# PRACTICE EXAM 16 — WDI CATEGORY SIMULATION (50 QUESTIONS)

1. A pencil-width tube of soil and saliva running up a foundation wall belongs to which organism?

A. Drywood termites

B. Subterranean termites

C. Carpenter bees

D. Powderpost beetles

2. Six-sided fecal pellets ejected through small kick-out holes are produced by which organism?

A. Subterranean termites

B. Carpenter ants

C. Drywood termites

D. Wood-decay fungi

3. A perfectly round, finger-width hole bored into a bare deck railing belongs to which organism?

A. Subterranean termites

B. Drywood termites

C. Powderpost beetles

D. Carpenter bees

4. Clean, smooth galleries with coarse expelled debris containing insect fragments belong to which organism?

A. Subterranean termites

B. Drywood termites

C. Carpenter ants

D. Powderpost beetles

5. Small round exit holes with fine, flour-like frass belong to which organism?

A. Powderpost beetles

B. Subterranean termites

C. Carpenter ants

D. Carpenter bees

6. Wood that is browned and cracked into a cubical pattern is caused by which category of decay?

A. White rot

B. Soft rot

C. Brown rot

D. Surface mold

7. Wood that is bleached, stringy, and spongy is caused by which category of decay?

A. Brown rot

B. Soft rot

C. Surface mold

D. White rot

8. Surface discoloration of wood with no significant loss of structural strength belongs to which category?

A. Brown rot

B. White rot

C. Mold and stain fungi

D. Soft rot

9. A treatment that creates a continuous chemical zone in the soil belongs to which method category?

A. Whole-structure fumigation

B. Borate wood treatment

C. Physical barrier installation

D. Liquid soil termiticide

10. A whole-structure treatment using a sealed tent and toxic gas belongs to which method category?

A. Liquid soil termiticide

B. In-ground baiting

C. Borate wood treatment

D. Fumigation

11. A method using in-ground stations with a slow-acting toxicant belongs to which category?

A. Fumigation

B. Termite baiting

C. Liquid soil termiticide

D. Physical barrier

12. A boron-based product applied directly to wood belongs to which method category?

A. Fumigation

B. In-ground baiting

C. Liquid soil termiticide

D. Wood treatment

13. A finding of live termites actively feeding in a sill plate belongs to which report category?

A. Active infestation

B. Previous infestation

C. Conducive condition

D. Inaccessible area

14. A finding of old, abandoned galleries with no live insects belongs to which report category?

A. Active infestation

B. Previous infestation

C. Conducive condition

D. Inaccessible area

15. A finding of wood-to-ground contact at porch steps belongs to which report category?

A. Conducive condition

B. Active infestation

C. Previous infestation

D. Inaccessible area

16. A wall blocked from view by built-in cabinetry belongs to which report category?

A. Active infestation

B. Conducive condition

C. Inaccessible area

D. Previous infestation

17. A tube that runs as the main travel route between soil and wood is which type?

A. Exploratory tube

B. Drop tube

C. Swarming tube

D. Working tube

18. A tube that descends from infested wood toward the soil is which type?

A. Working tube

B. Drop tube

C. Exploratory tube

D. Swarming tube

19. A tube that projects from the soil seeking food and may reach nothing is which type?

A. Working tube

B. Drop tube

C. Swarming tube

D. Exploratory tube

20. The caste that forages for and consumes cellulose belongs to which group?

A. Worker

B. Soldier

C. Reproductive

D. Alate

21. The caste with an enlarged, hardened head and mandibles for defense belongs to which group?

A. Soldier

B. Worker

C. Queen

D. Alate

22. The winged caste that leaves to found new colonies belongs to which group?

A. Worker

B. Alate

C. Soldier

D. Nymph

23. Termiticide injected into the soil with a probe belongs to which application technique?

A. Trenching

B. Tenting

C. Fogging

D. Rodding

24. Digging a shallow trench along a foundation and treating the soil belongs to which technique?

A. Rodding

B. Tenting

C. Trenching

D. Fogging

25. The signal word indicating the highest acute toxicity belongs to which category?

A. CAUTION

B. WARNING

C. DANGER

D. NOTICE

26. The signal word indicating the lowest acute toxicity belongs to which category?

A. DANGER

B. CAUTION

C. WARNING

D. POISON

27. Absorption of pesticide through the skin belongs to which route of exposure?

A. Oral

B. Inhalation

C. Dermal

D. Ocular

28. The federal law governing pesticide registration and labeling belongs to which category?

A. OSHA

B. FIFRA

C. NPMA

D. WHMIS

29. The standardized wood-destroying insect inspection report form belongs to which category?

A. NPMA-33

B. Safety Data Sheet

C. Pesticide label

D. Business license

