

# National Capitol Short Stirrup Equitation League (NCSSEL)

## Team Questions

- 1) Name four natural gaits of the horse.
  - a) Walk
  - b) Trot
  - c) Canter
  - d) Gallop
  
- 2) How many beats (footfalls) to the walk?
  - a) Four
  
- 3) How many beats (footfalls) to the trot?
  - a) Two
  
- 4) How many beats (footfalls) to the canter?
  - a) Three
  
- 5) Name three different coat colors of the horse.
  - a) Bay
  - b) Dark Brown
  - c) Black, Grey
  - d) Palomino
  - e) Chestnut
  - f) Sorrel
  - g) Buckskin, etc.
  
- 6) What predominant skin color do grey horses have?
  - a) Black
  
- 7) Describe the difference between a chestnut colored horse and a sorrel colored horse.
  - a) Chestnut horses have reddish-brown body color with manes and tails of almost identical color. Sorrel horses also have reddish-brown body color, but their manes and tails are much lighter than their body color.
  
- 8) Name three common facial markings in horses.
  - a) Star
  - b) Stripe
  - c) Snip
  - d) Blaze
  - e) bald face
  
- 9) Name two common leg markings in horses and describe which has more white in it (which is bigger).
  - a) Coronet
  - b) Anklet
  - c) Sock
  - d) Stocking
  
- 10) What is the normal temperature range for a horse?
  - a) 99 °to 101°

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- 11) Name three general signs that a horse is sick.
  - a) A temperature over 101° degrees or under 99°
  - b) Cold and patchy sweating
  - c) A pulse rate greater than 60 that is weak and irregular
  - d) Heavy nasal discharge
  - e) Little or no intestinal sounds
  - f) Lower limbs puffy or full of swelling
  - g) Weak or irregular respiration
  
- 12) What are some signs of colic?
  - a) Persistent pawing and rolling
  - b) Profuse sweating
  - c) Looking at sides
  - d) Kicking belly
  
- 13) How do you estimate a horse's age?
  - a) By examining his teeth.
  
- 14) Name one joint in the horse's hind leg.
  - a) Pastern, fetlock, hock, stifle, hip
  
- 15) Name one joint in the horse's front leg.
  - a) Pastern, fetlock, knee, elbow, shoulder
  
- 16) What does the word "aid" mean?
  - a) Two things: (1) Natural aids are what the rider uses to tell his horse his intentions; they are typically things a rider is born with and (2) artificial aids are things used for reinforcing the natural aids; they are typically things the rider was not born with.
  
- 17) Give an example of a "natural aid".
  - a) Hand
  - b) Seat
  - c) Leg
  - d) Voice
  
- 18) Give an example of an "artificial aid".
  - a) Spurs
  - b) Crop
  - c) Whip
  
- 19) What is a simple change of lead?
  - a) For hunters, it is changing the lead by executing a downward transition from a canter to trot for not more than three steps and then picking up the opposite lead.
  
- 20) Why should there be a ground line for each fence?
  - a) Ground lines help a horse in judging how big the fence is and finding the right take-off spot.
  
- 21) What 5 stages does a horse go through when it is jumping?
  - a) Approach

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- b) Take-off
  - c) Flight
  - d) Landing
  - e) Departure
- 22) What is a disunited or cross-canter?
- a) A disunited or cross-canter occurs when it appears the horse is cantering on one lead on the forehand and on the other lead on the hindquarters.
- 23) What is a counter-canter?
- a) A counter-canter occurs when the horse is on the left lead when going to the right or vice versa – like being on the wrong lead on purpose
- 24) Name 2 basic types of hay
- a) Grass, ex: Timothy or Orchard grass
  - b) Legume, ex: alfalfa
- 25) What is the most vital nutrient for a horse to have?
- a) Water
- 26) List at least two common forms of bedding.
- a) Straw
  - b) Sawdust
  - c) Shavings
- 27) What are the purposes of grooming?
- a) To increase the blood supply to the skin; to remove the dirt and dandruff; to give a good shine to the coat and to lubricate the skin; and to help prevent skin disease.