PRACTICE EXAM 12 — WDI CATEGORY SIMULATION (50 QUESTIONS)

1. Which sequence correctly orders the opening steps of a systematic inspection?

A. Diagram the structure, then gather history, then treat the perimeter

B. Apply termiticide, then inspect, then request prior records

C. Gather property history, then inspect accessible areas, then document findings

D. Certify the home, then drill the slab, then interview the owner

2. What is the correct order of the fumigation process from start to finish?

A. Introduce gas, seal, expose, then aerate

B. Aerate, expose, seal, then introduce gas

C. Seal, introduce gas, expose, then aerate

D. Expose, aerate, introduce gas, then seal

3. Which sequence correctly orders the three C's of pesticide spill response?

A. Contain, control, clean up

B. Control, contain, clean up

C. Clean up, control, contain

D. Control, clean up, contain

4. In the standard certification path, which step comes first?

A. Meeting state field-experience requirements

B. Passing the WDI category exam

C. Applying restricted-use pesticides on a job

D. Passing the CORE pesticide safety exam

5. Which step must occur before equipment is used to apply a soil termiticide?

A. Calibrating the equipment to the label rate

B. Disposing of the empty product containers

C. Filing the completed inspection report

D. Aerating the structure after treatment

6. Which sequence correctly orders the steps for confirming and reporting an active mud-tube infestation?

A. Write the report, then break the tube, then identify the organism

B. Treat the tube, then inspect it, then gather history

C. Identify the organism, break the tube to check activity, then document the finding

D. Certify the home, then photograph the tube, then leave

7. When preparing a finished spray solution, which action comes first?

A. Applying the solution to the treatment area

B. Calibrating the equipment for the job

C. Filing the application records afterward

D. Measuring and mixing the concentrate per the label

8. Which sequence correctly orders the termite life cycle and colony founding?

A. Alate pairs, swarms, then the egg hatches into a nymph

B. Egg hatches to nymph, matures to alate, swarms, then pairs to found a colony

C. Swarm occurs, then the egg is laid, then the nymph molts

D. Nymph founds a colony, then becomes an egg, then swarms

9. In handling empty pesticide containers, which step comes immediately after emptying the container?

A. Discarding it into a storm drain

B. Burning it to destroy residue

C. Reusing it for drinking water

D. Triple rinsing it and adding rinsate to the tank

10. Which order correctly describes the bait-system process?

A. Colony dies, then stations are installed, then foragers feed

B. Foragers feed, then stations are installed, then the colony grows

C. Stations installed, foragers feed, toxicant shared, then colony declines

D. Toxicant shared, then stations installed, then foragers avoid them

11. Which sequence correctly orders the systematic inspection zones as commonly performed?

A. Exterior, interior, then substructure

B. Substructure, then certify, then exterior

C. Interior, then treat, then exterior

D. Document, then exterior, then drill

12. Which step comes first when responding to a pesticide spill?

A. Controlling the source to stop the spill

B. Cleaning up the contaminated absorbent

C. Filing the incident documentation

D. Containing the spread with diking

13. Which order correctly describes how a non-repellent termiticide controls a colony?

A. Termites detect it, avoid it, then relocate the colony

B. Termites die at the surface, then the colony grows

C. Termites tunnel through unaware, pick it up, then transfer it to nestmates

D. The colony collapses before any termite contacts the soil

14. Which sequence correctly orders the steps before reentry after a structural fumigation?

A. Aerate the structure, monitor gas levels, then confirm it is safe to reenter

B. Reenter immediately, then aerate, then monitor

C. Introduce more gas, then reenter, then aerate

D. Remove placards, reenter, then seal the tarps again

15. Which step in preparing and applying a pesticide carries the highest exposure risk and demands full PPE?

A. Driving to the site with secured product

B. Filing the application records afterward

C. Walking the property during inspection

D. Mixing and loading the concentrated product

16. Which sequence correctly orders the production of a WDO report's findings categories from current to past?

A. Inaccessible areas, then conducive conditions, then active infestation

B. Conducive conditions, then inaccessible areas, then damage

C. Previous infestation, then active infestation, then conducive conditions

D. Active infestation, then previous infestation, then visible damage

17. In the recommended order of operations, what should an inspector do before recommending treatment?

A. Complete the inspection and document the findings

B. Apply the termiticide to the foundation first

C. Certify the home as termite-free

D. Dispose of the empty containers

18. Which sequence correctly orders a worker termite's relationship to its gut microbes after molting?

A. Molts, loses microbes, then reacquires them by trophallaxis

B. Reacquires microbes, then molts, then loses them

