

PRACTICE EXAM 20— WDI CATEGORY

SIMULATION (50 QUESTIONS)

1. An inspector finds an active subterranean infestation in a home with a drinking-water well 15 feet from the foundation. The treatment plan must satisfy both control and regulatory needs. What is the best approach?

- A. Use a labeled soil termiticide or baiting while observing the label's well-setback precautions
- B. Apply extra termiticide near the well to ensure the colony dies
- C. Fumigate the whole structure to avoid treating the soil near the well
- D. Decline treatment because a well is present on the property

2. A mature colony swarms indoors, and the inspector must explain both why it happened and what threat remains. Which explanation is fully correct?

- A. The colony is mature enough to produce alates, and the hidden workers continue the damage
- B. The swarmers caused the damage, so removing them ends the problem
- C. The swarm proves the home has no established colony
- D. The swarmers are workers that will keep eating the wood

3. An inspector must choose a treatment for a drywood infestation confined to one accessible beam while keeping cost proportionate and the label satisfied. Which choice is best?

- A. Whole-structure fumigation applied at twice the label rate
- B. A localized or direct wood treatment applied per the label
- C. A continuous soil trench around the entire foundation
- D. Improved ventilation with no product applied

4. A product carries the signal word DANGER and an LD50 of 30 mg/kg. The inspector must explain what these together indicate. Which statement is correct?

- A. The product is the least toxic class and needs no special care
- B. The high LD50 number means it is safe to handle without PPE
- C. DANGER conflicts with the LD50, so the label is in error
- D. Both the low LD50 and the DANGER signal word indicate high acute toxicity

5. An inspector finds soil-lined galleries following the grain in a sill plate and must both identify the organism and recommend the matching treatment. Which pairing is correct?

- A. Subterranean termites; a soil termiticide or baiting program
- B. Drywood termites; whole-structure fumigation
- C. Carpenter ants; localized wood treatment
- D. Powderpost beetles; surface borate only

6. A homeowner with a clean inspection and a chronic crawlspace leak asks for the most protective long-term outcome. What should the inspector advise?

- A. A termite-free guarantee since the inspection was clean
- B. Correcting the moisture even though no infestation was found
- C. Applying a preventive whole-structure fumigation
- D. No action, since no termites are currently present

7. An inspector must distinguish brown rot from white rot in a report and explain the shared prerequisite. Which statement is fully correct?

- A. Brown rot leaves stringy wood; white rot cracks it cubically; neither needs moisture
- B. Both look identical and neither requires moisture to grow
- C. Brown rot bleaches wood; white rot browns it; both avoid moisture
- D. Brown rot cracks wood cubically; white rot leaves it bleached and stringy; both require moisture

8. An applicator must mix a 0.5% finished solution for a 300-gallon tank and identify the highest-exposure moment. Which statement combines both correctly?

- A. 3 gallons of concentrate; application is the highest-exposure step
- B. 1.5 gallons of concentrate; storage is the highest-exposure step
- C. 6 gallons of concentrate; recordkeeping is the highest-exposure step
- D. 1.5 gallons of concentrate; mixing and loading is the highest-exposure step

9. An inspector finds clean galleries with coarse debris in moisture-softened wood and must identify the organism and its key contrast with termites. Which is correct?

- A. Drywood termites; they need no moisture and leave pellets
- B. Carpenter ants; they excavate to nest but do not eat the wood
- C. Subterranean termites; they line galleries with soil
- D. Powderpost beetles; their larvae leave flour-like frass

10. A candidate wants to perform restricted-use WDI treatments independently and must satisfy the full credentialing path. What is required?

- A. Passing the CORE and category exams and meeting experience requirements
- B. Passing only the CORE exam to handle any pesticide
- C. Holding a business license with no examinations
- D. Completing continuing education before any initial exam

11. An inspector notes a mud tube and must both confirm activity and document the finding correctly. Which sequence is correct?

