

**UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
BOILING WATER REACTOR GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
SEPTEMBER 2017 BWR – FORM A**

Please Print

Name: _____

Docket No.: _____

Facility: _____

Start Time: _____ Stop Time: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO EXAMINEE

Answer all the test items using the answer sheet provided, ensuring a single answer is marked for each test item. Each test item has equal point value. A score of at least 80 percent is required to pass this portion of the NRC operator licensing written examination. All examination materials will be collected 3 hours after the examination begins. This examination applies to a typical U.S. boiling water reactor (BWR) nuclear power plant.

SECTION	QUESTIONS	% OF TOTAL	SCORE
COMPONENTS	1 - 22		
REACTOR THEORY	23 - 36		
THERMODYNAMICS	37 - 50		
TOTALS	50		

All work performed on this examination is my own. I have neither given nor received aid.

Examinee's Signature

RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE NRC GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION

During the administration of this examination the following rules apply:

NOTE: The term "control rod" refers to the length of neutron absorber material that can be positioned by the operator to change core reactivity.

NOTE: Numerical answers are rounded to the nearest whole number unless otherwise indicated.

1. Print your name in the blank provided on the cover sheet of the examination.
2. Fill in your individual docket number.
3. Fill in the name of your facility.
4. Fill in your start and stop times at the appropriate times.
5. Two aids are provided for your use during the examination:
 - (1) An Equations and Conversions Sheet contained within the examination copy, and
 - (2) Steam tables and Mollier Diagram provided by your proctor.
6. Place your answers on the answer sheet provided. Credit will only be given for answers properly marked on this sheet. Follow the instructions for filling out the answer sheet.
7. Scrap paper will be provided for calculations.
8. Cheating on the examination will result in the automatic forfeiture of this examination. Cheating could also result in severe penalties.
9. Restroom trips are limited. Only **one** examinee may leave the room at a time. In order to avoid the appearance or possibility of cheating, avoid all contact with anyone outside the examination room.
10. After you have completed the examination, sign the statement on the cover sheet indicating that the work is your own and you have neither given nor received any assistance in completing the examination. Either pencil or pen may be used.
11. Turn in your examination materials, answer sheet on top, followed by the examination copy and the examination aids, e.g., steam tables, handouts, and scrap paper.
12. After turning in your examination materials, leave the examination area as defined by the proctor. If after leaving you are found in the examination area while the examination is in progress, your examination may be forfeited.

GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
EQUATIONS AND CONVERSIONS SHEET

EQUATIONS

$$\dot{Q} = \dot{m}c_p\Delta T$$

$$N = S/(1 - K_{\text{eff}})$$

$$\dot{Q} = \dot{m}\Delta h$$

$$CR_1(1 - K_{\text{eff}_1}) = CR_2(1 - K_{\text{eff}_2})$$

$$\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T$$

$$1/M = CR_1/CR_x$$

$$\dot{Q} \propto \dot{m}_{\text{Nat Circ}}^3$$

$$A = \pi r^2$$

$$\Delta T \propto \dot{m}_{\text{Nat Circ}}^2$$

$$F = PA$$

$$K_{\text{eff}} = 1/(1 - \rho)$$

$$\dot{m} = \rho A \bar{v}$$

$$\rho = (K_{\text{eff}} - 1)/K_{\text{eff}}$$

$$\dot{W}_{\text{Pump}} = \dot{m}\Delta P u$$

$$\text{SUR} = 26.06/\tau$$

$$P = I^2 R$$

$$\tau = \frac{\bar{\beta}_{\text{eff}} - \rho}{\lambda_{\text{eff}} \rho}$$

$$P = IE$$

$$\rho = \frac{\ell^*}{\tau} + \frac{\bar{\beta}_{\text{eff}}}{1 + \lambda_{\text{eff}} \tau}$$

$$P_A = \sqrt{3}IE$$

$$P_T = \sqrt{3}IEpf$$

$$\ell^* = 1.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ sec}$$

$$P_R = \sqrt{3}IE\sin\theta$$

$$\lambda_{\text{eff}} = 0.1 \text{ sec}^{-1} \text{ (for small positive } \rho)$$

$$\text{Thermal Efficiency} = \text{Net Work Out/Energy In}$$

$$\text{DRW} \propto \varphi_{\text{tip}}^2 / \varphi_{\text{avg}}^2$$

$$\frac{g(z_2 - z_1)}{g_c} + \frac{(\bar{v}_2^2 - \bar{v}_1^2)}{2g_c} + u(P_2 - P_1) + (u_2 - u_1) + (q - w) = 0$$

$$P = P_0 e^{t/\tau}$$

$$g = 32.2 \text{ ft/sec}^2$$

$$P = P_0 10^{\text{SUR}(t)}$$

$$g_c = 32.2 \text{ lbm-ft/lbf-sec}^2$$

$$A = A_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

CONVERSIONS

$$1 \text{ MW} = 3.41 \times 10^6 \text{ Btu/hr}$$

$$^\circ\text{C} = (5/9)(^\circ\text{F} - 32)$$

$$1 \text{ ft}^3_{\text{water}} = 7.48 \text{ gal}$$

$$1 \text{ hp} = 2.54 \times 10^3 \text{ Btu/hr}$$

$$^\circ\text{F} = (9/5)(^\circ\text{C}) + 32$$

$$1 \text{ gal}_{\text{water}} = 8.35 \text{ lbm}$$

$$1 \text{ Btu} = 778 \text{ ft-lbf}$$

$$1 \text{ kg} = 2.21 \text{ lbm}$$

$$1 \text{ Curie} = 3.7 \times 10^{10} \text{ dps}$$

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QUESTION: 1

A main steam system uses a combination of safety and relief valves for overpressure protection. Which one of the following describes a major design consideration for installing both types of valves in the same system?

