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# BASIC KEELBOAT REVIEW QUESTIONS

This hand-out is provided by Spinnaker Sailing to help you prepare for the  
American Sailing Association Basic Keelboat Exam  
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These review questions will help familiarize you with all the questions found in the written exam. Using the ASA textbook, try to find as many answers as you can before your class review session. You may not be able to find a complete answer to every question. Please note which questions you need additional information on so your instructor can provide more information.

(#) Indicates where to look in Sailing Made Easy.

(H-#) Indicates where to look in the Spinnaker Sailing BKS handout.

1. Identify the following boat parts:

- (20) Lifelines \_\_\_\_\_
- (20) Keel \_\_\_\_\_
- (H-2) Cabin \_\_\_\_\_
- (20) Bow \_\_\_\_\_
- (20) Stern Pulpit \_\_\_\_\_
- (20) Stern \_\_\_\_\_
- (20) Bow pulpit \_\_\_\_\_
- (24) Shroud \_\_\_\_\_
- (24) Gooseneck \_\_\_\_\_
- (24) Mast \_\_\_\_\_
- (24) Headstay/Forestay \_\_\_\_\_
- (24) Spreader \_\_\_\_\_
- (20) Deck \_\_\_\_\_
- (123) Traveler \_\_\_\_\_
- (24) Boom \_\_\_\_\_
- (24) Backstay \_\_\_\_\_

2. Identify the following sail parts

- (23) Luff \_\_\_\_\_
- (23) Clew \_\_\_\_\_
- (23) Tack \_\_\_\_\_
- (23) Head \_\_\_\_\_
- (23) Leech \_\_\_\_\_
- (23) Foot \_\_\_\_\_
- (23) Battens \_\_\_\_\_
- (32) Bolt Rope \_\_\_\_\_
- (34) Hanks \_\_\_\_\_
- (23) Genoa \_\_\_\_\_
- (23) Mainsail \_\_\_\_\_
- (H-22) Storm Jib \_\_\_\_\_
- (H-22) Working Jib \_\_\_\_\_
- (25) Spinnaker \_\_\_\_\_

3. Describe the function of the following parts:

- (67) Cleat \_\_\_\_\_
- (25) Blocks \_\_\_\_\_
- (20) Tiller/Wheel \_\_\_\_\_
- (25) Halyard(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- (25) Mainsheet \_\_\_\_\_
- (121) Fairlead \_\_\_\_\_
- (36) Winch \_\_\_\_\_
- (25) Jibsheet(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- (25) Shackle \_\_\_\_\_
- (20) Rudder \_\_\_\_\_

4. Describe the function of the following parts

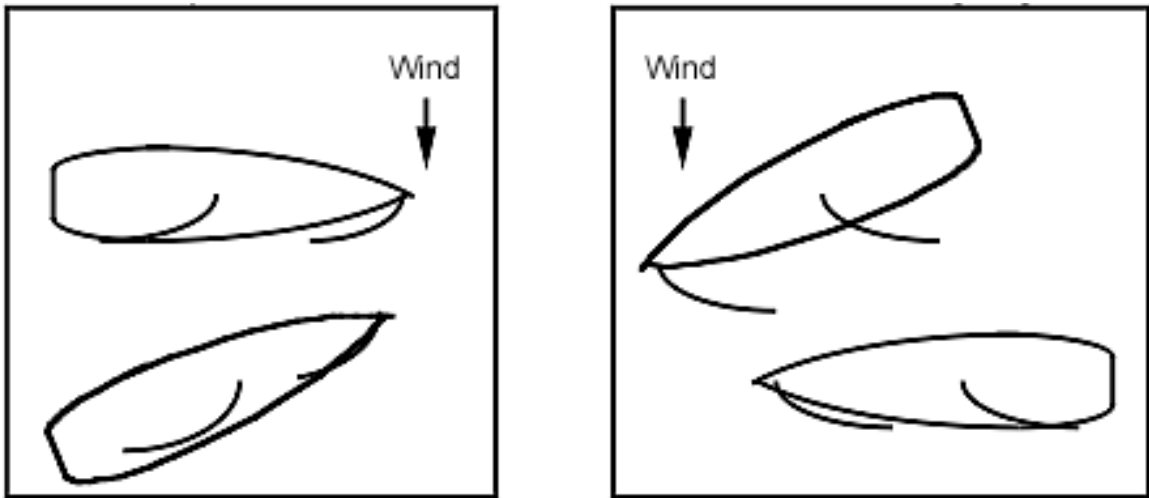
- (24) Boom Topping Lift \_\_\_\_\_
- (32) Outhaul \_\_\_\_\_
- (39) Downhaul/Cunningham \_\_\_\_\_
- (81) Fenders \_\_\_\_\_
- (24) Boomvang \_\_\_\_\_
- (104) Spring/Breast Lines \_\_\_\_\_
- (24) Stays \_\_\_\_\_
- (62) Telltales \_\_\_\_\_
- (24) Shrouds \_\_\_\_\_