- A. Photograph the intact tube, then certify the home as active
- B. Measure the tube, then record it as a previous infestation
- C. Break the tube to check for live termites or fresh repair, then record active infestation if found

D. Treat the tube first, then decide whether it was active

12. A non-repellent termiticide is chosen for colony elimination, and the inspector must explain the biological mechanism that makes it work. Which explanation is correct?

A. Termites detect and avoid it, starving the colony

B. It kills every termite instantly at the soil surface

C. It repels termites permanently from the structure

D. Termites tunnel through it unaware and transfer it via trophallaxis

13. An inspector finds six-sided pellets in an upstairs room with no soil contact anywhere and must identify the organism and explain its reach. Which is correct?

A. Subterranean termites, which built hidden mud tubes upstairs

B. Drywood termites, which need no soil and live within the wood

C. Dampwood termites, which require saturated wood upstairs

D. Carpenter ants, which carried soil to the upper floor

14. An applicator must treat an existing slab home's perimeter and ensure a continuous zone despite the slab. Which combination of techniques is appropriate?

A. Trenching around the foundation plus rodding and sub-slab injection at penetrations

B. Tenting the structure and introducing fumigant gas

C. Surface spraying the slab top only

D. Installing a vapor barrier over the living-room floor

15. A report must classify three findings: live termites in a joist, abandoned galleries in a stud, and wood-to-ground contact at a porch. Which classification set is correct?

A. All three are active infestations

- B. All three are conducive conditions
- C. Active infestation, conducive condition, previous infestation, respectively
- D. Active infestation, previous infestation, conducive condition, respectively

16. An inspector must explain why a "termite-free" guarantee cannot be given even after a thorough inspection. Which explanation is fully correct?

- A. Because guarantees raise the inspection fee unfairly
- B. Because federal law specifically bans the word "guarantee"
- C. Because termites rarely infest homes anyway
- D. Because the inspection is visual and limited to accessible areas as of that date

17. A homeowner asks how termites digest wood and why disrupting molting matters. Which combined explanation is correct?

- A. Gut microbes digest the cellulose, and termites reacquire these microbes after molting via trophallaxis
- B. Termites digest cellulose with their own enzymes and need no microbes
- C. Termites digest lignin, not cellulose, and molting is irrelevant
- D. Termites feed on fungus and do not rely on gut microbes

18. An inspector must select the correct organism for a round, finger-width hole in a bare deck rail with a secondary woodpecker problem. Which identification and secondary cause are correct?

- A. Subterranean termites; secondary mud tubes
- B. Carpenter bees; woodpeckers foraging for the larvae
- C. Drywood termites; secondary six-sided pellets
- D. Powderpost beetles; secondary flour-like frass

19. An applicator finds the equipment delivering 6 gallons per 10 feet when the label maximum is 4, and must act within the law. What is correct?

- A. Apply the 6-gallon rate since more product improves control
- B. Recalibrate to deliver no more than the labeled 4 gallons per 10 feet
- C. Apply 8 gallons to finish the job faster
- D. Continue, because calibration permits exceeding the label

20. An inspector must explain why the substructure is the highest-yield inspection zone and tie it to termite biology. Which explanation is correct?

- A. It holds the home's most valuable finishes
- B. It is the only place drywood termites can live
- C. It is simply the quickest area to inspect
- D. It sits closest to the soil, the main subterranean entry route

21. A coastal home shows a fast-spreading subterranean infestation with an above-ground carton nest, and the inspector must name the species and its defining traits. Which is correct?

- A. Eastern drywood termite; needs no soil contact
- B. Common dampwood termite; lives only in wet logs
- C. Lyctid powderpost beetle; leaves flour-like frass
- D. Formosan subterranean termite; huge colonies and carton nests

22. An inspector must distinguish particle drift from vapor drift while planning a windy-day application. Which statement is correct and what should be done?

- A. Particle drift is vapor after evaporation; spray freely
- B. Vapor drift is droplets during spraying; ignore the wind
- C. Particle drift is droplet movement during application; stop or adjust to prevent off-target spray

D. The two are identical, so no adjustment is needed

23. A report must convey that a conducive condition is present without overstating the situation. Which statement does this correctly?