30. The document that legally dictates how a pesticide may be used belongs to which category?

A. Pesticide label

B. Inspection diagram

C. NPMA-33 form

D. Continuing-education certificate

31. A termite group that requires soil moisture and builds mud tubes belongs to which category?

A. Drywood termites

B. Subterranean termites

C. Dampwood termites

D. Powderpost beetles

32. A termite group that lives within dry wood and needs no soil contact belongs to which category?

A. Subterranean termites

B. Drywood termites

C. Dampwood termites

D. Formosan termites

33. A termite group that requires wet, decaying wood belongs to which category?

A. Subterranean termites

B. Drywood termites

C. Formosan termites

D. Dampwood termites

34. An invasive subterranean species that builds moisture-retaining carton nests belongs to which category?

A. Formosan subterranean termite

B. Eastern drywood termite

C. Common dampwood termite

D. Lyctid powderpost beetle

35. A treatment most appropriate for a single accessible drywood-infested beam belongs to which category?

A. Whole-structure fumigation

B. Localized wood treatment

C. Perimeter soil trenching

D. In-ground baiting

36. A treatment most appropriate for a widespread multi-floor drywood infestation belongs to which category?

A. Localized wood treatment

B. Perimeter soil trenching

C. Whole-structure fumigation

D. In-ground baiting

37. A treatment most appropriate for a subterranean infestation entering from the soil belongs to which category?

A. Whole-structure fumigation

B. Liquid soil termiticide or baiting

C. Localized beam injection

D. Crawlspace ventilation only

38. A symbiotic relationship allowing termites to digest cellulose belongs to which category?

A. Predation

B. Competition

C. Parasitism

D. Mutualism with gut microbes

39. The behavior of exchanging food and fluids among nestmates belongs to which category?

A. Swarming

B. Molting

C. Stridulation

D. Trophallaxis

40. A foundation type where termite entry is hidden in slab cracks and penetrations belongs to which category?

A. Open crawlspace

B. Unfinished basement

C. Slab-on-grade

D. Pier-and-beam with full access

41. A conducive condition where soil slopes toward the foundation belongs to which category?

A. Positive grade

B. Proper drainage

C. Negative grade

D. Adequate ventilation

42. A moisture-blocking ground cover installed over crawlspace soil belongs to which category?

A. Vapor barrier

B. Termite shield

C. Expansion joint

D. Carton liner

43. A metal barrier that forces termites into visible view belongs to which category?

A. Vapor barrier

B. Expansion joint

C. Termite shield

D. Weep screed

44. Pesticide vapors moving away from the target after the product evaporates belong to which category?

A. Vapor drift

B. Particle drift

C. Runoff

D. Leaching

45. Spray droplets carried away from the target by wind during application belong to which category?

A. Vapor drift

B. Particle drift

C. Leaching

D. Runoff

46. Treatment performed during construction while soil and wood are accessible belongs to which category?

A. Pre-construction treatment

B. Post-construction treatment

C. Remedial trenching

D. Sub-slab injection

47. Treatment performed on an existing home using trenching, rodding, and sub-slab injection belongs to which category?

A. Pre-construction treatment

B. Fumigation

C. Post-construction treatment

D. Physical barrier installation

48. Documented work under a licensed applicator before independent licensure belongs to which category?

A. Supervised experience

B. Continuing education

C. License renewal

D. Recertification

49. Periodic training credits required to keep a license current belong to which category?

A. Supervised experience

B. Continuing education

C. The CORE exam

D. The category exam

50. The exam covering universal pesticide safety knowledge for all applicators belongs to which category?

A. The WDI category exam

B. The state business license exam

C. The continuing-education renewal

D. The CORE exam

## Practice Exam 16: Answer Key and Full Explanations

1. B — A pencil-width tube of soil and saliva running up a foundation is the signature of subterranean termites, which build mud tubes to travel between soil and wood. Drywood termites and beetles do not build such tubes. The mud tube places this firmly in the subterranean category.

2. C — Six-sided fecal pellets ejected through kick-out holes are produced by drywood termites. Subterranean termites pack galleries with soil, and carpenter ants and fungi produce different signs. The pellets are the drywood signature.

3. D — A round, finger-width hole bored into bare wood is the signature of carpenter bees, which tunnel to nest. Termites and beetles produce different signs. The finger-width hole in bare wood places this in the carpenter bee category.

