

PRACTICE EXAM 24 SIMULATION

1. A pilot must understand that a temperature inversion is characterized by what condition in the atmosphere?

- A. Temperature increasing with altitude instead of the normal decrease
- B. Temperature decreasing rapidly with altitude above the inversion layer
- C. Pressure increasing with altitude through the affected atmospheric layer
- D. Humidity decreasing sharply with altitude through the inversion zone

2. Radiation fog typically forms under which set of atmospheric conditions?

- A. Strong winds moving moist air over a colder land or water surface
- B. Warm moist air being lifted rapidly over rising mountainous terrain
- C. Heavy precipitation saturating the air mass beneath a warm front
- D. Clear skies, light winds, and high humidity over land during the night

3. A pilot must understand that the most hazardous type of icing forms from what?

- A. Small supercooled droplets freezing instantly on contact with the airframe
- B. Frost forming overnight on a parked aircraft before the first flight
- C. Snow accumulating on the upper wing surface during a ground delay
- D. Large supercooled droplets freezing slowly and spreading back over the wing

4. The four stages required for a thunderstorm to form include moisture, instability, and lift. What is the typical sequence of a thunderstorm's life cycle?

- A. Mature, cumulus, dissipating, then a redeveloping secondary cell stage

- B. Dissipating, cumulus, mature, then a final towering cumulus stage
- C. Cumulus, mature, then dissipating as the downdrafts dominate the cell
- D. Cumulus, dissipating, mature, then a steady-state supercell stage

5. A pilot encounters a squall line on the route of flight. The recommended action is what?

- A. Fly beneath the squall line at the lowest safe terrain clearance altitude
- B. Penetrate the line at a right angle to minimize the time spent inside it
- C. Climb above the squall line to overfly the embedded thunderstorm cells
- D. Deviate around the line, as squall lines often cannot be safely penetrated

6. Clear air turbulence (CAT) is most commonly associated with what atmospheric feature?

- A. The center of a stationary high-pressure system over flat terrain
- B. The base of stratus clouds during a period of stable air conditions
- C. A region of widespread precipitation behind a slow-moving warm front
- D. The jet stream and areas of strong wind shear at high altitudes

7. A pilot must understand that a stable air mass is generally characterized by what weather phenomena?

- A. Stratiform clouds, steady precipitation, and smooth air with poor visibility
- B. Cumuliform clouds, showery precipitation, and good visibility with turbulence
- C. Towering cumulus, gusty surface winds, and excellent visibility after rain
- D. Rapidly building thunderstorms, hail, and severe low-level wind shear aloft

8. Structural icing requires two conditions to be present simultaneously. What are they?

- A. Strong surface winds and a temperature above the freezing point of water

- B. Visible moisture and a temperature at or below freezing on the airframe
- C. Clear skies and a rapidly falling barometric pressure ahead of a front
- D. High humidity at the surface and a stable air mass with light winds aloft

9. A warm front is depicted on a surface analysis chart by what symbol?

- A. A blue line with triangles pointing in the direction of frontal movement
- B. A red line with semicircles pointing in the direction of frontal movement
- C. A purple line with alternating triangles and semicircles on the same side
- D. A black line with both triangles and semicircles pointing opposite directions

10. A pilot must understand that advection fog forms by what process?

- A. Nighttime radiational cooling of the ground beneath a clear, calm sky
- B. Air being cooled adiabatically as it rises over a mountain barrier slowly
- C. Precipitation falling through a dry layer and evaporating into the air mass
- D. Moist air moving horizontally over a colder surface, cooling to its dew point

11. The lifting of an air mass that triggers thunderstorm development can be caused by which mechanism?

- A. The compression of air sinking within a high-pressure system descending
- B. The cooling of the surface during a clear and calm overnight period
- C. Frontal lifting, orographic lifting, convective heating, or convergence
- D. The horizontal movement of a stable air mass across a warm ocean current

12. A pilot must recognize that wind shear is most hazardous during which phase of flight?

- A. The cruise phase at high altitude in smooth and stable air conditions

- B. The approach and departure phases near the ground at low airspeed
- C. The taxi phase on the ground before the takeoff roll has commenced
- D. The enroute climb above the freezing level in clear air conditions