5. Define the following terms:

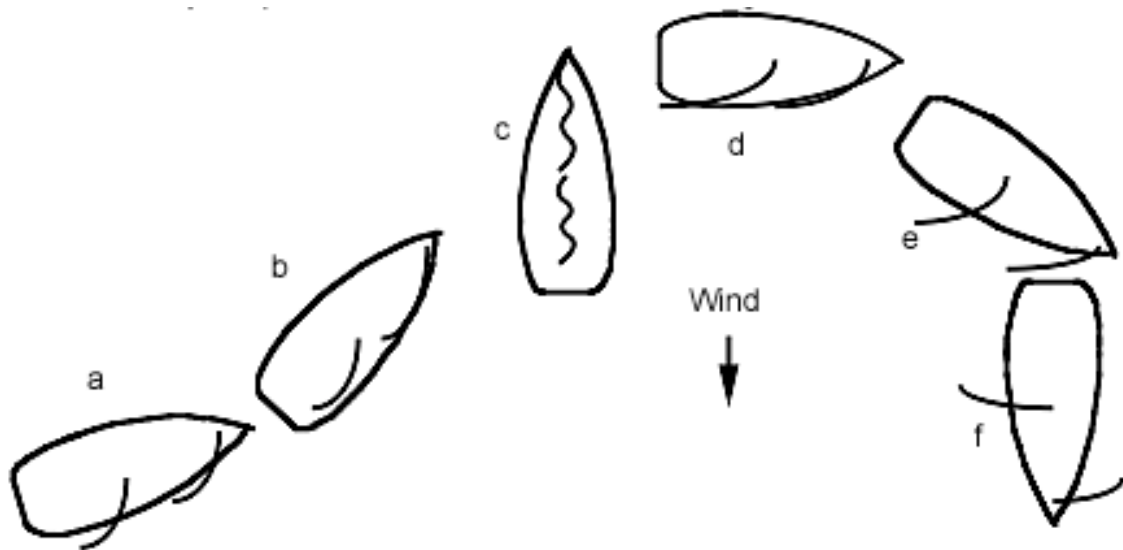
- (22) Windward \_\_\_\_\_
- (22) Port \_\_\_\_\_
- (22) Starboard \_\_\_\_\_
- (22) Leeward \_\_\_\_\_
- (22) Astern \_\_\_\_\_
- (22) Abeam \_\_\_\_\_
- (121) Helmsman \_\_\_\_\_
- (22) Ahead \_\_\_\_\_
- (70) Crew \_\_\_\_\_
- (70) Skipper \_\_\_\_\_
- (25) Running Rigging \_\_\_\_\_
- (20) Tacking/Coming About \_\_\_\_\_
- (122) Sailing by-the-lee \_\_\_\_\_
- (123) Standing Rigging \_\_\_\_\_
- (52) Jibing \_\_\_\_\_
- (63) Heel \_\_\_\_\_
- (120) Aft \_\_\_\_\_
- (121) Forward \_\_\_\_\_
- (120) Beam \_\_\_\_\_

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(22) 6. Identify the windward and leeward boat in each of the following diagrams:



(18) 7. Identify the point of sail for each boat in the diagram:

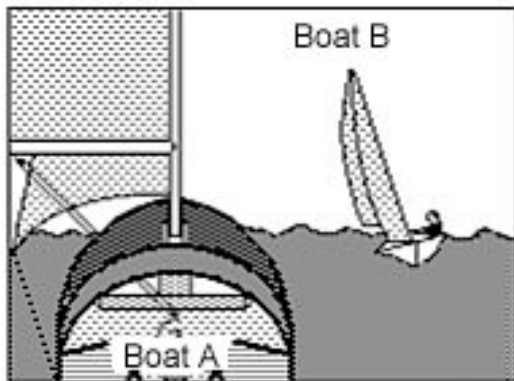


- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- f. \_\_\_\_\_

8. Define the following terms:

- (123) Starboard Tack \_\_\_\_\_
- (122) Luffing \_\_\_\_\_
- (122) Port Tack \_\_\_\_\_
- (121) Heading Up \_\_\_\_\_
- (120) Bearing Away/Falling Off \_\_\_\_\_

(94) 9. Which boat is the give way boat? \_\_\_\_\_



Describe the rule that applies:

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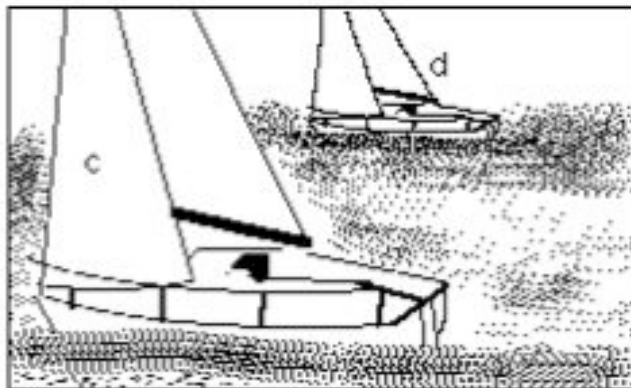
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(94) 10. Which boat is the give way boat? \_\_\_\_\_



Describe the rule that applies:

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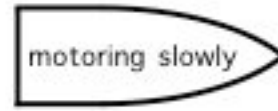
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(94) 11. Which is the give way boat? \_\_\_\_\_



Describe the rule that applies: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(95) 12. Which is the give way boat? \_\_\_\_\_



Describe the rule that applies:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(95) 13. Describe the action to be taken by sailboats when encountering vessels that are engaged in fishing, towing, large ships in confined channels, etc?

\_\_\_\_\_

(111) 14. To whom should a float plan be filed? \_\_\_\_\_

(96) 15. What is the FEDERAL blood alcohol content sufficient for arrest for intoxication? \_\_\_\_\_

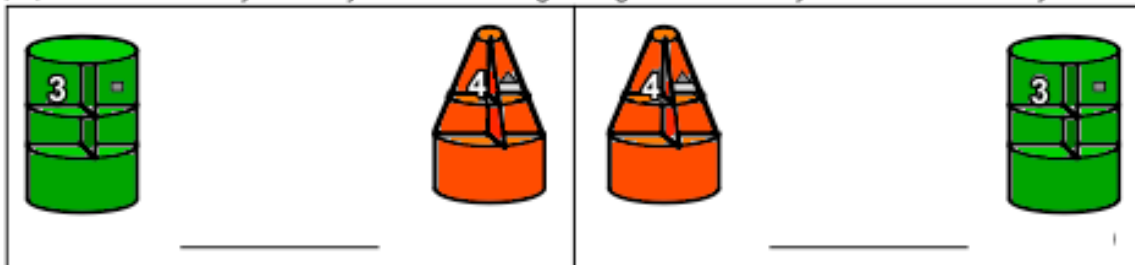
(108) 16. What is the number of days allowed for an accident report with damage of more than \$2000 or loss of a vessel? (Not for loss of life.) \_\_\_\_\_

(H-31) 17. List three sources of navigation information for an area with which you are not familiar.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

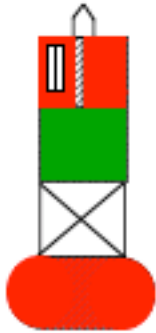
(H-29) 18. What is the best angle to cross shipping lanes in order to get across quickly?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

(H-31)19. Describe the pennants used for Small Craft Warnings and Gale Warnings.

(101) 20. Which way would you be traveling along a channel if you saw these buoys?



(101) 21. What does the following buoy represent?



\_\_\_\_\_

(H-31, H-32) 22. What do the following buoys represent?



\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_

(97) 23. List the required safety items for a 23 foot sailboat with outboard engine:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(H-33) 24. Where may plastics be disposed overboard? \_\_\_\_\_

(H-33) 25. Where may garbage be disposed overboard? \_\_\_\_\_

(H-33) 26. What is the fine for discharging oil in navigable waters of the US? \_\_\_\_\_

(96) 27. Where must registration numbers be located on a boat? \_\_\_\_\_

(H-32) 28. What is the restriction regarding operating a motorboat in a swim area?  
\_\_\_\_\_

(H-33) 29. What does five or more short blasts from another vessel indicate?  
\_\_\_\_\_

(H-32) 30. What does one short blast from another vessel indicate?  
\_\_\_\_\_

(H-32) 31. What does two short blasts indicate? \_\_\_\_\_

(H-33) 32. What color lights appear: Port side \_\_\_\_\_ Starboard side \_\_\_\_\_  
at the stern \_\_\_\_\_

(H-33) 33. What color light must be shown in addition to the above three when the  
vessel is  
under power? \_\_\_\_\_ Where is it shown? \_\_\_\_\_  
Which way does it face? \_\_\_\_\_

(92) 34. When does Rule 5, the "Lookout" Rule apply \_\_\_\_\_

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35. What is the purpose for the following knots?

(66) Square Knot (Reef Knot) \_\_\_\_\_

(64) Bowline \_\_\_\_\_

(65) Cleat Hitch \_\_\_\_\_

(65) Figure Eight \_\_\_\_\_

(66) Round Turn & Two Half Hitches \_\_\_\_\_

(66) Clove Hitch \_\_\_\_\_

(H-9) 36. What is the primary danger of sailing by-the-lee?

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(H-10) 37. On which points of sail are the greatest danger of an accidental jibe?

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(62, 63) 38. While sailing on a close reach, name three observations to help determine  
proper sail trim.

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