 - c. The Finance Section Chief
 - d. The Documentation Unit Leader



11. After 2 hours, some of the first firefighters to arrive at the scene are relieved by newly assigned companies so that they can rest. What is the status of the first firefighting group?
 - a. Assigned
 - b. Out-of-service
 - c. On-site
 - d. Available

12. Responders have arrived from law enforcement, EMS, public works, and the public health service. Additionally, mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities were activated to obtain additional fire suppression and EMS support. The principles of ICS suggest:
 - a. A unified command structure.
 - b. One Incident Commander from each responding agency.
 - c. Separate action plans for each responding organization.
 - d. That the neighboring communities also establish ICPs.

13. The command structure for this incident should be in keeping with the:
 - a. Size of the incident.
 - b. Number of responders assigned.
 - c. Number of agencies responding.
 - d. Complexity of the incident.

Read the scenario below, and refer to it to answer questions 14 through 18.

Scenario 2:

The 9-1-1 center has just received a call reporting a two-car accident, with injuries, one-half mile from exit 12 of the freeway. The 9-1-1 dispatcher dispatches one patrol car, one fire engine, and one ambulance to the scene.

14. The patrol car, fire engine, and ambulance are called:
 - a. A task force.
 - b. A strike team.
 - c. Single resources.
 - d. A group.

15. The Incident Commander's first priority at this, or any, incident is:
 - a. Incident stabilization.
 - b. Life safety.
 - c. Coordinating overall emergency activities.
 - d. Assessing incident priorities.



16. One of the first activities that responders will undertake upon arrival at an incident is:
- Appoint a Logistics Officer.
 - Contact the media.
 - Size up the incident.
 - Develop an action plan.
17. The injuries at this incident are minor, but two victims will require transport to a local hospital. The Incident Commander requests that a second ambulance, another patrol car, and two tow trucks be dispatched to the scene. Given these response requirements, what other ICS functions should the Incident Commander activate?
- The Operations Section
 - The Logistics Section
 - The Planning Section
 - No other functions are required.
18. In this incident, the Incident Commander probably will establish an ICP:
- In a response vehicle.
 - At a fixed site.
 - In a mobile ICP.
 - No ICP is required.

Read the scenario below, and refer to it to answer questions 19 through 30.

Scenario 3:

At 3:30 p.m., a severe thunderstorm struck your city. The storm carried sustained winds of 70 miles per hour, with gusts of up to 80 miles per hour. More than 4 inches of rain fell during a 1-hour period. Golf ball-sized hail accompanied the storm.

Calls to the 9-1-1 center indicate that the northwest quadrant of the city has been especially hard-hit. Although the initial damage assessment is not complete, reports indicate that roads in a 16-block area are virtually impassable as a result of downed trees and utility lines and other debris. Access to the area is limited also by flooding from backed-up storm drains.

There are several reports of persons trapped in their cars and houses. One 9-1-1 call reported that a school bus with school children onboard had overturned at Timbercreek Road and 13th Street, an intersection that is located at the approximate mid-point of the quadrant. Other reports indicate multiple-car accidents, with injuries, and a possible fire resulting from an overturned gasoline tank truck.



19. A Battalion Chief assigned to the scene in a mobile ICP is unable to enter the area because all of the vehicle entrance routes to the area are blocked. Two EMS crews enter the area on foot in an attempt to reach the schoolbus. Several police officers also enter on foot to assess the situation. Who is most likely to be the Incident Commander at this time?
- The senior EMS technician
 - The senior police officer
 - The Battalion Chief
 - No command has been established at this point.
20. After establishing command, the Incident Commander immediately requests significant additional resources. She will establish a fully expanded ICS organization. Which of the **General Staff** functions will she activate?
- Planning, Operations, and Logistics
 - Planning, Operations, Logistics, and Finance/Administration
 - Operations and Logistics
 - Planning, Operations, and Finance/Administration
21. The Operations Section Chief realizes that his span of control will be exceeded with the arrival of the requested resources. Because there is a need to assign resources based on assignments to specific geographic areas, one way he could maintain his span of control is to assign personnel to:
- Divisions.
 - Groups.
 - Units.
 - Strike Teams.
22. There is a need to perform triage and treat the children from the schoolbus. Triage and treatment could best be done at a:
- Staging Area.
 - Casualty Collection Point (CCP).
 - Base.
 - Unit.
23. What would be the logical name for the ICP in this incident?
- The "Crash" Incident Command Post
 - The "Windstorm" Incident Command Post
 - The "Gasoline Tank Crash" Incident Command Post