- A. The conducive condition proves an active infestation exists
- B. The conducive condition is the same as a previous infestation
- C. The conducive condition favors infestation but is not itself an infestation
- D. The conducive condition guarantees termites will never appear

24. An applicator must store pesticide, transport it safely, and dispose of empties correctly. Which set of practices is fully correct?

- A. Store near food, transport loose in the cab, discard empties in a drain
- B. Store anywhere dry, transport unsecured, burn empties on site
- C. Store with feed, transport in the trunk with food, reuse empties for water
- D. Store away from food, secure during transport, triple-rinse empties with rinsate to the tank

25. An inspector must tell termites from ants using the most reliable features, not color. Which combination is correct?

- A. Pinched waist and bent antennae indicate a termite
- B. Equal wings and bent antennae indicate an ant
- C. Broad waist, straight antennae, and equal-length wings indicate a termite
- D. Body color is the single most reliable distinguishing feature

26. A drywood infestation is found distributed across three floors, and the inspector must match the treatment to the extent and explain why localized methods fail. Which is correct?

- A. Localized beam injection, because it reaches all floors

- B. Soil trenching, because drywood termites enter from soil
- C. Whole-structure fumigation, because the gas reaches hidden, distributed galleries
- D. Ventilation improvement, because it dries out the colonies

27. An inspector must explain the federal-state regulatory relationship to a client comparing two states' rules. Which explanation is correct?

- A. FIFRA sets a federal baseline, the EPA administers it, and states may be stricter
- B. A single national license governs every state identically
- C. The EPA issues each applicator's individual license directly
- D. States may set requirements weaker than the federal baseline

28. An applicator must select between a CAUTION product and a DANGER product of equal efficacy and justify the choice on safety. Which is correct?

- A. The DANGER product, because the stronger word means it works better
- B. The CAUTION product, because it has the lower acute toxicity
- C. Either, because signal words are unrelated to toxicity
- D. The DANGER product, because it is the less toxic of the two

29. An inspector finds an area blocked by built-in cabinetry and must handle it correctly in the report. What is the proper action?

- A. Certify the concealed area as termite-free
- B. Remove the cabinetry to inspect behind it
- C. Document the area as inaccessible and state the reason
- D. Treat the area blindly and note it as treated

30. A homeowner asks why bait stations work slowly and how the toxicant reaches termites that never visit them. Which combined explanation is correct?

- A. The bait emits a gas that travels to distant termites
- B. Every termite must visit the station directly
- C. Slow action lets foragers survive and share the toxicant via trophallaxis
- D. The bait repels distant termites toward the station

31. An inspector must explain why moisture is called the master conducive condition and name the one exception. Which statement is correct?

- A. Moisture favors no wood-destroying organisms
- B. Moisture deters all wood-destroying organisms equally
- C. Moisture favors only drywood termites
- D. Moisture favors nearly all wood-destroying organisms except drywood termites

32. An applicator must use up leftover diluted solution and clean the empty container lawfully. Which combination is correct?

- A. Apply the leftover at the labeled rate on the labeled site, then triple-rinse the container into the tank
- B. Pour the leftover into a storm drain, then discard the container
- C. Store the leftover by food, then reuse the container for water
- D. Burn the leftover and the container together on site

33. An inspector must classify a finding of soil-streaked hollowing beneath intact paint and explain the lesson about surface inspection. Which is correct?

- A. The paint proves the wood beneath is sound
- B. Only drywood termites can damage painted wood
- C. Subterranean termites leave a thin shell, so sounding and probing are needed
- D. Surface appearance alone reliably indicates damage

34. A report must record both an active infestation and the conducive condition feeding it, and recommend action. Which approach is correct?

- A. Document both findings and recommend treatment plus moisture correction
- B. Document only the infestation to keep the report short
- C. Document only the conducive condition and skip the infestation
- D. Merge both into a single previous-infestation entry

35. An inspector must explain why a termite shield does not exclude termites and what it actually does. Which statement is correct?

- A. It chemically kills termites that contact it
- B. It forces termites into the open where they can be seen
- C. It permanently seals all entry into the structure
- D. It mainly adds structural support to the floor framing

36. An applicator treating near a well must protect groundwater while still controlling the infestation. Which approach is correct?