- A. The safety valves are installed to prevent chattering of the relief valves during normal power operation.
- B. The safety valves are installed to prevent unnecessary opening of the relief valves during a steam pressure transient.
- C. The relief valves are installed to prevent chattering of the safety valves during normal power operation.
- D. The relief valves are installed to prevent unnecessary opening of the safety valves during a steam pressure transient.

QUESTION: 2

During a local inspection of a manually operated three-inch gate valve, the valve stem is observed to be flush with the top of the handwheel. Two inches of unthreaded valve stem is visible between the handwheel and the packing gland. The handwheel is mounted to the valve body and valve stem such that the handwheel can be rotated in either direction, but cannot change its axial position.

Which one of the following describes the position of the valve?

- A. The valve is fully open or nearly fully open.
- B. The valve is fully closed or nearly fully closed.
- C. The valve may be in any position because it has a rising stem.
- D. The valve may be in any position because it has a non-rising stem.

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QUESTION: 3

When manually closing a motor-operated valve, why must the operator avoid using excessive valve seating force?

- A. The valve may bind and cause the motor to trip on overload during subsequent remote operation.
- B. The valve actuator clutch may be damaged and disable subsequent remote operation.
- C. The valve stem limit switches may be damaged and cause inaccurate remote valve position indication.
- D. The valve actuator position indicator may be damaged and cause inaccurate local valve position indication.

QUESTION: 4

A cooling water system uses a horizontal venturi with a differential pressure flow detector to provide flow rate indication. Water enters and leaves the venturi at 70°F, 100 psig, and 24 ft/sec. Water velocity at the throat of the venturi is 50 ft/sec. Assume water is incompressible and the venturi experiences no unrecoverable head loss.

What is the approximate pressure of the water at the throat of the venturi?

- A. 98 psig
- B. 94 psig
- C. 87 psig
- D. 74 psig

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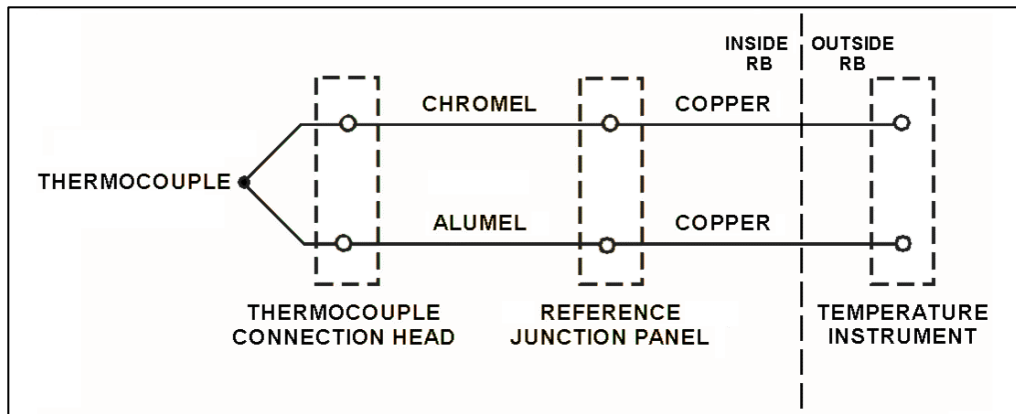
QUESTION: 5

Refer to the drawing of a simple chromel-alumel thermocouple circuit (see figure below).

The thermocouple, thermocouple connection head, and reference junction panel are located inside a reactor building (RB), while the temperature instrument is located outside the RB. Initially, the temperature instrument indicates 440°F.

A steam leak outside the RB increases the temperature of the temperature instrument from 80°F to 120°F, while the temperatures at the thermocouple, thermocouple connection head, and reference junction panel remain unchanged. Assuming the temperature instrument remains operable, what is the resulting temperature indication?

- A. 400°F
- B. 440°F
- C. 480°F
- D. 560°F



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QUESTION: 6

Which one of the following describes the positive space charge effect associated with a gas-filled radiation detector?

- A. Multiple detector pulses result from a single ionization event because positive ions form a cloud around the negative electrode, which increases the electric field strength, thereby initiating secondary ionizations.
- B. Multiple detector pulses result from a single ionization event because positive ions form a cloud around the positive electrode, which increases the electric field strength, thereby initiating secondary ionizations.
- C. The pulse amplitude resulting from an ionization event is reduced because positive ions form a cloud around the negative electrode, which reduces the electric field strength, thereby limiting secondary ionizations.
- D. The pulse amplitude resulting from an ionization event is reduced because positive ions form a cloud around the positive electrode, which reduces the electric field strength, thereby limiting secondary ionizations.

QUESTION: 7

A Geiger-Mueller detector with a “pancake” probe (often called a frisker) is being used to monitor workers leaving a radiologically controlled area for contamination. The probe is equipped with a mica window. The background detector count rate is 20 cpm.

As one worker’s shoe is scanned, the count rate increases to 200 cpm. When a sheet of paper is placed between the probe and the shoe, the count rate decreases to 60 cpm. Which one of the following is indicated by the decrease in the count rate?

- A. The contamination contains beta particles.
- B. The contamination contains alpha particles.
- C. The contamination does not contain beta particles.
- D. The contamination does not contain alpha particles.

