

# PROFICIENCY TEST

## HEDGE TRIMMERS

03-10T

### Multiple Choice (Choose only one answer on each question):

1. Pole trimmers are used for:
  - a) Cutting high hedges or shrubs.
  - b) Cutting low, wide hedges difficult to get around.
  - c) Cutting weed eaters and grass trimmers left in the ground cover
  - d) All of the above
  - e) A and B only.
  
2. Pre-Operational checks include:
  - a) Spark plug boot fits tight on plug
  - b) Handles clean, no oil or dirt
  - c) Blade moves freely and sharp
  - d) Correct fuel mixture on hand
  - e) Start before leaving shop
  - f) All the above
  
3. To properly lubricate the blade and extend its life:
  - a) Stop engine and disconnect spark plug boot.
  - b) Lay trimmer on flat surface
  - c) Apply light weight oil or resin solvent
  - d) Run engine briefly
  - e) All of above
  - f) B, C and D only
  
4. A site assessment requires:
  - a) Remove wires, toys, metal posts, etc. in hedge
  - b) Look for rocks and dirt mounds at bottom of hedge
  - c) Remove equipment or debris that create unsafe conditions
  - d) Water hedge so it will cut better
  - e) A, B and C only
  
5. Proper Personal Protection Equipment and Clothing includes:
  - a) Loose fitting clothing, sandals and short pants to keep cool.
  - b) Long pants, sturdy work boots and a particulate mask if dusty.
  - c) Safety glasses or shield, hearing protection and heavy duty, non-slip gloves
  - d) B and C only.

6. When operating the trimmer:
  - a) Do not attempt to cut branches or stems larger than 3/8 inch.
  - b) To make radical cuts, cut a little at a time, in several passes.
  - c) Cut sides first, then the top
  - d) On horizontal cuts, swing the blade in an arc towards the outside of the hedge.
  - e) All of the above
  
7. Post Operation clean up and storage requires the operator to:
  - a) Clean up the work area and properly dispose of debris
  - b) Put a light coat of oil or resin solvent on the blade, then install scabbard.
  - c) Store flammable fuel mixtures in the booth so rangers will know where it is.
  - d) All of the above
  - e) A and B only.
  
8. Hedge trimmer accidents most often occur when the operator:
  - a) Attempts to clear debris or move the cord when the blade is cutting.
  - b) Slips, trips, falls or moves into the blade while it is cutting.
  - c) Uses a heavy duty, 3 wire extension cord and grounded plug in correctly.
  - d) Trimmer agitates insects, that sting operator, or throws debris in eye
  - f) All of the above
  - g) A, B and D

**True/False:**

9. \_\_\_\_\_ The double sided or dual cutting hedge trimmer has reciprocating cutting blades on both sides of the cutter so you can cut in either direction.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Almost no one goes to the emergency room for hedge trimmer accidents.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ The best way to start a gasoline trimmer is to drop start it.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Typical Gasoline/ Oil fuel mixes are good for 180 days.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Anytime you are not using the trimmer install the scabbard to protect yourself and the cutting blades.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ When moving to the work site, just put the trimmer in the back of the rig. The air tight gas cap will prevent any leakage and the trimmers are really rugged.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ The National Safety Council recommends all bystanders, children and pets be at least 5 feet away from a working trimmer.
16. \_\_\_\_\_ Gas powered trimmers can vibrate so much that improperly tightened fuel caps can loosen or come off and spill fuel.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ Wet, cold, nasty weather is good for using a trimmer because the blades cut cleaner and debris just flies off the hedge.
18. \_\_\_\_\_ To prevent Raynaud's Syndrome and Trigger Finger, avoid awkward grips, or excessively, tight grips. Since you must grip firmly enough to maintain control, take frequent breaks and stretch out your fingers and wrists.

Employee Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Pass \_\_\_\_\_ No Pass \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Take this test to your supervisor or trainer for sign off.