- A. Follow the label's well-setback and runoff precautions while applying the labeled treatment
- B. Apply double the rate near the well for stronger protection
- C. Pour rinsate into the well to dispose of it efficiently
- D. Skip treatment entirely because groundwater is nearby

37. An inspector must explain why an old, crumbling tube and a quickly rebuilt tube lead to different report categories. Which explanation is correct?

- A. Both indicate active infestation regardless of repair
- B. The crumbling tube suggests previous activity; the rebuilt tube indicates active infestation
- C. Both indicate previous infestation regardless of repair

D. Tube condition has no bearing on activity status

38. A candidate must understand how the CORE and category exams divide the required knowledge. Which statement is correct?

A. The category exam covers universal safety for all applicators

B. The CORE exam covers WDI identification only

C. CORE covers universal pesticide safety; the category exam covers WDI specialty knowledge

D. The two exams test identical content in sequence

39. An inspector must match each sign to its organism: mud tubes, six-sided pellets, and flour-like frass. Which set is correct?

A. Carpenter ants, drywood termites, carpenter bees

B. Drywood termites, subterranean termites, carpenter bees

C. Subterranean termites, carpenter bees, powderpost beetles

D. Subterranean termites, drywood termites, powderpost beetles

40. An applicator must apply exactly the labeled rate and explain why neither more nor less is acceptable. Which statement is correct?

A. More product is always safer and more effective

B. Applying exactly at the labeled rate is both legally required and effective

C. Less product than labeled is always the safer legal choice

D. The labeled rate is a rough suggestion open to adjustment

41. An inspector must explain why a slab-on-grade home is harder to inspect for entry than a crawlspace home, tying it to termite behavior. Which is correct?

A. Termites can enter hidden through slab cracks and penetrations

- B. The slab exposes all structural wood for easy viewing
- C. A slab has no penetrations for termites to use
- D. A crawlspace is always harder to inspect than a slab

42. A homeowner asks whether a free inspection from a treatment-selling company will satisfy their lender, and why. Which explanation is correct?

- A. It may not, because the report comes from an interested party with potential bias
- B. It always will, because free inspections are the most thorough
- C. It will not, because handwritten reports are illegal
- D. It may not, because the report would be too detailed to use

43. An inspector must select the treatment for a subterranean infestation entering from soil and explain why fumigation is wrong here. Which is correct?

- A. Fumigation, because the gas reaches the soil colony
- B. Ventilation, because drying the soil kills the termites
- C. Soil termiticide or baiting, because fumigation targets drywood, not soil entry
- D. Localized beam injection, because it treats the soil colony

44. A report must document inaccessible areas correctly and explain the protection this provides. Which statement is correct?

- A. Documenting them guarantees those areas are pest-free
- B. Documenting them lets the inspector skip the written report
- C. Documenting them certifies the structure as fully clear
- D. Documenting them discloses the inspection's limits and reduces liability

45. An inspector must explain how trophallaxis serves both colony biology and modern control. Which combined explanation is correct?

- A. It enables flight during swarming and blocks bait spread
- B. It only shares food and plays no role in control
- C. It circulates gut microbes and food, and also spreads baits and non-repellents
- D. It eliminates the colony's need to consume cellulose

46. An applicator must rank the signal words and tie the ranking to handling care. Which statement is correct?

- A. DANGER, WARNING, CAUTION reflect increasing toxicity
- B. CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER reflect increasing toxicity and required care
- C. CAUTION marks the most toxic, requiring the most care
- D. The signal words are unrelated to the level of care needed

47. An inspector finds wood that is bleached, stringy, and spongy near a long-resolved leak and must report the cause and any residual concern. Which is correct?

- A. Brown rot; no residual concern once the leak is dry
- B. Carpenter ants; recommend baiting the colony
- C. White rot fungus; document the damage and confirm the moisture source is resolved
- D. Drywood termites; recommend whole-structure fumigation

48. A homeowner insists prior treatment makes the home permanently safe, but the inspector finds fresh mud tubes. Which response is both accurate and professional?