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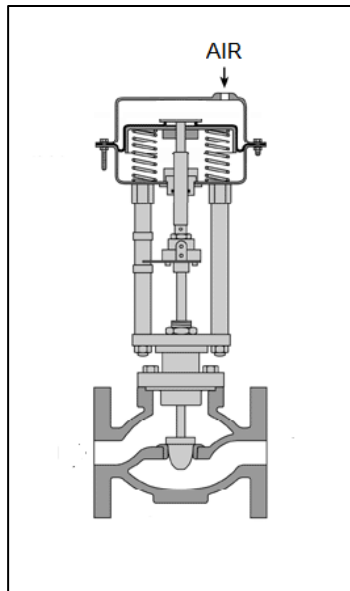
QUESTION: 8

Refer to the drawing of a flow control valve (see figure below) located in the makeup water supply line to a water storage tank.

The flow control valve is positioned by a tank level controller that can maintain a stable water level anywhere between 10 percent above and 10 percent below the controller setpoint. The tank level controller receives input from a direct-acting tank level detector.

Which one of the following describes the characteristics of the tank level controller?

- A. Direct-acting with proportional only control.
- B. Direct-acting with proportional-integral control.
- C. Reverse-acting with proportional only control.
- D. Reverse-acting with proportional-integral control.



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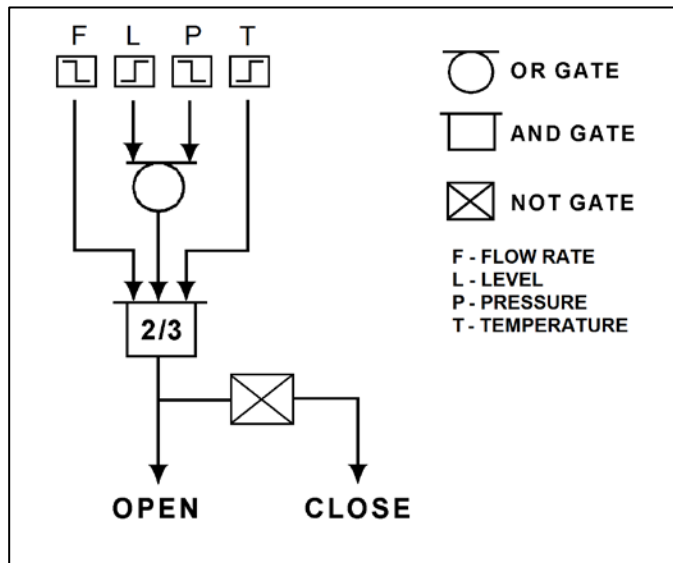
QUESTION: 9

Refer to the logic diagram for a valve controller (see figure below).

Which one of the following combinations of flow rate (F), level (L), pressure (P), and temperature (T) input conditions will result in the valve receiving a CLOSE signal? (The options below indicate whether the input values are higher or lower than the associated bistable setpoints.)

INPUT CONDITIONS

	F	L	P	T
A.	Higher	Higher	Lower	Higher
B.	Lower	Lower	Higher	Lower
C.	Higher	Lower	Lower	Higher
D.	Lower	Higher	Higher	Lower



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QUESTION: 10

The discharge valve for a radial-flow centrifugal cooling water pump is closed in preparation for starting the pump.

After the pump is started, the following stable pump pressures are observed:

Pump discharge pressure = 30 psig

Pump suction pressure = 10 psig

With the discharge valve still closed, if the pump speed is doubled, what will be the new pump discharge pressure?

- A. 80 psig
- B. 90 psig
- C. 120 psig
- D. 130 psig

QUESTION: 11

Initially, an AC motor-driven centrifugal pump was operating in a cooling water system with cooling water temperature at 150°F. Over several hours, the cooling water temperature decreased and is currently 100°F. Assuming pump flow rate (gpm) remained constant, the pump motor is drawing _____ current because _____ is greater.

- A. more; cooling water density
- B. more; motor efficiency
- C. less; cooling water density
- D. less; motor efficiency

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QUESTION: 12

Consider the required net positive suction head ($NPSH_R$) and the available net positive suction head ($NPSH_A$) for a typical centrifugal pump operating normally in a closed cooling water system. If the pump flow rate increases, _____ will be affected; and if the pump inlet pressure increases, _____ will be affected.

- A. only $NPSH_A$; only $NPSH_A$
- B. only $NPSH_A$; both $NPSH_R$ and $NPSH_A$
- C. both $NPSH_R$ and $NPSH_A$; only $NPSH_A$
- D. both $NPSH_R$ and $NPSH_A$; both $NPSH_R$ and $NPSH_A$

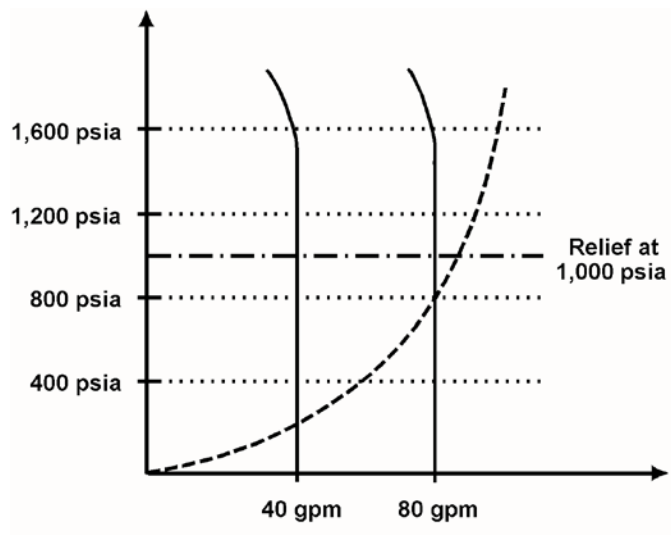
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QUESTION: 13

Use the following drawing of system and pump operating curves for an operating positive displacement pump with relief valve protection to answer the following question.