C. Founds a colony, then molts, then digests lignin

D. Swarms, then molts, then defends the colony

19. Which order correctly arranges the signal words from lowest to highest acute toxicity?

A. WARNING, CAUTION, DANGER

B. CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER

C. DANGER, WARNING, CAUTION

D. CAUTION, DANGER, WARNING

20. Which sequence correctly orders the steps for achieving a continuous treated zone on an existing home?

A. Trench along the foundation, rod the soil, then inject beneath the slab

B. Aerate the structure, then trench, then tent

C. Tent the home, introduce gas, then rod the soil

D. Certify the home, then trench, then file the report

21. Which comes first in the two-exam certification structure for most candidates?

A. Meeting continuing-education requirements

B. Renewing an expired license

C. Applying a restricted-use pesticide

D. Passing the CORE exam

22. Which sequence correctly orders the inspector's response to an area blocked by stored items?

A. Treat the area blindly, then certify it clear

B. Note the obstruction, document it as inaccessible, then state the reason

C. Remove the finished wall, then inspect, then certify

D. Skip the area silently, then omit it from the report

23. Which order correctly describes pre-construction termite treatment relative to building the home?

A. Treat the soil after occupancy, then build the structure

B. Build the structure, then treat the fully finished slab

C. Treat the soil and wood during construction, before enclosure

D. Fumigate the completed home, then pour the slab

24. Which sequence correctly orders the steps of identifying an organism from field evidence?

A. Write the report, then observe the evidence, then confirm the organism

B. Treat the wood, then identify the sign, then assess activity

C. Certify the home, then observe, then document

D. Observe the evidence, confirm the organism, then assess activity

25. When a colony reaches maturity, which event occurs that produces the termites a homeowner most often sees?

A. The workers begin foraging for the first time

B. The colony produces and releases winged alates in a swarm

C. The soldiers leave the nest to defend the perimeter

D. The queen abandons the colony to start over

26. Which sequence correctly orders the steps from mixing to application?

A. Measure concentrate, mix with water, calibrate, then apply at label rate

B. Apply, then mix, then measure, then calibrate

C. Calibrate, then apply, then measure the concentrate

D. Apply at double rate, then mix, then dispose

27. Which step logically comes last in a properly conducted inspection?

A. Gathering the property's prior history

B. Examining the substructure for evidence

C. Sounding and probing suspect wood

D. Completing the diagram and written report

28. Which order correctly arranges termite development stages?

A. Adult, then nymph, then egg

B. Nymph, then egg, then adult

C. Egg, then nymph, then mature caste

D. Egg, then pupa, then nymph

29. Which sequence correctly orders the steps a lender-required inspection follows in a real estate deal?

A. Issue the loan, then inspect, then license the inspector

B. Licensed inspector inspects, documents on NPMA-33, then lender relies on it

C. Buyer guarantees the home, then inspects, then closes

D. Treat the home, then inspect, then skip the report

30. Which comes first when an inspector arrives at a property with a known prior treatment?

A. Drilling the slab to inspect beneath it

B. Applying a preventive termiticide

C. Requesting the prior treatment and infestation history

D. Certifying the home based on the prior treatment

31. Which sequence correctly orders the steps to confirm whether a mud tube is active?

A. Photograph the tube, then certify, then leave it intact

B. Apply termiticide, then wait a month, then measure

C. Measure the length, then write the report, then treat

D. Break the tube open, then check for live termites or fresh repair

32. Which order correctly describes how a slow-acting bait eliminates a colony?

A. Foragers die at the station, then the colony survives

B. The colony is killed before any termite feeds

C. Foragers feed, survive, share the toxicant, then the colony declines

D. The toxicant repels foragers, then the colony relocates

33. Which step should occur before backfilling a treated trench?

A. Disposing of the empty containers

B. Filing the inspection report

C. Aerating the structure

D. Verifying continuous coverage of the treated zone

34. Which sequence correctly orders the inspector's handling of mixed findings from current to least-current?

A. Conducive conditions, then active infestation, then previous infestation

B. Inaccessible areas, then conducive conditions, then active infestation

C. Active infestation, then previous infestation, then conducive conditions

D. Previous infestation, then active infestation, then inaccessible areas

35. In a baiting program, which step recurs after the initial installation?

A. Permanent removal of all stations after one week

B. A single application of soil termiticide instead

C. Tent fumigation of the entire structure

D. Periodic monitoring and replenishing of the bait

36. Which sequence correctly orders the steps of safe mixing and loading?

A. Apply first, then put on PPE, then measure