- A. Report the active infestation, since prior treatment does not guarantee freedom from termites
- B. Certify the home based on the prior treatment record
- C. Assume the tubes are old and omit them from the report
- D. Tell the client the prior treatment makes new tubes impossible

49. An inspector must explain why supervised field experience is required in addition to the written exam. Which explanation is correct?

- A. Experience replaces the need to pass the written exam
- B. The written exam alone cannot fully confirm practical field competence
- C. Experience exempts the applicant from continuing education
- D. The written exam by itself confirms all hands-on skill

50. An inspector must give the most complete account of why a colony keeps damaging wood after a visible swarm ends. Which explanation is correct?

- A. The swarmers return to the wood and resume feeding
- B. The hidden workers remain and continue consuming cellulose
- C. The swarm itself caused all the damage, which now stops
- D. The soldiers take over wood consumption after the swarm

Practice Exam 20: Answer Key and Full Explanations

1. A — A labeled soil termiticide or baiting program, applied while observing the label's well-setback precautions, satisfies both control and groundwater protection. Applying extra near the well, fumigating, or declining are improper or excessive. The label reconciles effective control with water safety.

2. A — The colony is mature enough to produce alates, and the hidden workers continue the damage after the swarm ends. The swarmers do not cause the damage, the swarm does not prove the home is clear, and swarmers are not workers. Maturity explains the swarm; the workers explain the ongoing threat.

3. B — A localized or direct wood treatment applied per the label is proportionate for a single accessible drywood beam. Fumigation at twice the rate is illegal and excessive, a full soil trench targets subterranean termites, and ventilation does not eliminate the colony. Matching scope to infestation controls cost and stays legal.

4. D — Both the low LD50 of 30 mg/kg and the DANGER signal word indicate high acute toxicity. A low LD50 means a small dose is lethal, the two indicators agree rather than conflict, and PPE is required. They consistently flag a highly toxic product.

5. A — Soil-lined galleries following the grain identify subterranean termites, treated with a soil termiticide or baiting program. Drywood, carpenter ant, and beetle pairings do not fit soil-lined galleries. The soil lining ties the organism to the matching soil-focused treatment.

6. B — The most protective long-term outcome is correcting the moisture even though no infestation was found, since the leak is a conducive condition inviting future infestation. A guarantee is unsupportable, preventive fumigation is excessive, and inaction leaves the risk. Correcting conducive conditions is sound prevention.

7. D — Brown rot cracks wood cubically, white rot leaves it bleached and stringy, and both require moisture. The other options swap the patterns or deny the moisture requirement. Correctly pairing each rot to its pattern, with moisture as the shared prerequisite, is the key distinction.

8. D — A 0.5% solution for 300 gallons needs $0.005 \times 300 = 1.5$ gallons of concentrate, and mixing and loading is the highest-exposure step. Application, storage, and recordkeeping are lower-risk, and the other concentrate figures are wrong. The concentrated handling at mixing drives the exposure risk.

9. B — Clean galleries with coarse debris in moisture-softened wood identify carpenter ants, which excavate to nest but do not eat the wood. Drywood termites leave pellets, subterranean termites line galleries with soil, and beetles leave fine frass. Not eating wood is the key contrast with termites.

10. A — Independent restricted-use WDI work requires passing both the CORE and category exams and meeting experience requirements. CORE alone is insufficient, a business license does not replace exams, and continuing education follows initial licensure. The full path combines both exams and field experience.

11. C — The correct sequence is to break the tube to check for live termites or fresh repair, then record an active infestation if found. Photographing, measuring, or treating first do not establish activity. Confirming activity precedes the report classification.

12. D — A non-repellent works because termites tunnel through it unaware and transfer it via trophallaxis. They are not repelled, it does not kill instantly, and it does not permanently repel. Undetectable transfer is the mechanism behind colony elimination.

13. B — Six-sided pellets with no soil contact anywhere identify drywood termites, which need no soil and live within the wood. Subterranean and dampwood termites depend on moisture or soil, and carpenter ants do not produce pellets. Independence from soil explains their upstairs reach.