4. C — Clean, smooth galleries with coarse insect-part debris belong to carpenter ants, which excavate but do not eat wood. Subterranean galleries are soil-packed and drywood galleries contain pellets. Clean galleries with debris identify carpenter ants.

5. A — Small round exit holes with fine, flour-like frass belong to powderpost beetles, whose larvae powder the wood. Termites and carpenter bees produce different signs. The powdery frass with round holes identifies the beetle.

6. C — Wood browned and cracked into a cubical pattern is caused by brown rot, which destroys cellulose. White rot leaves bleached, stringy wood, and mold only discolors. The cubical cracking categorizes it as brown rot.

7. D — Wood that is bleached, stringy, and spongy is caused by white rot, which destroys both cellulose and lignin. Brown rot causes cubical cracking, and mold does not weaken wood. The stringy, bleached texture categorizes it as white rot.

8. C — Surface discoloration without structural strength loss belongs to mold and stain fungi. Brown, white, and soft rot are decay fungi that do weaken wood. Mold is a cosmetic and air-quality concern, not a structural one.

9. D — A continuous chemical zone in the soil is created by a liquid soil termiticide. Fumigation uses gas, borates treat wood, and barriers are physical. The soil zone categorizes it as a liquid soil termiticide.

10. D — A whole-structure treatment using a sealed tent and toxic gas is fumigation. Soil termiticides, baiting, and borate treatments work differently. The tent-and-gas approach categorizes it as fumigation.

11. B — In-ground stations with a slow-acting toxicant define termite baiting. Fumigation, soil termiticides, and physical barriers are other categories. The monitored stations categorize it as baiting.

12. D — A boron-based product applied directly to wood is a wood treatment. Fumigation, baiting, and soil termiticides target other points. Treating the wood itself categorizes it as a wood treatment.

13. A — Live termites actively feeding in a sill plate is active infestation. Previous infestation, conducive conditions, and inaccessible areas are different categories. Current live activity categorizes it as active infestation.

14. B — Old, abandoned galleries with no live insects are previous infestation. Active infestation involves live activity, and conducive conditions and inaccessible areas differ. Past, inactive evidence categorizes it as previous infestation.

15. A — Wood-to-ground contact at porch steps is a conducive condition that favors infestation without being one. It is not active or previous infestation, nor an inaccessible area. The risk factor categorizes it as a conducive condition.

16. C — A wall blocked by built-in cabinetry is an inaccessible area that cannot be examined. It is not infestation or a conducive condition. The obstruction categorizes it as an inaccessible area.

17. D — The main travel route between soil and wood is a working tube. Exploratory, drop, and swarming tubes serve other functions. The soil-to-wood route categorizes it as a working tube.

18. B — A tube descending from infested wood toward the soil is a drop tube. Working tubes connect soil to wood, exploratory tubes seek food, and swarming tubes launch alates. The downward descent categorizes it as a drop tube.

19. D — A tube projecting from the soil seeking food that may reach nothing is an exploratory tube. Working, drop, and swarming tubes serve other purposes. The food-seeking projection categorizes it as an exploratory tube.

20. A — The caste that forages for and consumes cellulose is the worker. Soldiers defend, and reproductives and alates found colonies. The foraging-and-feeding role categorizes it as the worker.

21. A — The caste with an enlarged, hardened head and mandibles for defense is the soldier. Workers labor, the queen reproduces, and alates found colonies. The defensive head categorizes it as the soldier.

22. B — The winged caste that leaves to found new colonies is the alate. Workers and soldiers are wingless, and the nymph is an immature stage. The winged, colony-founding role categorizes it as the alate.

23. D — Termiticide injected into the soil with a probe is rodding. Trenching digs a trench, tenting seals for fumigation, and fogging disperses mist. The probe injection categorizes it as rodding.

24. C — Digging a shallow trench along a foundation and treating the soil is trenching. Rodding injects with a probe, tenting seals for fumigation, and fogging disperses mist. The trench categorizes it as trenching.

25. C — The signal word indicating the highest acute toxicity is DANGER. CAUTION and WARNING mark lower toxicity, and NOTICE is not a signal word. DANGER categorizes the most hazardous products.

26. B — The signal word indicating the lowest acute toxicity is CAUTION. WARNING and DANGER mark higher toxicity, and POISON accompanies the most toxic. CAUTION categorizes the least hazardous products.