B. Put on full PPE, measure accurately, then add product to water

C. Add water to product in the cab, then drive to the site

D. Skip PPE, mix quickly, then store near food

37. Which order correctly describes the regulatory chain from federal to applicator?

A. The applicator sets the rules, then the state, then the EPA

B. FIFRA sets the baseline, the EPA administers it, states certify applicators

C. States set the baseline, then the EPA, then FIFRA

D. The EPA issues every individual license before FIFRA applies

38. Which step comes first when handling a conducive-condition finding in the report?

A. Identify the specific condition and its exact location

B. Guarantee the home is free of infestation

C. Skip documenting it to keep the report short

D. Treat the condition without recording it

39. Which sequence correctly orders treatment selection by infestation type?

A. Fumigate for subterranean soil entry, trench for drywood framing

B. Bait for drywood attics, fumigate for soil entry

C. Trench for drywood, fumigate for a single conducive condition

D. Trench or bait for subterranean, fumigate for widespread drywood

40. Which step logically precedes applying any restricted-use termiticide on a job?

A. Confirming certification or working under a certified applicator

B. Burning the empty containers from a prior job

C. Removing all PPE to inspect the area

D. Aerating the structure as if it were fumigated

41. Which sequence correctly orders the steps of a carpenter bee's nesting in wood?

A. Ejects six-sided pellets, then bores a tube along the grain

B. Bores a round entry hole, then turns to tunnel along the grain

C. Builds a mud tube, then enters the soil below

D. Releases spores, then softens the wood with moisture

42. Which comes first in the recommended response to an active infestation found alongside conducive conditions?

A. Ignore the conducive conditions entirely

B. Treat the infestation and recommend correcting the conditions

C. Correct the conditions and leave the infestation untreated

D. Decline the job because conditions are present

43. Which sequence correctly orders the steps for documenting an inspection's findings?

A. Certify the home, then inspect, then diagram

B. Treat the structure, then document, then inspect

C. Inspect accessible areas, mark findings on the diagram, then write the report

D. Write the report first, then inspect to match it

44. Which order correctly describes how subterranean termites reach above-ground wood?

A. They fly directly to the wood from the colony

B. They drop from the roof onto the structure

C. They emerge fully grown from within the dry wood

D. They travel from the soil through mud tubes to the wood

45. Which step occurs last in the proper disposal of leftover diluted solution and containers?

A. Mixing additional concentrate to use it up

B. Pouring the solution into a storm drain

C. Triple rinsing containers and applying rinsate at label rate

D. Storing the leftover solution beside food

46. Which sequence correctly orders the inspection of a structure to maximize evidence detection?

A. Skip the substructure, then inspect the roof only

B. Examine exterior, interior, and the high-yield substructure systematically

C. Inspect only the finished living spaces

D. Certify first, then inspect if time allows

47. Which comes first when an applicator prepares to treat soil near a drinking-water well?

A. Pouring excess solution into the well

B. Applying extra product near the well

C. Reading and following the label's precautions near wells

D. Ignoring the well during treatment

48. Which sequence correctly orders the steps of the worker caste's daily role?

A. Forage for cellulose, feed nestmates, and maintain the galleries

B. Lay eggs, then defend the colony, then swarm

C. Defend the entrance, then fly out, then reproduce

D. Reproduce, then molt into a soldier, then forage

49. Which order correctly describes the relationship between the CORE and category exams?

A. The category exam is taken first, replacing the CORE exam

B. The CORE exam is taken, then the WDI category exam, in most states

C. Neither exam is required for wood-destroying insect work

D. The CORE and category exams test identical material in sequence

50. Which step comes first when an inspector finds an area obscured by dense exterior vegetation?

A. Inspect what is accessible and document the obstruction

B. Certify the obscured area as free of infestation

C. Treat the entire property blindly without inspecting

D. Ignore and omit the obscured area entirely

Practice Exam 12: Answer Key and Full Explanations

1. C — The opening steps are to gather property history, then inspect accessible areas, then document findings. History-gathering directs the inspection and is often required first, and documentation cannot precede the examination. This ordered sequence prevents missed findings.

2. C — The fumigation sequence is seal, introduce the gas, expose for the required period, then aerate before reentry. The other orders place the steps out of sequence. Correct ordering is critical to both effectiveness and safety.

3. B — The three C's in order are control, contain, clean up: control the source, contain the spread, then clean it up. The other orderings misplace the steps. Controlling the source first limits the spill's reach.