A positive displacement pump is initially supplying water at 40 gpm with a pump discharge pressure of 200 psia. If pump speed is increased until pump flow rate is 80 gpm, what is the new pump discharge pressure?

- A. 400 psia
- B. 800 psia
- C. 1,000 psia
- D. 1,600 psia



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QUESTION: 14

A large AC motor has a maximum ambient temperature rating of 40°C. Which one of the following will occur if the motor is continuously operated at rated load with an ambient temperature of 50°C?

- A. Accelerated embrittlement of the motor windings, leading to an open circuit within the motor windings.
- B. Accelerated embrittlement of the motor windings, leading to a short circuit within the motor windings.
- C. Accelerated breakdown of the motor winding insulation, leading to an open circuit within the motor windings.
- D. Accelerated breakdown of the motor winding insulation, leading to a short circuit within the motor windings.

QUESTION: 15

Which one of the following is the primary reason for limiting the number of motor starts in a given time period?

- A. Prevents overheating of the motor windings.
- B. Minimizes axial stresses on the motor bearings.
- C. Minimizes pitting of contacts in the motor breaker.
- D. Prevents excessive torsional stresses on the motor shaft.

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QUESTION: 16

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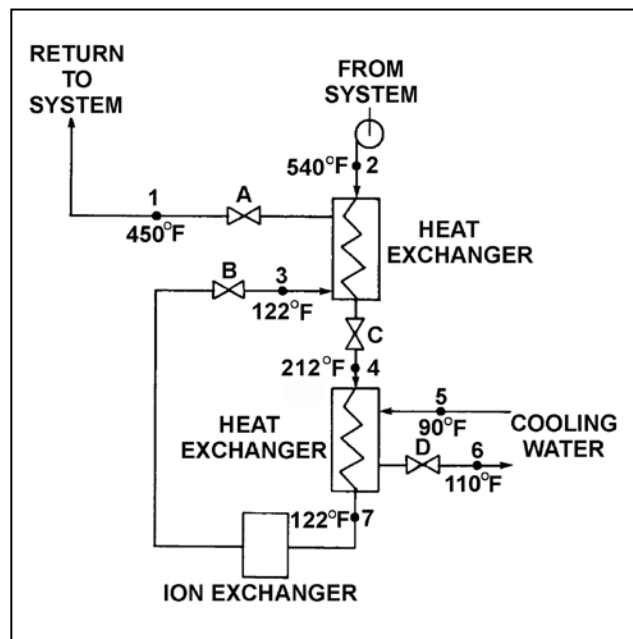
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QUESTION: 17

Refer to the drawing of an operating water cleanup system (see figure below).

Valves A, B, and C are fully open. Valve D is 80 percent open. If valve D is throttled to 50 percent, the temperature at point...

- A. 3 will decrease.
- B. 4 will increase.
- C. 5 will increase.
- D. 6 will decrease.



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QUESTION: 18

Refer to the drawing of an operating lube oil heat exchanger (see figure below).

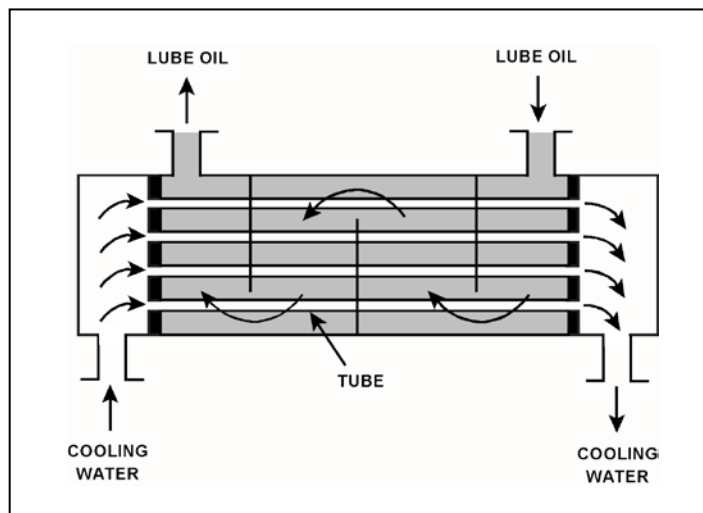
The heat exchanger is operating with the following initial parameters:

Cooling water inlet temperature (T_{cw-in})	=	75°F
Cooling water outlet temperature (T_{cw-out})	=	95°F
Oil inlet temperature (T_{oil-in})	=	150°F
Oil outlet temperature ($T_{oil-out}$)	=	110°F

Air leakage into the heat exchanger causes some of the heat exchanger tubes to become uncovered. As a result, T_{cw-out} decreases to 89°F. Assume the inlet temperatures, mass flow rates, and specific heats of both fluids do not change.

Which one of the following will be the resulting temperature of the lube oil exiting the heat exchanger ($T_{oil-out}$)?

- A. 116°F
- B. 122°F
- C. 130°F
- D. 138°F



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QUESTION: 19

A demineralizer should be removed from service if the demineralizer differential pressure is _____ than the established limit, or if the demineralizer decontamination factor is _____ than the established limit.