27. C — Absorption of pesticide through the skin is dermal exposure, the most common route for applicators. Oral, inhalation, and ocular are other routes. Skin absorption categorizes it as dermal exposure.

28. B — The federal law governing pesticide registration and labeling is FIFRA. OSHA, NPMA, and WHMIS address other areas. FIFRA categorizes the governing pesticide law.

29. A — The standardized wood-destroying insect inspection report form is the NPMA-33. The SDS, label, and business license serve other purposes. The NPMA-33 categorizes the inspection report form.

30. A — The document that legally dictates how a pesticide may be used is the pesticide label. The diagram, NPMA-33, and CE certificate serve other purposes. The label categorizes the legally binding use document.

31. B — A termite group requiring soil moisture and building mud tubes is the subterranean termite. Drywood termites need no soil, dampwood need wet wood, and beetles are not termites. Soil dependence categorizes it as subterranean.

32. B — A termite group living within dry wood and needing no soil contact is the drywood termite. Subterranean and dampwood termites depend on moisture, and Formosan termites are subterranean. The dry-wood, no-soil trait categorizes it as drywood.

33. D — A termite group requiring wet, decaying wood is the dampwood termite. Subterranean and Formosan termites depend on soil moisture, and drywood termites need no moisture. The wet-wood requirement categorizes it as dampwood.

34. A — An invasive subterranean species building moisture-retaining carton nests is the Formosan subterranean termite. Drywood, dampwood, and beetles do not build carton nests. The carton nest categorizes it as Formosan.

35. B — A treatment for a single accessible drywood beam is localized wood treatment. Fumigation, trenching, and baiting are excessive or aimed at other organisms. Matching scope to the beam categorizes it as localized treatment.

36. C — A treatment for a widespread multi-floor drywood infestation is whole-structure fumigation. Localized treatment, trenching, and baiting cannot reach distributed colonies. Whole-structure reach categorizes it as fumigation.

37. B — A treatment for a subterranean soil-entry infestation is a liquid soil termiticide or baiting. Fumigation and localized injection target other organisms or points. Soil-focused control categorizes it as termiticide or baiting.

38. D — A relationship allowing termites to digest cellulose is mutualism with gut microbes. It is not predation, competition, or parasitism. The mutual benefit categorizes it as mutualism.

39. D — The exchange of food and fluids among nestmates is trophallaxis. Swarming, molting, and stridulation are other behaviors. The food-sharing categorizes it as trophallaxis.

40. C — A foundation where termite entry hides in slab cracks and penetrations is slab-on-grade. Crawlspaces and basements allow more direct access. The hidden slab entry categorizes it as slab-on-grade.

41. C — Soil sloping toward the foundation is negative grade, a conducive condition. Positive grade slopes away, and proper drainage and ventilation are corrective. Sloping toward the structure categorizes it as negative grade.

42. A — A moisture-blocking ground cover over crawlspace soil is a vapor barrier. A termite shield, expansion joint, and carton liner serve other purposes. Blocking soil moisture categorizes it as a vapor barrier.

43. C — A metal barrier forcing termites into visible view is a termite shield. A vapor barrier, expansion joint, and weep screed serve other purposes. Forcing visible activity categorizes it as a termite shield.

44. A — Pesticide vapors moving away after the product evaporates is vapor drift. Particle drift involves droplets during application, and runoff and leaching involve liquids. Post-volatilization movement categorizes it as vapor drift.

45. B — Spray droplets carried by wind during application is particle drift. Vapor drift occurs after volatilization, and leaching and runoff involve liquids. Droplet movement during application categorizes it as particle drift.

46. A — Treatment during construction while soil and wood are accessible is pre-construction treatment. Post-construction work navigates finished construction. Full-access timing categorizes it as pre-construction.

47. C — Treatment on an existing home using trenching, rodding, and sub-slab injection is post-construction treatment. Pre-construction occurs before enclosure, and fumigation and barriers differ. Remedial methods categorize it as post-construction.

48. A — Documented work under a licensed applicator before independent licensure is supervised experience. Continuing education, renewal, and recertification maintain an existing credential. Pre-licensure field work categorizes it as supervised experience.

49. B — Periodic training credits to keep a license current are continuing education. Supervised experience precedes licensure, and the CORE and category exams are licensing tests. Ongoing credits categorize it as continuing education.

50. D — The exam covering universal pesticide safety knowledge for all applicators is the CORE exam. The WDI category exam covers specialty knowledge, and the business license and CE renewal are separate. Universal safety content categorizes it as the CORE exam.