13. A microburst is a particularly dangerous form of wind shear characterized by what?

- A. A sustained horizontal wind from a single constant direction at altitude
- B. A localized intense downdraft producing diverging outflow at the surface
- C. A gradual change in wind speed over a wide area along a frontal boundary
- D. A swirling rotational column of air extending from a thunderstorm base

14. A pilot interpreting the dew point spread understands that a small spread indicates what?

- A. Air near saturation, with a higher likelihood of clouds or fog forming
- B. Air that is very dry, with little chance of cloud or fog formation soon
- C. A rapidly approaching cold front bringing clearing skies behind it
- D. An unstable air mass likely to produce afternoon thunderstorm activity

15. A pilot must understand that the freezing level is significant for icing because ice can form where?

- A. Only at altitudes well above the freezing level in the coldest air present
- B. In visible moisture at or above the freezing level where droplets are supercooled
- C. Only below the freezing level where the air remains above zero degrees Celsius
- D. At the surface only, where frost forms on the aircraft during cold nights

16. A cold front typically produces what type of weather compared to a warm front?

- A. Gradual, widespread, and long-lasting precipitation over a broad area

- B. Clear and stable conditions with light winds and excellent visibility
- C. A narrow band of intense weather with showers, gusty winds, and turbulence
- D. A slow-moving overcast layer of stratus with continuous light drizzle

17. A pilot must understand that the standard temperature lapse rate used in the International Standard Atmosphere is closest to which value?

- A. About 1 degree Celsius of cooling per 1,000 feet of altitude gained
- B. About 5 degrees Celsius of cooling per 1,000 feet of altitude gained
- C. About 2 degrees Celsius of cooling per 1,000 feet of altitude gained
- D. About 4 degrees Celsius of cooling per 1,000 feet of altitude gained

18. A pilot planning an IFR flight should be aware that "embedded thunderstorms" present what particular hazard?

- A. They are concealed within other cloud layers and cannot be seen visually
- B. They form only at night and dissipate quickly after the sun rises again
- C. They produce only light turbulence that is easily managed with autopilot
- D. They remain stationary and can be reliably avoided by a small detour

19. A pilot must understand that supercooled large droplets (SLD) pose what specific icing danger?

- A. They can freeze beyond the protected areas, behind deicing boots and surfaces
- B. They form only frost on the windscreen, which is easily cleared with heat
- C. They produce light rime ice that has no significant effect on performance
- D. They occur only above 30,000 feet, well above most light aircraft operations

20. The wind associated with the passage of a cold front typically does what in the Northern Hemisphere?

- A. Backs counterclockwise and decreases in velocity after the front passes
- B. Remains steady from the same direction throughout the frontal passage
- C. Decreases sharply and becomes calm immediately behind the front itself
- D. Veers clockwise and often becomes gusty as the front passes the station

21. A pilot must understand that mountain wave turbulence forms under what conditions?

- A. Strong winds blowing perpendicular to a mountain ridge with a stable layer aloft
- B. Light and variable winds over flat terrain during a warm summer afternoon
- C. Calm conditions in a valley during a nighttime temperature inversion period
- D. Moist tropical air moving slowly across a warm ocean surface near the coast

22. A pilot interpreting a station's reported weather sees the temperature and dew point converging. This trend most likely indicates what?

- A. Conditions are becoming favorable for fog or low cloud formation soon
- B. A strong cold front is approaching and will bring clearing skies behind it
- C. The air mass is drying out and visibility will improve over the next hours
- D. Surface winds will increase significantly as a pressure gradient tightens

23. A pilot must understand that "freezing rain" indicates what about the temperature structure aloft?

- A. The entire column of air from the cloud to the surface is below freezing
- B. A shallow cold layer at the surface beneath a deep layer of warm dry air
- C. A warmer layer aloft where rain forms, falling into a freezing layer below
- D. A uniform temperature throughout the column exactly at the freezing point