- A. less; less
- B. less; greater
- C. greater; less
- D. greater; greater

QUESTION: 20

Water is passing through an ion exchanger that contains only cation exchange resin. Currently, every available ion exchange site in the resin has exchanged its original cation and is occupied by a sodium (Na^+) ion. Assuming that water temperature does not change, what will be the effect on the ion exchanger if a new cation impurity, other than Na^+ , is introduced into the water entering the ion exchanger?

- A. The new cations will bypass the occupied ion exchange sites under all circumstances.
- B. The new cations will take the place of the Na^+ ions on the ion exchange sites under all circumstances.
- C. The new cations will take the place of the Na^+ ions on the ion exchange sites only if the new cations have a greater positive charge than the Na^+ ions.
- D. The new cations will take the place of the Na^+ ions on the ion exchange sites only if the resin has a greater affinity for the new cations.

**USNRC GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
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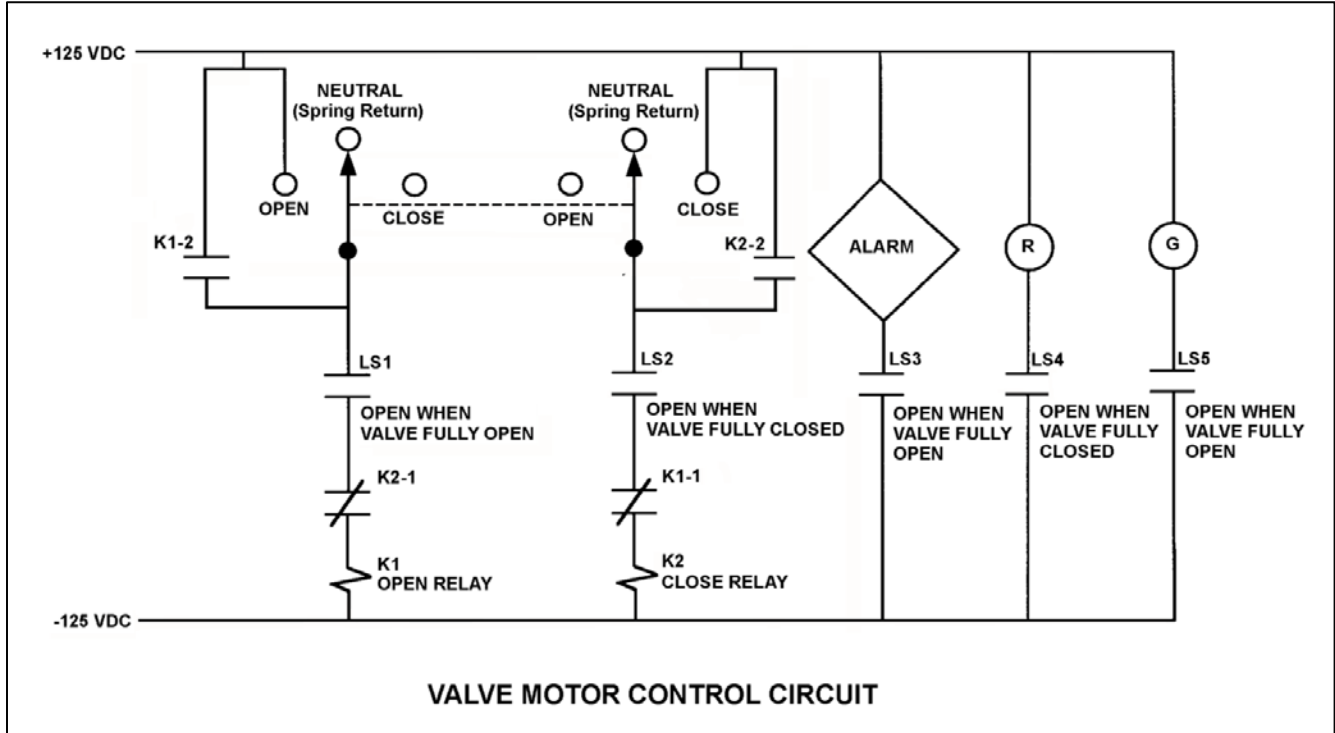
QUESTION: 21

Refer to the drawing of a valve motor control circuit (see figure below) for a valve that is currently fully open and has a 10-second stroke time.

Note: Limit switch (LS) contacts are shown open regardless of valve position, but relay contacts are shown open/closed according to the standard convention for control circuit drawings.

The operator takes the control switch to CLOSE momentarily and the valve begins to close. Five seconds later, the operator takes the switch to OPEN momentarily and then releases the switch. Which one of the following describes the valve response after the switch is released?

- A. The valve will close fully and then go fully open.
- B. The valve will close fully and remain fully closed.
- C. The valve will stop closing and then go fully open.
- D. The valve will stop closing and remain partially open.



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QUESTION: 22

A main generator is being paralleled to an infinite power grid with the following conditions:

Generator frequency = 59.9 Hz
Grid frequency = 60.1 Hz
Generator voltage = 114.8 KV
Grid voltage = 115.1 KV

When the generator output breaker is closed, the generator will...

- A. acquire real load and reactive load.
- B. acquire real load, but become a reactive load to the grid.
- C. become a real load to the grid, but acquire reactive load.
- D. become a real load and a reactive load to the grid.

QUESTION: 23

Which one of the following nuclei will cause the greater loss of kinetic energy from a 2.1 MeV fission neutron during a head-on collision? (Assume that each nucleus is stationary just prior to the collision and the neutron is elastically scattered in all cases.)