4. D — In the standard path, passing the CORE pesticide safety exam comes first, since it covers the foundation all applicators need. The category exam and field experience follow, and applying RUPs requires certification first. CORE is the starting point.

5. A — Equipment must be calibrated to the label rate before it is used to apply the termiticide, ensuring accurate application. Container disposal, report filing, and aeration occur at other stages. Calibration is the prerequisite to correct application.

6. C — The correct order is to identify the organism, break the tube to check activity, then document the finding. Treating or writing the report cannot precede identification and assessment. This sequence follows sound inspection logic.

7. D — When preparing a finished solution, measuring and mixing the concentrate per the label comes first. Calibration and application follow, and recordkeeping comes afterward. Accurate mixing is the starting point of preparation.

8. B — The life cycle proceeds: egg hatches to nymph, matures to alate, swarms, then pairs to found a colony. The other sequences scramble the stages. This ordered progression underlies colony founding.

9. D — Immediately after emptying a container, the correct step is to triple rinse it and add the rinsate to the tank. Discarding into a drain, burning, or reusing for water are unsafe and illegal. Triple rinsing prepares the container for disposal.

10. C — The bait process is: stations installed, foragers feed, toxicant shared through the colony, then the colony declines. The other orders are illogical. The sharing of the slow-acting toxicant is what drives colony decline.

11. A — The systematic inspection zones are commonly performed as exterior, interior, then substructure. Treating, certifying, or drilling are not inspection-zone steps. A consistent zone sequence prevents oversights.

12. A — Controlling the source to stop the spill comes first in spill response. Containing, cleaning up, and documenting follow. Acting on the source first limits the spread and exposure.

13. C — A non-repellent works in the order: termites tunnel through unaware, pick it up, then transfer it to nestmates via trophallaxis. They are not repelled or killed at the surface before transfer. This sequence achieves colony-wide control.

14. A — Before reentry after fumigation, the structure must be aerated, gas levels monitored, then confirmed safe to reenter. Reentering before confirming safe levels is dangerous. Confirming safety protects occupants from a lethal hazard.

15. D — Mixing and loading the concentrated product carries the highest exposure risk and demands full PPE, since the product is handled undiluted. Driving, filing records, and walking the property pose far lower risk. Protection peaks where exposure peaks.

16. D — From current to past, the report orders findings as active infestation, then previous infestation, then visible damage. The other orderings begin with non-current categories. Distinguishing current from past findings clarifies the report.

17. A — Before recommending treatment, the inspector must complete the inspection and document the findings. Treating, certifying, or disposing of containers are not prerequisites to a treatment recommendation. Findings must precede recommendations.

18. A — After molting, the worker's sequence is: molts, loses gut microbes, then reacquires them by trophallaxis. The other orders are biologically backward. This food-sharing keeps the colony's microbes circulating.

19. B — The signal words from lowest to highest acute toxicity are CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER. The other orderings misplace them. This ordering communicates relative hazard at a glance.

20. A — On an existing home, the steps are to trench along the foundation, rod the soil, then inject beneath the slab to reach hard-to-access areas. Aerating, tenting, and certifying are not part of building a continuous soil zone. These remedial methods achieve continuity.

21. D — In the two-exam structure, passing the CORE exam comes first for most candidates. Continuing education, renewal, and RUP application are not the starting step. CORE is the foundation before the category exam.

22. B — The correct response to a blocked area is to note the obstruction, document it as inaccessible, then state the reason. Treating blindly, removing finished walls, or skipping it silently are improper. Honest documentation protects both parties.

23. C — Pre-construction treatment treats the soil and wood during construction, before enclosure, while access is full. Treating after occupancy or fumigating a completed home are not pre-construction. Full access during construction is the key advantage.

24. D — The identification sequence is to observe the evidence, confirm the organism, then assess activity. Writing the report or treating cannot precede observation and confirmation. This disciplined order produces accurate identifications.

25. B — When a colony matures, it produces and releases winged alates in a swarm — the termites a homeowner most often sees. Workers, soldiers, and the queen do not produce this visible event. Swarming signals a mature colony nearby.

26. A — The mixing-to-application order is: measure concentrate, mix with water, calibrate, then apply at the label rate. The other orders are out of sequence. Following this order ensures accurate, label-compliant application.

27. D — Completing the diagram and written report comes last in a properly conducted inspection. Gathering history comes first, and examination and probing occur during the inspection. Documentation concludes the process.

28. C — Termite development proceeds egg, then nymph, then mature caste, reflecting incomplete metamorphosis with no pupal stage. The other orders are backward or include a nonexistent pupa. This is the correct developmental sequence.