14. A — A continuous zone on an existing slab home requires trenching around the foundation plus rodding and sub-slab injection at penetrations. Tenting targets drywood, surface spraying the slab top is inadequate, and a living-room vapor barrier is unrelated. These methods reach the soil beneath and around the slab.

15. C — The findings classify as active infestation (live termites in a joist), conducive condition (wood-to-ground contact), and previous infestation (abandoned galleries), matching option C's set. The other options miscategorize one or more findings. Each finding belongs to a distinct report category.

16. D — A termite-free guarantee cannot be given because the inspection is visual and limited to accessible areas as of that date. It is not about fees, a specific legal ban on the word, or termite rarity. Access and timing limits make a guarantee unworkable.

17. A — Gut microbes digest the cellulose, and termites reacquire these microbes after molting via trophallaxis. They do not use their own enzymes alone, digest lignin instead, or feed on fungus. The microbial partnership, maintained through food-sharing, is essential.

18. B — A round, finger-width hole in bare wood with a woodpecker problem identifies carpenter bees, with woodpeckers foraging for the larvae. Termites and beetles produce different signs. Woodpecker activity commonly follows carpenter bee infestation.

19. B — With the equipment delivering 6 gallons per 10 feet against a 4-gallon maximum, the applicator must recalibrate to no more than the labeled rate. Applying 6 or 8 gallons or continuing all violate the label. Calibration enforces the legal maximum.

20. D — The substructure is the highest-yield zone because it sits closest to the soil, the main subterranean entry route. It is not about valuable finishes, drywood habitat, or speed. Proximity to soil ties the zone to termite biology.

21. D — A fast-spreading coastal subterranean infestation with an above-ground carton nest identifies the Formosan subterranean termite, known for huge colonies and carton nests. Drywood, dampwood, and beetle options do not fit. The carton nest is the Formosan signature.

22. C — Particle drift is droplet movement during application, and on a windy day the applicator should stop or adjust to prevent off-target spray. It is not vapor after evaporation, and the wind cannot be ignored. Distinguishing drift types guides safe application.

23. C — The correct statement is that a conducive condition favors infestation but is not itself an infestation. It does not prove active infestation, equal previous infestation, or guarantee freedom from termites. Reporting it accurately avoids overstatement.

24. D — The fully correct practices are to store away from food, secure the product during transport, and triple-rinse empties with rinsate added to the tank. The other options describe unsafe, illegal handling. Proper storage, transport, and disposal protect people and the environment.

25. C — A broad waist, straight antennae, and equal-length wings reliably indicate a termite. A pinched waist with bent antennae indicates an ant, and color is unreliable. Structural features, not color, distinguish the two.

26. C — A drywood infestation across three floors warrants whole-structure fumigation because the gas reaches hidden, distributed galleries. Localized injection, soil trenching, and ventilation cannot reach distributed colonies. Distribution drives the choice of fumigation.

27. A — FIFRA sets a federal baseline, the EPA administers it, and states may be stricter. There is no single national license, the EPA does not issue individual licenses, and states may not fall below the baseline. The federal floor may be exceeded but not undercut.

28. B — The CAUTION product is the safer choice because it has the lower acute toxicity of the two equally effective products. A stronger signal word does not mean better performance, signal words do relate to toxicity, and DANGER is the more toxic. Choosing lower toxicity reduces risk.

29. C — An area blocked by built-in cabinetry should be documented as inaccessible with the reason stated. Certifying it clear, removing the cabinetry, or treating blindly are improper. Honest disclosure of the limitation is correct.

30. C — Bait toxicants act slowly so foragers survive and share the toxicant via trophallaxis, reaching termites that never visit the station. They do not emit a gas, require every termite to visit, or repel distant termites. Slow action plus food-sharing enables colony-wide control.

31. D — Moisture is the master conducive condition because it favors nearly all wood-destroying organisms except drywood termites. It does not favor none, deter all, or favor only drywood termites. Drywood termites are the moisture exception.