- A. A helium-4 nucleus in the fuel rod fill gas.
- B. An oxygen-16 nucleus in the reactor coolant.
- C. A zirconium-90 nucleus in the fuel cladding.
- D. A uranium-235 nucleus in a fuel pellet.

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QUESTION: 24

A reactor scrammed from 100 percent steady-state power due to an instrument malfunction 16 hours ago. All systems operated normally.

Given the following absolute values of reactivities added since the scram, assign a (+) or (–) as appropriate and choose the current value of core reactivity.

Xenon = () 1.5 % Δ K/K
Fuel temperature = () 2.5 % Δ K/K
Control rods = () 14.0 % Δ K/K
Voids = () 3.5 % Δ K/K

- A. -6.5 % Δ K/K
- B. -9.5 % Δ K/K
- C. -11.5 % Δ K/K
- D. -13.5 % Δ K/K

QUESTION: 25

Of the following conditions, which group is necessary for subcritical multiplication to occur?

- A. Neutron source, moderator, and fissionable material
- B. Moderator, fission product decay, and K_{eff} less than one
- C. K_{eff} less than one, gamma source, and fissionable material
- D. Fissionable material, gamma source, and K_{eff} greater than one

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QUESTION: 26

Compared to the beginning of a fuel cycle, at the end of a fuel cycle the fuel temperature coefficient is _____ negative due to _____. (Assume the same initial fuel temperature throughout the fuel cycle.)

- A. less; burnup of U-238
- B. less; buildup of fission products
- C. more; burnup of gadolinium
- D. more; buildup of Pu-240

QUESTION: 27

Which one of the following lists the moderator temperature coefficient (MTC), fuel temperature coefficient (FTC), and void coefficient (VC) in order of magnitude from most negative to least negative for a reactor at 50 percent power in the middle of a fuel cycle?

- A. FTC, VC, MTC
- B. FTC, MTC, VC
- C. VC, FTC, MTC
- D. VC, MTC, FTC

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QUESTION: 28

A control rod that was initially at position 06 is being withdrawn three more notches. After the withdrawal, the control rod will be classified as a _____ rod; and the blade tip for this control rod will be positioned 36 inches from the _____ position.

- A. shallow; fully inserted
- B. shallow; fully withdrawn
- C. deep; fully inserted
- D. deep; fully withdrawn

QUESTION: 29

Which one of the following describes the change in magnitude (positive value) of integral rod worth during the complete withdrawal of a fully inserted control rod?

- A. Increases, then decreases.
- B. Increases continuously.
- C. Decreases, then increases.
- D. Decreases continuously.

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QUESTION: 30

A nuclear power plant was operating at 100 percent power for 3 months near the end of a fuel cycle when a reactor scram occurred. Eighteen hours later, the reactor is critical at the point of adding heat with normal operating reactor vessel temperature and pressure. Power level will be raised to 100 percent over the next 3 hours.

During this power level increase, most of the positive reactivity added by the operator will be required to overcome the negative reactivity from...

- A. fuel burnup.
- B. xenon-135 buildup.
- C. fuel temperature increase.
- D. moderator temperature increase.

QUESTION: 31

A nuclear power plant has been operating at 100 percent power for two months when a reactor scram occurs. Shortly after the reactor scram, a reactor startup is commenced. Four hours after the scram, reactor power is at 5 percent. To maintain reactor power at 5 percent over the next hour, the operator must add...

- A. positive reactivity, because the xenon-135 concentration is increasing.
- B. negative reactivity, because the xenon-135 concentration is increasing.
- C. positive reactivity, because the xenon-135 concentration is decreasing.
- D. negative reactivity, because the xenon-135 concentration is decreasing.

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QUESTION: 32

Which one of the following is not a function performed by burnable poisons in an operating reactor?

- A. Provide neutron flux shaping.
- B. Provide more uniform power density.
- C. Offset the effects of control rod burnout.
- D. Allow higher enrichment of new fuel assemblies.

QUESTION: 33

Which one of the following is a significant factor when calculating the critical rod position for a reactor startup?

- A. Core flow rate
- B. Source range initial count rate
- C. Recirculation ratio
- D. Core age

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QUESTION: 34

A reactor has just achieved criticality during a xenon-free reactor startup. Instead of stabilizing source range count rate at 1.0×10^3 cps per the startup procedure, the operator inadvertently allows count rate to increase to 1.0×10^4 cps.

Assuming reactor vessel coolant temperature and pressure do not change, the critical rod height at 1.0×10^4 cps will be _____ the critical rod height at 1.0×10^3 cps. (Neglect any effects of changes in fission product poisons.)

- A. different, but unpredictable compared to
- B. less than
- C. greater than
- D. equal to

QUESTION: 35

After taking critical data during a reactor startup, the operator establishes a stable 50-second reactor period to increase power to the point of adding heat (POAH). Which one of the following is the approximate amount of reactivity needed to stabilize reactor power at the POAH? (Assume $\bar{\beta}_{\text{eff}} = 0.006$.)

- A. $-0.01 \text{ \%}\Delta K/K$
- B. $-0.06 \text{ \%}\Delta K/K$
- C. $-0.10 \text{ \%}\Delta K/K$
- D. $-0.60 \text{ \%}\Delta K/K$

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QUESTION: 36

Initially, a reactor was critical just below the point of adding heat during a normal reactor startup when a reactivity event caused a rapid insertion of negative reactivity. No subsequent changes to reactivity occurred.