24. The Incident Commander requests three Type 1 helicopters. These resources have been classified:
- By type.
 - By kind.
 - By type and kind.
 - As single resources.
25. The Incident Commander requests two K-9 search and rescue teams and two EMS teams to locate, extract, and treat several people who are trapped in a collapsed building that was under construction when the storm hit. This combination of personnel and equipment can be called a:
- Group.
 - Unit.
 - Task Force.
 - Strike Team.
26. The Mayor has sent her deputy to the scene to get a briefing on the damage and keep abreast of incident status. Where would the deputy report?
- To the ICP
 - To the Incident Base
 - To the Communications Center
 - To the Staging Area
27. Given the broad area of damage, it may be necessary to set up multiple Staging Areas based on the:
- Responding agency.
 - Operational resource.
 - Geographic area.
 - Response function.
28. You have been called to assist in the Communications Center. You should report to the:
- Staging Area.
 - 9-1-1 center.
 - Operations Section Chief.
 - Communications Unit Leader.
29. When you report to the Communications Unit Leader, you realize that your day-to-day supervisor has been called to assist in the Logistics Section. To whom do you report?
- To your day-to-day supervisor
 - To the Communications Unit Leader
 - To the Incident Commander
 - To the Operations Section Chief



30. The incident is under control and you have been relieved. Before leaving the incident, you must:
- Complete all in-progress work assignments.
 - Complete and file all required forms.
 - Brief your relief on the status of your work.
 - All of the above.
31. Under OSHA regulations, all organizations that handle _____ incidents are required to use ICS.
- hurricane
 - tornado
 - hazardous materials
 - flood
 - snow storm
32. Elements of an effective incident management system include:
- Suitable for use regardless of jurisdiction involved.
 - Organizational structure can be adapted to any incident.
 - Readily adaptable to new technology.
 - Can expand in a logical manner from initial incident.
 - All of the above.
33. The Incident Commander is responsible for:
- Gathering and assigning resources.
 - Evaluating the overall effectiveness of the plan.
 - Coordinating the overall operation.
 - Communicating effectively within the organization.
 - All of the above.
34. If the Incident Commander does not delegate a function, it:
- Remains the Incident Commander's responsibility.
 - Is handled by the Safety Officer.
 - Is disseminated by the Information Officer.
 - Is given to the Liaison Officer to handle.
35. Components of an effective emergency management system include:
- Common terminology.
 - Modular organization.
 - Separate police and fire command posts.
 - Overlap of command between jurisdictions.
 - Both a and b.



36. Unified Command involves:
- The contribution of all agencies in the command process.
 - The Fire Department always being in charge.
 - The Public Works Department being in charge during recovery.
 - The implementation of separate action plans by each agency.
 - None of the above.
37. The definition of unity of command is:
- Shared responsibility for overall incident management.
 - Each individual reports to only one supervisor.
 - Each individual reports to the Incident Commander.
 - Shared responsibility for the operations portion of the incident.
 - Shared responsibility for information dissemination.
38. The optimum number of subordinates that one supervisor can manage effectively during an incident is:
- one.
 - three.
 - five.
 - eight.
 - ten.
39. Designated incident facilities under ICS **do not** include:
- The Incident Command Post.
 - The Incident Base.
 - The Rest Area.
 - The Staging Area.
40. What should an ICP provide?
- A view of the incident, if practical.
 - Isolation from noise and confusion.
 - Status boards.
 - Effective communication capability.
 - All of the above.



41. Strategic goals can be defined as the:
- Overall plan that will be used to control the incident.
 - Specific operations that must be accomplished to achieve tactical objectives.
 - Specific tactical plans designated to handle the problem.
 - Long-range plans included in the action plan by the logistics officer.
 - Planning considerations established by the EOC.
42. Operational objectives can be defined as the:
- Overall plan that will be used to control the incident.
 - Overall plan that will be used to demobilize an incident.
 - Specific operations that must be accomplished to achieve strategic goals.
 - Specific directions given by the Planning Officer.
 - Specific directions given by the Operations Officer.
43. The ICS organizational structure should be based on the:
- Needs of the Fire Chief.
 - Needs of the EOC.
 - Needs of the public at risk.
 - Needs of the incident.
 - Needs of the Operations Officer.
44. A Staging Area is a:
- Place where disaster workers go to rest.
 - Location where commanders gather to make decisions.
 - Location of the Information Officer.
 - Site where volunteers report during a large incident.
 - Location where resources report until given an assignment.
45. The Command Staff includes:
- Safety Officer.
 - Liaison Officer.
 - Information Officer.
 - Logistics Officer.
 - a, b, and c.