24. A pilot must recognize that the greatest turbulence and hazards in a thunderstorm occur during which stage?

- A. The cumulus stage, when the updrafts first begin to build the cell vertically
- B. The mature stage, when both strong updrafts and downdrafts coexist with precipitation
- C. The dissipating stage, when downdrafts dominate and the cell weakens overall
- D. The towering stage, before any precipitation has begun to fall from the cloud

25. A pilot must understand that an occluded front forms when what occurs?

- A. A faster cold front overtakes a slower warm front, lifting the warm air aloft
- B. Two warm fronts merge together over a region of high atmospheric pressure
- C. A stationary front begins moving rapidly toward a low-pressure center nearby
- D. A cold front and a warm front move in parallel without any interaction at all

26. A pilot must understand that fog will most likely form when the temperature-dew point spread narrows to what?

- A. A spread of about 10 degrees Celsius between the temperature and dew point
- B. A spread of about 6 degrees Celsius between the temperature and dew point
- C. A spread of a few degrees or less between the temperature and dew point
- D. A spread of about 15 degrees Celsius between the temperature and dew point

27. A pilot must understand that the term "convective" weather refers to phenomena driven by what?

- A. The horizontal movement of large air masses across the surface of the earth
- B. The vertical movement of air due to heating and instability in the atmosphere
- C. The frictional effect of wind passing over rough terrain near the surface
- D. The cooling of the upper atmosphere during the nighttime radiation period

28. A pilot must recognize that flight into an area of known or forecast severe icing requires what?

- A. A simple reduction in cruise airspeed to allow the ice to shed naturally
- B. An increase in altitude to climb above the freezing level immediately
- C. Avoidance, as severe icing can exceed the capability of any anti-ice equipment
- D. Continued flight while monitoring the rate of ice accumulation on the wings

29. A pilot interpreting a prognostic chart sees a forecast of "MVFR" conditions. This category indicates what?

- A. Conditions at or above 3,000 feet ceiling and 5 miles visibility, fully VFR
- B. Conditions below 500 feet ceiling and 1 mile visibility, the lowest category
- C. Marginal conditions of 1,000 to 3,000 feet ceiling and 3 to 5 miles visibility
- D. Instrument conditions below 1,000 feet ceiling and below 3 miles visibility

30. A pilot must understand that wind generally does what with increasing altitude due to decreasing surface friction?

- A. The wind increases in speed and veers clockwise with increasing altitude
- B. The wind decreases in speed and backs counterclockwise with altitude gained
- C. The wind remains exactly constant in both speed and direction with altitude
- D. The wind reverses direction completely above the planetary boundary layer

31. A pilot must understand that "virga" observed from the cockpit refers to what phenomenon?

- A. A rotating wall cloud lowering from the base of a severe thunderstorm cell
- B. A funnel cloud that has not yet reached the ground beneath a storm base
- C. A layer of fog forming in a valley during the early morning hours after dawn
- D. Precipitation falling from a cloud that evaporates before reaching the ground

32. A pilot must understand that an air mass takes on the characteristics of what?

- A. The upper-level jet stream winds that steer it across the continent rapidly
- B. The frontal boundaries it encounters along its path of travel over time
- C. The surface region over which it forms and remains for an extended period
- D. The altitude at which it is observed by the weather reporting station network

33. A pilot encountering rain that suddenly turns to ice on the windscreen has most likely entered what?

- A. Freezing rain, indicating a temperature inversion with warmer air aloft present
- B. A region of clear-air turbulence associated with the jet stream wind shear
- C. The downdraft region of a mature thunderstorm cell producing heavy rainfall
- D. An area of radiation fog that has begun to freeze onto the cold airframe surface

34. A pilot must understand that the strongest winds within the jet stream are typically found where?

- A. Near the surface within the planetary boundary layer over open ocean areas
- B. Within the core of a stationary high-pressure system over the continent
- C. Below 10,000 feet in the warm sector ahead of an approaching warm front
- D. Near the tropopause, often between 30,000 and 40,000 feet in altitude