Ten seconds after the completion of the negative reactivity insertion, the reactor period was observed to be stable at – 110 seconds. Was the reactivity event a reactor scram or the uncontrolled rapid insertion of a fully-withdrawn control rod, and why?

- A. Reactor scram, because the uncontrolled rapid insertion of a fully-withdrawn control rod will not produce a stable negative reactor period 10 seconds after the completion of the negative reactivity insertion.
- B. Reactor scram, because the uncontrolled rapid insertion of a fully-withdrawn control rod will produce a more negative stable reactor period 10 seconds after the completion of the negative reactivity insertion.
- C. The uncontrolled rapid insertion of a fully-withdrawn control rod, because a reactor scram will not produce a stable negative reactor period 10 seconds after the completion of the negative reactivity insertion.
- D. The uncontrolled rapid insertion of a fully-withdrawn control rod, because a reactor scram will produce a less negative stable reactor period 10 seconds after the completion of the negative reactivity insertion.

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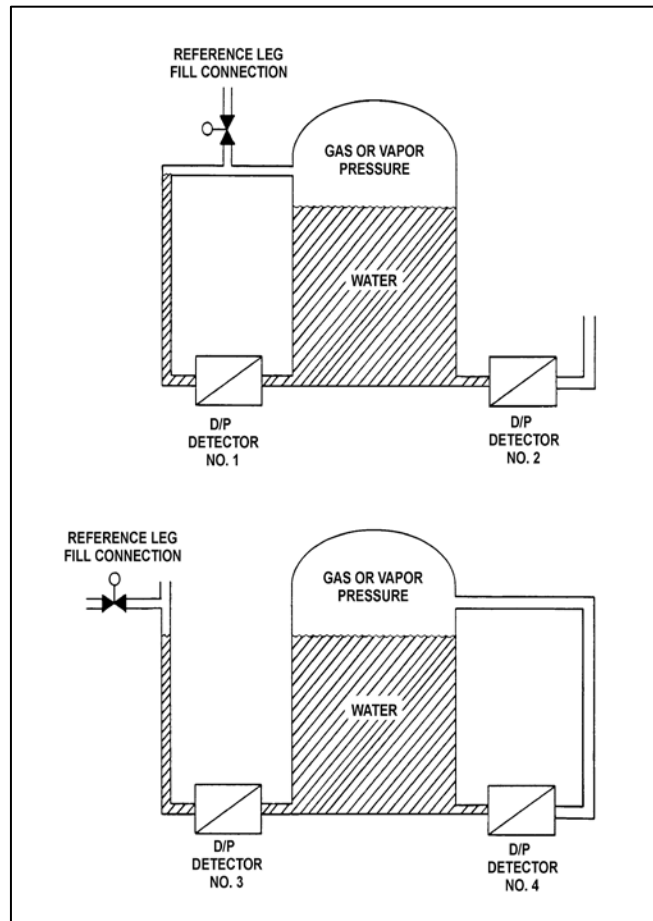
QUESTION: 37

Refer to the drawing of two water storage tanks with four differential pressure (D/P) level detectors (see figure below).

The tanks are identical and are being maintained at 2 psig overpressure, the same constant water level, and a temperature of 60°F. The tanks are surrounded by atmospheric pressure. All level detectors have been calibrated and are producing the same level indication.

If a leak in the top of each tank causes a complete loss of overpressure in both tanks, which detector(s) will produce the highest level indication(s)?

- A. No. 1 only
- B. No. 2 only
- C. No. 1 and 4
- D. No. 2 and 3



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QUESTION: 38

For which of the following ideal processes, if any, is the steam inlet enthalpy equal to the steam outlet enthalpy? (Assume horizontal fluid flow in each process.)

- (A) Dry saturated steam flowing through a pressure reducing valve.
- (B) Dry saturated steam flowing through a fixed convergent nozzle.

- A. (A) only
- B. (B) only
- C. Both (A) and (B)
- D. Neither (A) nor (B)

QUESTION: 39

Dry saturated steam at 1,000 psia enters an ideal high pressure (HP) turbine and exhausts at 100 psia. The HP turbine exhaust then enters an ideal low pressure (LP) turbine and exhausts to a steam condenser at 1.5 psia. Which one of the following will cause the HP and LP turbines to produce more equal power? (Assume all pressures remain the same unless stated otherwise.)

- A. Reheat the HP turbine exhaust.
- B. Lower the steam condenser pressure.
- C. Remove the moisture from the HP turbine exhaust.
- D. Decrease the pressure of the dry saturated steam entering the HP turbine.

**USNRC GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
SEPTEMBER 2017 BWR – FORM A**

QUESTION: 40

Condensate is collecting in a main condenser hotwell at 90°F with a condenser pressure of 28 inches Hg vacuum. Which one of the following will improve the steam cycle thermal efficiency?

- A. Main condenser cooling water flow rate decreases by 5 percent with no change in condenser vacuum.
- B. Main condenser cooling water inlet temperature decreases by 10°F with no change in condenser vacuum.
- C. Main condenser vacuum decreases to 27 inches Hg due to buildup of noncondensable gases.
- D. Steam flow through the turbine decreases by 10 percent with no change in condenser vacuum.

QUESTION: 41

Given the following:

- A saturated steam-water mixture with an inlet quality of 70 percent is flowing through a moisture separator.
- The moisture separator is 100 percent efficient for removing moisture.

How much moisture will be removed by the moisture separator from 50 lbm of the steam-water mixture?