32. A — Leftover diluted solution should be applied at the labeled rate on the labeled site, after which the empty container is triple-rinsed into the tank. Draining, storing by food, or burning are unsafe and illegal. Both steps follow proper use-and-disposal procedure.

33. C — Soil-streaked hollowing beneath intact paint shows that subterranean termites leave a thin shell, so sounding and probing are needed. Paint does not prove soundness, this is not drywood-only damage, and surface appearance is unreliable. Probing reveals the hidden damage.

34. A — The correct approach is to document both the active infestation and the conducive condition and recommend treatment plus moisture correction. Documenting only one, or merging them as previous infestation, misrepresents the findings. Addressing both protects the structure.

35. B — A termite shield forces termites into the open where they can be seen, rather than excluding them. It does not kill chemically, seal entry permanently, or provide structural support. Its value lies in aiding detection.

36. A — Treating near a well requires following the label's well-setback and runoff precautions while applying the labeled treatment. Doubling the rate, pouring rinsate into the well, or skipping treatment are improper. The label reconciles control with groundwater protection.

37. B — A crumbling tube with no repair suggests previous activity, while a quickly rebuilt tube indicates active infestation. Both are not uniformly active or previous, and tube condition does bear on activity. Rebuilding distinguishes the two categories.

38. C — CORE covers universal pesticide safety, while the category exam covers WDI specialty knowledge. The category exam does not cover universal safety, CORE is not WDI-only, and the two do not duplicate content. They divide the required knowledge between them.

39. D — Mud tubes indicate subterranean termites, six-sided pellets indicate drywood termites, and flour-like frass indicates powderpost beetles. The other sets misassign one or more signs. Matching each sign to its organism is core identification.

40. B — Applying exactly at the labeled rate is both legally required and effective. More product is not safer, less is not automatically safer in law, and the rate is not a loose suggestion. The labeled rate is the legal and effective standard.

41. A — A slab-on-grade home is harder to inspect because termites can enter hidden through slab cracks and penetrations. The slab does not expose all wood or lack penetrations, and a crawlspace is generally more inspectable. Concealed entry is the slab's inspection challenge.

42. A — A free inspection from a treatment seller may not satisfy a lender because the report comes from an interested party with potential bias. It is not the most thorough by virtue of being free, handwritten reports are not illegal, and the concern is bias, not excess detail. The conflict of interest undermines credibility.

43. C — A subterranean soil-entry infestation calls for a soil termiticide or baiting, because fumigation targets drywood, not soil entry. Fumigation, ventilation, and localized beam injection do not address the soil colony. Treatment must match the organism and entry route.

44. D — Documenting inaccessible areas discloses the inspection's limits and reduces liability. It does not guarantee those areas are pest-free, allow skipping the report, or certify the structure clear. Honest disclosure is the protection.

45. C — Trophallaxis circulates gut microbes and food among nestmates and also spreads baits and non-repellents through the colony. It does not enable flight, block bait spread, or remove the need to eat cellulose. The same food-sharing serves both biology and control.

46. B — The signal words rank CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER by increasing toxicity and required care. The order is not reversed, CAUTION is not the most toxic, and the words do relate to care. Higher toxicity demands greater handling caution.

47. C — Bleached, stringy, spongy wood near a resolved leak indicates white rot fungus; the inspector documents the damage and confirms the moisture source is resolved. It is not brown rot, carpenter ants, or drywood termites, and residual damage still matters. White rot signals a moisture history requiring evaluation.

48. A — The accurate, professional response is to report the active infestation, since prior treatment does not guarantee freedom from termites. Certifying on the prior record, omitting the tubes, or claiming new tubes are impossible are all wrong. Current evidence governs the finding.

49. B — Supervised field experience is required because the written exam alone cannot fully confirm practical field competence. Experience does not replace the exam, exempt continuing education, or render the exam sufficient by itself. Field time confirms real-world ability.

50. B — The most complete account is that the hidden workers remain and continue consuming cellulose after a swarm ends. The swarmers do not return to feed, the swarm did not cause all the damage, and soldiers do not consume wood. The unseen workers are the ongoing threat.