35. A pilot must understand that a "trough" of low pressure on a weather chart is typically associated with what?

- A. Clouds, precipitation, and unsettled weather along the trough axis line
- B. Clear skies, sinking air, and stable conditions over a wide region
- C. Light and variable winds with excellent visibility in all directions
- D. A sharp temperature inversion trapping smoke and haze near the surface

36. A pilot must recognize that ice accumulation on the airframe affects performance by doing what?

- A. Increasing weight and drag while decreasing lift and the stall margin
- B. Increasing lift and reducing drag, improving the climb performance temporarily
- C. Having no measurable effect until a thick layer of ice has accumulated
- D. Only affecting the radio antennas without changing the aerodynamic surfaces

37. A pilot must understand that "PIREPs" are valuable because they provide what?

- A. A computer-generated forecast of conditions expected over the next 24 hours
- B. Actual conditions observed and reported by pilots in flight at specific locations
- C. The official terminal aerodrome forecast issued by the weather service hourly
- D. A graphical depiction of frontal positions on the surface analysis chart only

38. A pilot must understand that a "dry line" separates what two air masses?

- A. A cold polar air mass from a warmer tropical maritime air mass at a front
- B. Two air masses of identical moisture content but different temperatures aloft
- C. A stable air mass below an inversion from an unstable air mass above it
- D. A moist air mass from a dry air mass, often triggering thunderstorm development

39. A pilot must understand that turbulence reported as "severe" causes what effect on the aircraft?

- A. Slight, rapid, and rhythmic bumpiness without appreciable changes in attitude
- B. Large abrupt changes in altitude and attitude, with the aircraft momentarily out of control
- C. A steady, continuous light chop that is easily managed with the autopilot engaged
- D. A gradual rocking motion that diminishes as the aircraft climbs to altitude

40. A pilot must recognize that the lowest cloud layer reported as "broken" or "overcast" constitutes what?

- A. The reported visibility limit measured horizontally at the surface level
- B. The freezing level above which structural icing becomes a serious hazard
- C. The ceiling, the height of the lowest broken or overcast layer above ground
- D. The maximum altitude at which visual flight rules operations are permitted

41. A pilot must understand that "lake effect" snow forms by what process?

- A. Warm dry air descending the lee side of a mountain range near a large lake
- B. A cold front stalling over a frozen lake surface during the winter months
- C. Cold air moving across a relatively warm lake, picking up moisture and instability
- D. Radiational cooling over a calm lake surface during a clear winter night

42. A pilot must understand that the term "ISA" (International Standard Atmosphere) defines a sea-level temperature of what?

- A. A sea-level temperature of 15 degrees Celsius, or 59 degrees Fahrenheit
- B. A sea-level temperature of 0 degrees Celsius, or 32 degrees Fahrenheit
- C. A sea-level temperature of 20 degrees Celsius, or 68 degrees Fahrenheit
- D. A sea-level temperature of 25 degrees Celsius, or 77 degrees Fahrenheit

43. A pilot must understand that wind shear can occur in clear air near what feature even without clouds present?

- A. A temperature inversion or a frontal boundary aloft with differing wind layers
- B. A region of uniform pressure and temperature over a flat continental plain
- C. The center of a slow-moving high-pressure system during a calm period
- D. A layer of stratus cloud producing steady and continuous light precipitation

44. A pilot must understand that the most reliable way to avoid thunderstorm hazards is to do what?

- A. Fly directly beneath the storm where the precipitation appears lightest visually
- B. Penetrate the storm quickly at the altitude of the freezing level to minimize ice
- C. Avoid the storm entirely by a wide margin, never attempting to penetrate it
- D. Circle the storm at close range to monitor its movement before deciding to cross

45. A pilot must recognize that fog forming in precipitation, often ahead of a warm front, is known as what?

- A. Radiation fog, which forms from nighttime cooling of the ground surface
- B. Precipitation-induced fog, forming as rain saturates the cooler air below
- C. Advection fog, which forms as warm moist air moves over a cold surface
- D. Upslope fog, which forms as air is forced up a gradual terrain slope and cools