- A. 15 lbm
- B. 30 lbm
- C. 35 lbm
- D. 50 lbm

**USNRC GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
SEPTEMBER 2017 BWR – FORM A**

QUESTION: 42

If the discharge valve of an operating ideal positive displacement pump is repositioned from fully open to 75 percent open, pump head will _____; and pump flow rate will _____.

- A. increase; decrease
- B. increase; remain the same
- C. remain the same; decrease
- D. remain the same; remain the same

QUESTION: 43

A centrifugal water pump was returned to service after maintenance. However, the operator failed to vent the pump.

Compared to normal pump operating conditions, after the pump is started the operator will see a _____ flow rate and a _____ discharge head.

- A. higher; lower
- B. higher; higher
- C. lower; lower
- D. lower; higher

**USNRC GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
SEPTEMBER 2017 BWR – FORM A**

QUESTION: 44

During nuclear power plant operation at 100 percent power, which one of the following is the major mode of heat transfer occurring as steam travels from the reactor vessel to the main turbine?

- A. Radiolysis
- B. Radiation
- C. Conduction
- D. Convection

QUESTION: 45

Which one of the following describes the heat transfer from a fuel rod experiencing departure from nucleate boiling? (Note: ΔT refers to the difference between the fuel rod surface temperature and the bulk coolant saturation temperature.)

- A. Steam bubbles begin to blanket the fuel rod surface, causing a rapid increase in the ΔT for a given heat flux.
- B. Steam bubbles completely blanket the fuel rod surface, causing a rapid decrease in the ΔT for a given heat flux.
- C. Steam bubbles begin to form on the fuel rod surface, causing a rapid increase in the heat flux from the fuel rod for a given ΔT .
- D. Steam bubbles completely blanket the fuel rod surface, causing a rapid increase in the heat flux from the fuel rod for a given ΔT .

**USNRC GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
SEPTEMBER 2017 BWR – FORM A**

QUESTION: 46

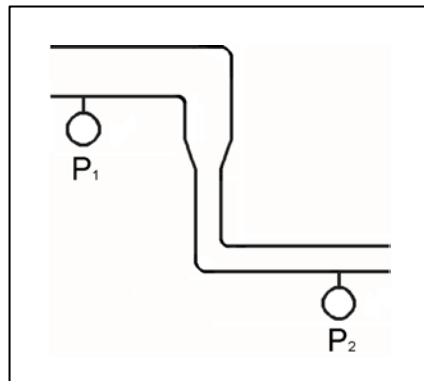
Refer to the drawing of a section of pipe that contains flowing subcooled water. (See figure below).

Given:

- Pressure at P_1 is 30 psig.
- Pressure at P_2 is 32 psig.
- Pressure change due to change in velocity is 2 psig.
- Pressure change due to change in elevation is 2 psig.

The pressure decrease due to friction head loss between P_1 and P_2 is _____; and the direction of flow is from _____.

- A. 2 psig; left to right
- B. 2 psig; right to left
- C. 6 psig; left to right
- D. 6 psig; right to left



**USNRC GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
SEPTEMBER 2017 BWR – FORM A**

QUESTION: 47

A reactor is operating at steady-state 80 percent power near the beginning of a fuel cycle with core power distribution peaked radially in the center of the core and axially in the bottom half of the core. Only reactor recirculation flow rate adjustments will be used to maintain constant reactor power over the next two months.

Assuming no change in reactor poison distribution, during the next two months the maximum radial peaking factor will _____; and the maximum axial peaking factor will _____.

- A. increase; decrease
- B. increase; increase
- C. decrease; decrease
- D. decrease; increase

QUESTION: 48

Which one of the following parameters is limited to protect against fuel rod cracking caused by stress from fuel pellet expansion?

- A. Linear heat generation rate.
- B. Average planar linear heat generation rate.
- C. Transient critical power ratio.
- D. Steady-state critical power ratio.

**USNRC GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
SEPTEMBER 2017 BWR – FORM A**

QUESTION: 49

A nuclear power plant is operating at 90 percent power near the end of a fuel cycle when reactor recirculation flow rate suddenly decreases by 10 percent. Assuming the reactor does not scram immediately, critical power will initially _____; and reactor power will initially _____.

- A. increase; increase
- B. increase; decrease
- C. decrease; increase
- D. decrease; decrease

QUESTION: 50

During a reactor plant heatup, the thermal stress applied to the reactor vessel wall is...

- A. tensile across the entire wall.
- B. tensile at the inner wall and compressive at the outer wall.
- C. compressive across the entire wall.
- D. compressive at the inner wall and tensile at the outer wall.

***** FINAL ANSWER KEY *****

**SEPTEMBER 2017 NRC GENERIC FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION
BOILING WATER REACTOR - ANSWER KEY**

<u>FORM A</u>	<u>FORM B</u>	<u>ANS.</u>	<u>FORM A</u>	<u>FORM B</u>	<u>ANS.</u>
1	15	D	26	40	D
2	16	D	27	41	D
3	17	A	28	42	C
4	18	C	29	43	B
5	19	B	30	44	C
6	20	D	31	45	A
7	21	B	32	46	C
8	22	A	33	47	D
9	23	B	34	48	D
10	24	B	35	49	C
11	25	A	36	50	C
12	26	C	37	1	C
13	27	B	38	2	A
14	28	D	39	3	C
15	29	A	40	4	A
16	30	Deleted	41	5	A
17	31	B	42	6	B
18	32	B	43	7	C
19	33	C	44	8	D
20	34	D	45	9	A
21	35	B	46	10	B
22	36	D	47	11	C
23	37	A	48	12	A
24	38	B	49	13	D
25	39	A	50	14	D