29. B — In a real estate deal, a licensed inspector inspects, documents on the NPMA-33, then the lender relies on it. Issuing the loan first or guaranteeing the home are out of order. This sequence reflects how lender-required inspections work.

30. C — On arrival at a property with a known prior treatment, requesting the prior treatment and infestation history comes first. Drilling, preventive treatment, or certifying are not appropriate first steps. History-gathering directs the inspection.

31. D — To confirm activity, the inspector breaks the tube open, then checks for live termites or fresh repair. Photographing, measuring, or treating-and-waiting do not establish activity. Fresh repair confirms a living colony.

32. C — A slow-acting bait eliminates a colony in the order: foragers feed, survive, share the toxicant, then the colony declines. Killing foragers at the station or repelling them would defeat the method. Survival-then-sharing is the mechanism.

33. D — Before backfilling a treated trench, the applicator should verify continuous coverage of the treated zone. Disposal, report filing, and aeration occur at other times. Verifying continuity ensures the barrier has no exploitable gaps.

34. C — From current to least-current, findings order as active infestation, then previous infestation, then conducive conditions. The other orderings begin with non-current categories. This ordering reflects the relative immediacy of each finding.

35. D — After installation, the recurring step in a baiting program is periodic monitoring and replenishing of the bait. Removing stations, switching to soil treatment, or fumigating are not part of the program. Monitoring sustains colony elimination over time.

36. B — Safe mixing and loading proceeds: put on full PPE, measure accurately, then add product to water. Applying first, skipping PPE, or mixing in the cab are unsafe. This order protects the applicator during the highest-exposure step.

37. B — The regulatory chain runs: FIFRA sets the baseline, the EPA administers it, and states certify applicators. The other orders invert the hierarchy. This federal-to-state structure governs pesticide regulation.

38. A — Handling a conducive-condition finding begins with identifying the specific condition and its exact location. Guaranteeing the home, skipping documentation, or treating without recording are improper. Specific documentation is the first step.

39. D — Treatment selection pairs subterranean infestations with trenching or baiting, and widespread drywood infestations with fumigation. The other pairings mismatch organism and method. Matching method to organism and extent is the principle.

40. A — Before applying any restricted-use termiticide, the applicator must confirm certification or work under a certified applicator. Burning containers, removing PPE, or aerating are unrelated to this legal prerequisite. Certification is the gatekeeper for RUP application.

41. B — A carpenter bee's nesting proceeds: bore a round entry hole, then turn to tunnel along the grain. Ejecting pellets, building mud tubes, or releasing spores belong to other organisms. The round hole then grain-following tunnel is the carpenter bee pattern.

42. B — When active infestation and conducive conditions are found together, the first step is to treat the infestation and recommend correcting the conditions. Ignoring the conditions, leaving the infestation untreated, or declining the job all fall short. Addressing both protects the structure.

43. C — Documenting an inspection proceeds: inspect accessible areas, mark findings on the diagram, then write the report. Certifying or treating cannot precede inspection, and the report cannot precede the inspection. This order produces accurate documentation.

44. D — Subterranean termites reach above-ground wood by traveling from the soil through mud tubes to the wood. They do not fly to it, drop from the roof, or emerge from dry wood. The mud-tube route reflects their soil dependence.

45. C — The last step in proper disposal is triple rinsing containers and applying the rinsate at the label rate. Mixing more, pouring into a drain, or storing near food are improper. Triple rinsing properly concludes disposal.

46. B — To maximize evidence detection, the inspector examines the exterior, interior, and the high-yield substructure systematically. Skipping the substructure or inspecting only finished spaces misses evidence. The substructure, closest to soil, is especially productive.

47. C — Before treating soil near a well, the applicator reads and follows the label's precautions near wells. Pouring solution into the well, over-applying, or ignoring it all threaten the water supply. Label precautions protect the water source.

48. A — The worker caste's daily role is to forage for cellulose, feed nestmates, and maintain the galleries. Laying eggs, defending, flying out, or reproducing belong to other castes. The worker performs the colony's labor and causes the damage.

49. B — In most states, the CORE exam is taken first, then the WDI category exam. The category exam does not replace CORE, both are required for WDI work, and they test different material. This two-exam order is the standard path.

50. A — When an area is obscured by dense vegetation, the first step is to inspect what is accessible and document the obstruction. Certifying it clear, treating blindly, or omitting it are improper. Disclosing the limitation protects both parties and allows a recommendation to clear it for follow-up.