46. A pilot must understand that the dissipating stage of a thunderstorm is dominated by what?

- A. Strong updrafts that continue to build the cell to greater vertical heights
- B. Predominant downdrafts throughout the cell as the storm weakens and rains out
- C. The formation of new towering cumulus alongside the original cell base
- D. A sustained balance of updrafts and downdrafts producing steady heavy rain

47. A pilot must understand that "rime ice" typically forms under what conditions?

- A. Large supercooled droplets striking the airframe and freezing slowly and clear
- B. Rain falling through a freezing surface layer beneath a warm layer aloft
- C. Wet snow accumulating on the leading edges during a slow climb through cloud
- D. Small supercooled droplets freezing rapidly, trapping air to form opaque rough ice

48. A pilot must recognize that the air mass behind a cold front is typically what?

- A. Cooler, drier, and more stable, often with improving visibility after passage
- B. Warmer, moister, and less stable, with deteriorating visibility after passage
- C. Identical in temperature and moisture to the air ahead of the front itself
- D. Characterized by widespread stratus and continuous drizzle for several days

49. A pilot must understand that the height of the tropopause varies with what?

- A. The time of day, being highest at midnight and lowest at noon each day
- B. The phase of the moon and its gravitational influence on the atmosphere
- C. The barometric pressure setting selected in the aircraft's altimeter window
- D. Latitude and season, being higher near the equator and in the summer months

50. A pilot must understand that "convective SIGMETs" are issued for which phenomena?

- A. Moderate icing and freezing levels affecting light aircraft along a route
- B. Sustained surface winds over 30 knots and moderate non-convective turbulence
- C. Severe thunderstorms, embedded storms, lines of storms, and large hail aloft
- D. IFR ceilings and visibilities with extensive mountain obscuration enroute

51. A pilot must recognize that wind generally backs (shifts counterclockwise) ahead of what feature in the Northern Hemisphere?

- A. A ridge of high pressure building into the region from the west steadily
- B. A cold front that has already passed the reporting station to the east
- C. A region of clear and stable air within a stationary high-pressure system
- D. An approaching warm front, as the wind shifts ahead of the frontal passage

52. A pilot must understand that "haze" reduces visibility primarily by what mechanism?

- A. Large water droplets suspended in a saturated air mass near the surface
- B. Fine dry particles such as dust or smoke suspended in stable air aloft
- C. Heavy precipitation falling continuously from an overcast cloud layer
- D. Ice crystals forming in the supercooled air above the freezing level only

53. A pilot must understand that the primary hazard of flying near the top of a building cumulus cloud is what?

- A. Reduced engine performance due to the thinner air at the cloud top altitude
- B. Loss of radio communication caused by static electricity in the cloud mass
- C. Excessive cabin pressurization from the rapid updraft pushing the aircraft up
- D. Strong updrafts and turbulence that can carry the aircraft upward rapidly

54. A pilot must understand that an inversion layer often traps what near the surface?

- A. Strong vertical wind currents that produce significant convective turbulence
- B. Cold dense air that rises rapidly, producing towering cumulus development
- C. Clear skies and unlimited visibility with smooth air throughout the layer
- D. Pollutants, smoke, and haze, reducing visibility beneath the inversion top

55. A pilot must recognize that the most dangerous condition for low-level wind shear is associated with what?

- A. A steady gentle breeze from a single direction during a stable evening period
- B. A high-pressure system centered directly over the departure airport at dawn
- C. A thunderstorm near the airport producing strong gust fronts and microbursts
- D. A light morning fog layer dissipating slowly as the sun warms the surface

56. A pilot must understand that "orographic" lifting refers to what process?

- A. Air rising due to surface heating during the warmest part of the afternoon
- B. Air being lifted along a frontal boundary where two air masses meet aloft
- C. Air being forced upward as it flows over rising mountainous terrain features
- D. Air converging horizontally into a low-pressure center and rising vertically

57. A pilot must understand that the most significant icing intensity that requires immediate action is which?

- A. Trace icing, where ice becomes perceptible but accumulates very slowly indeed
- B. Severe icing, where the rate of accumulation exceeds the anti-ice capability
- C. Light icing, where occasional use of deicing equipment manages the situation
- D. Moderate icing, where the accumulation is potentially hazardous over time only