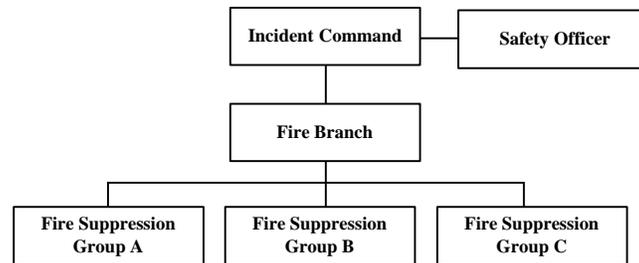
46. The Liaison Officer serves as the:
- Interface between the press and other agencies.
 - Overall commander during the incident.
 - Planning element for the media.
 - Point of contact for assisting or coordinating agencies.
 - Planning Officer during lunch breaks.
47. The Safety Officer has the authority to:
- Provide tours or photo opportunities.
 - Interact with outside agency representatives.
 - Bypass chain of command when needed.
 - Disseminate public information.
 - Activate the EOC.
48. The Information Officer is responsible for:
- Bypassing the chain of command when talking with the press.
 - Coordinating all incident decisions.
 - Establishing the Staging Area.
 - Interacting with the Operations Officer twice a day.
 - Interfacing with the media and disseminating public information.
49. Most incidents will require the Incident Commander (IC) to establish all command and general staff positions.
- True
 - False
50. A Strike Team could include:
- Three dump trucks and two backhoes working to clear roads.
 - Two phone company employees and two electric company employees working to repair downed lines.
 - Five police units in a Staging Area getting ready for traffic control assignments.
 - Ten volunteers.
 - Four engine companies and a ladder truck at a fire.
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Instructions: Use this Answer Key to check your answers to the Pre-Course Test. If you answered any questions incorrectly, be sure to pay careful attention to those areas as you complete the course. Even if you answered all of the Pre-Course Test questions correctly, review the course materials carefully before taking the Final Examination.

1. **d. The Incident Commander's span of control was not exceeded. The IC deals with only one person in each company.**
2. **c. Safety Officer**
3. **e. None of the above**

4. **d.**



5. **b. The wind direction**
6. **b. Camp**
7. **a. He is more highly qualified.**
8. **c. The outgoing Incident Commander will give him a briefing.**
9. **c. Hazardous materials are involved in the incident.**
10. **b. The Operations Section Chief.**
11. **b. Out-of-service**
12. **a. A unified command structure**
13. **d. Complexity of the incident**
14. **c. Single resources**



- 15. **b. Life safety**
- 16. **c. Size up the incident.**
- 17. **d. No other functions are required.**
- 18. **a. In a response vehicle**
- 19. **c. The Battalion Chief**
- 20. **b. Planning, Operations, Logistics, and Finance/Administration**
- 21. **a. Divisions**
- 22. **b. Casualty Collection Point (CCP)**
- 23. **b. The “Windstorm” Incident Command Post**
- 24. **c. By type and kind**
- 25. **c. Task Force**
- 26. **a. To the ICP**
- 27. **c. Geographic area**
- 28. **d. Communications Unit Leader**
- 29. **b. To the Communications Unit Leader**
- 30. **d. All of the above**
- 31. **c. Hazardous materials**
- 32. **e. All of the above**
- 33. **e. All of the above**
- 34. **a. Remains the Incident Commander’s responsibility**
- 35. **e. Both a and b**
- 36. **a. The contribution of all agencies to the command process**
- 37. **b. Each individual reports to only one supervisor.**
- 38. **c. Five**

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- 39. **c. Rest Area**
- 40. **e. All of the above**
- 41. **a. Overall plan that will be used to control the incident**
- 42. **c. Specific operations that must be accomplished to achieve strategic goals**
- 43. **d. Needs of the incident**
- 44. **e. A location where resources report until given an assignment**
- 45. **e. a, b, and c**
- 46. **d. Point of contact for assisting or coordinating agencies**
- 47. **c. Bypass chain of command when needed**
- 48. **e. Interfacing with the media and disseminating public information**
- 49. **b. False**
- 50. **c. Five police units in a Staging Area getting ready for traffic control assignments**