58. A pilot must understand that warm front precipitation generally precedes the front and appears how?

- A. As a narrow band of intense showers immediately at the frontal boundary line
- B. As widespread, steady precipitation extending well ahead of the surface front
- C. As scattered afternoon thunderstorms behind the front after it has passed by
- D. As clear skies with no precipitation until the front has completely passed over

59. A pilot must understand that the formation of dew or frost on an aircraft overnight indicates what about the air?

- A. The air aloft is unstable and likely to produce afternoon thunderstorm activity
- B. A strong cold front is approaching the area from the west during the night
- C. The wind has been strong and gusty throughout the overnight hours at the field
- D. The surface cooled to or below the dew point under clear and calm conditions

60. A pilot must understand that "CAT" (clear air turbulence) is particularly hazardous because it does what?

- A. Forms only at low altitudes where recovery altitude is severely limited below
- B. Occurs without visual cloud cues, giving the pilot no warning of its presence
- C. Is always accompanied by severe icing that compounds the turbulence hazard
- D. Can be reliably detected by the aircraft's onboard weather radar in advance

Answer Key

1. A. Temp increases with altitude — A temperature inversion is temperature increasing with altitude rather than the normal decrease.
2. D. Clear, calm, humid night — Radiation fog forms under clear skies, light winds, and high humidity over land at night.
3. D. Large droplets, slow freeze — Clear ice from large supercooled droplets freezing slowly and spreading aft is the most hazardous icing.
4. C. Cumulus, mature, dissipating — The thunderstorm life cycle is cumulus, mature, then dissipating.
5. D. Deviate around — Squall lines often cannot be safely penetrated; deviate around them.
6. D. Jet stream/wind shear — CAT is most commonly associated with the jet stream and strong wind shear at high altitude.
7. A. Stratiform, steady, smooth — Stable air produces stratiform clouds, steady precipitation, smooth air, and often poor visibility.
8. B. Moisture + freezing — Structural icing requires visible moisture and a temperature at or below freezing on the airframe.

9. B. Red line, semicircles — A warm front is a red line with semicircles pointing in the direction of movement.

10. D. Moist air over cold surface — Advection fog forms when moist air moves horizontally over a colder surface and cools to its dew point.

11. C. Frontal/orographic/convective/convergence — Lifting can come from frontal, orographic, convective heating, or convergence mechanisms.

12. B. Approach and departure — Wind shear is most hazardous near the ground at low airspeed during approach and departure.

13. B. Localized downdraft, outflow — A microburst is an intense localized downdraft producing diverging outflow at the surface.

14. A. Near saturation — A small dew point spread indicates air near saturation, favoring clouds or fog.

15. B. At/above freezing level — Ice forms in visible moisture at or above the freezing level where droplets are supercooled.

16. C. Narrow intense band — A cold front produces a narrow band of intense weather with showers, gusty winds, and turbulence.

17. C. About 2°C per 1,000 ft — The standard (ISA) lapse rate is 1.98°C per 1,000 ft (6.5°C per kilometer), conventionally rounded to 2°C per 1,000 ft. The word "closest" in the stem makes C unambiguously correct against the 1°C distractor, which reflects a common confusion with the dewpoint convergence rate rather than the temperature lapse rate.

18. A. Concealed in cloud — Embedded thunderstorms are concealed within other cloud layers and cannot be seen visually.

19. A. Freeze beyond protected areas — SLD can freeze aft of (behind) deicing boots and protected surfaces, a serious hazard.
20. D. Veers clockwise, gusty — In the Northern Hemisphere, wind veers clockwise and becomes gusty with cold front passage.
21. A. Strong perpendicular winds + stable layer — Mountain wave turbulence forms with strong winds perpendicular to a ridge and a stable layer aloft.
22. A. Fog/low cloud likely — Converging temperature and dew point favors fog or low cloud formation.
23. C. Warm layer aloft, freezing below — Freezing rain indicates a warmer layer aloft where rain forms, falling into a freezing layer below.
24. B. Mature stage — The greatest turbulence and hazards occur in the mature stage, with coexisting updrafts and downdrafts.
25. A. Cold overtakes warm — An occluded front forms when a faster cold front overtakes a slower warm front, lifting the warm air aloft.
26. C. A few degrees or less — Fog is most likely when the temperature-dew point spread narrows to a few degrees or less.
27. B. Vertical motion from heating — Convective weather is driven by vertical air movement due to heating and instability.
28. C. Avoidance — Severe icing can exceed any anti-ice capability and must be avoided.
29. C. MVFR 1,000–3,000/3–5 — MVFR is a 1,000–3,000-ft ceiling and 3–5 SM visibility.

30. A. Increases, veers clockwise — With altitude, decreasing friction causes wind to increase and veer clockwise (Northern Hemisphere).
31. D. Precipitation evaporating — Virga is precipitation falling from a cloud that evaporates before reaching the ground.
32. C. Source region — An air mass takes on the characteristics of the surface region over which it forms.
33. A. Freezing rain/inversion — Rain turning to ice on the windscreen indicates freezing rain with a warmer layer aloft (inversion).
34. D. Near tropopause 30–40k — The strongest jet stream winds are near the tropopause, typically 30,000–40,000 ft.
35. A. Clouds/precip along axis — A trough of low pressure is associated with clouds, precipitation, and unsettled weather along its axis.
36. A. Weight/drag up, lift down — Airframe ice increases weight and drag while decreasing lift and the stall margin.
37. B. Actual pilot observations — PIREPs provide actual conditions observed and reported by pilots in flight.
38. D. Moist/dry air masses — A dry line separates a moist air mass from a dry one, often triggering thunderstorms.
39. B. Large abrupt changes — Severe turbulence causes large abrupt changes in altitude/attitude, momentarily out of control.
40. C. Ceiling — The lowest broken or overcast layer constitutes the ceiling.

41. C. Cold air over warm lake — Lake effect snow forms when cold air moves across a warmer lake, picking up moisture and instability.
42. A. 15°C / 59°F — ISA defines a sea-level temperature of 15°C (59°F).
43. A. Inversion/frontal boundary — Clear-air wind shear can occur near a temperature inversion or frontal boundary aloft.
44. C. Avoid by wide margin — The most reliable way to avoid thunderstorm hazards is to avoid the storm entirely by a wide margin.
45. B. Precipitation-induced fog — Fog forming in precipitation ahead of a warm front is precipitation-induced fog.
46. B. Downdrafts dominate — The dissipating stage is dominated by downdrafts as the storm weakens and rains out.
47. D. Small droplets, rapid freeze — Rime ice forms from small supercooled droplets freezing rapidly, trapping air into opaque rough ice.
48. A. Cooler, drier, stable — The air behind a cold front is typically cooler, drier, and more stable with improving visibility.
49. D. Latitude and season — Tropopause height varies with latitude and season, higher near the equator and in summer.
50. C. Severe/embedded/lines/hail — Convective SIGMETs are issued for severe thunderstorms, embedded storms, lines of storms, and large hail.
51. D. Approaching warm front — Wind backs (shifts counterclockwise) ahead of an approaching warm front.

52. B. Fine dry particles — Haze reduces visibility through fine dry particles (dust, smoke) suspended in stable air.

53. D. Strong updrafts/turbulence — Near the top of a building cumulus, strong updrafts and turbulence can carry the aircraft upward rapidly.

54. D. Traps pollutants/haze — An inversion traps pollutants, smoke, and haze near the surface, reducing visibility.

55. C. Thunderstorm gust fronts — The most dangerous low-level wind shear is associated with thunderstorm gust fronts and microbursts.

56. C. Air over terrain — Orographic lifting is air forced upward as it flows over rising terrain.

57. B. Severe icing — Severe icing, where accumulation exceeds anti-ice capability, requires immediate action.

58. B. Widespread, steady, ahead — Warm front precipitation is widespread and steady, extending well ahead of the surface front.

59. D. Cooled to dew point — Dew or frost overnight indicates the surface cooled to or below the dew point under clear, calm conditions.

60. B. No cloud cues — CAT is hazardous because it occurs without visual cloud cues, giving no warning.