

Forklift Test Study Guide

50 practice questions with answers. Each answer explains why and names the rule behind it, mostly paragraphs of 29 CFR 1910.178, OSHA's forklift standard.

Name _____

Score _____ / 50

How to use it

- 1** Answer all 50 first. Circle one letter per question.
- 2** Check yourself against the answer key on pages 7 to 10. Our course's final exam passes at 80%, which here is 40 of 50.
- 3** For every miss, read the explanation and the rule. The same questions are online, scored for you, at easyforkliftcertification.com/practice-test/.

OSHA does not publish an official forklift test. Your employer certifies you, and a written test covers the classroom part only: OSHA also requires practical training and an evaluation of your driving in the workplace before you operate on your own **1910.178(l)(2), (l)(6)**.

Inspection and maintenance

QUESTIONS 1-5

1. Which items should be checked during a forklift pre-operation inspection?

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ (A) Only the engine oil and fuel levels | ☐ (B) Just the horn and backup alarm |
| ☐ (C) Tires, forks, fluid levels, controls, mast, brakes, steering, and safety devices | ☐ (D) Only items listed on the maintenance schedule |

2. During a pre-operation inspection, you discover that the forklift's brakes are not working properly. What should you do?

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ (A) Tag the forklift out of service and report the problem to a supervisor | ☐ (B) Operate the forklift carefully at reduced speed |
| ☐ (C) Use the forklift only for light loads | ☐ (D) Keep using it until the next scheduled maintenance |

3. The horn on your truck stops working mid-shift. What should happen?

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ (A) Keep driving and shout at the corners | ☐ (B) Tape the wires back together yourself |
| ☐ (C) Finish the shift and mention it next week | ☐ (D) Report it, take the truck out of service, and leave the repair to authorized personnel |

4. **TRUE OR FALSE** If a truck's nameplate is missing or unreadable, you can still operate it if you know roughly what it can lift.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ☐ (A) True | ☐ (B) False |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|

5. What does OSHA require before a modification that affects a forklift's capacity or safe operation?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ (A) Anyone with mechanical experience may make it | ☐ (B) The manufacturer's prior written approval |
| ☐ (C) Such changes are never allowed | ☐ (D) A supervisor's verbal okay |

Loads and stability

QUESTIONS 6-10

6. Where do you find a forklift's load capacity?

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ (A) In the operator's manual only | ☐ (B) On the data plate (nameplate) attached to the forklift |
| ☐ (C) On the warehouse bulletin board | ☐ (D) On the load itself |

Loads and stability (continued)

QUESTIONS 6-10

7. What happens when a load's center of gravity sits farther out than the forklift's rated load center?
- (A) Nothing changes as long as the load is under the rated weight
(B) The forklift's capacity goes up
(C) Only the steering is affected
(D) The forklift's safe capacity goes down
8. A pallet has a broken board and the boxes are leaning. What should you do?
- (A) Don't move it until the load is made stable, for example restacked or wrapped
(B) Move it quickly before it falls
(C) Carry it with the forks raised high
(D) Tilt the forks forward to balance it
9. On a counterbalanced forklift, what forms the 'stability triangle'?
- (A) The three corners of the operator's seat
(B) The mast, the overhead guard, and the counterweight
(C) The two front wheels and the center pivot point of the rear (steer) axle
(D) The three pedals on the floor
10. When traveling with a load on a forklift, where should the forks be?
- (A) Raised high for better visibility
(B) Dragging on the ground
(C) At full mast height to clear obstacles
(D) Low, about 4 to 6 inches off the floor, with the mast tilted slightly back

Driving and visibility

QUESTIONS 11-17

11. What should a forklift operator do when approaching a blind corner or intersection?
- (A) Slow down, sound the horn, and look before going ahead
(B) Speed up to get through quickly
(C) Assume no one is there if they don't hear anything
(D) Flash the headlights and keep going at normal speed
12. How far behind another truck does OSHA's rule say you should stay?
- (A) One truck length
(B) About three truck lengths
(C) Exactly ten feet
(D) The rule sets no distance
13. You come up behind a slower truck going the same way at an intersection. What should you do?
- (A) Pass it quickly before the intersection
(B) Sound the horn and pass on the left
(C) Stay behind it; passing at intersections, blind spots, or other dangerous spots is not allowed
(D) Pass only if the other truck is empty
14. The floor ahead is wet from a spill. What does OSHA's rule require?
- (A) Keep your speed up so you don't get stuck
(B) Slow down
(C) Speed up to cross it quickly
(D) Raise the forks before crossing
15. What speed limit does OSHA's forklift rule set?
- (A) 5 mph everywhere
(B) 10 mph indoors and 15 mph outdoors
(C) No fixed number: follow your site's speed limits and drive at a speed that lets you stop safely
(D) Whatever keeps up with production

Driving and visibility (continued)

QUESTIONS 11-17

16. Most sit-down forklifts steer with the rear wheels. What does that mean for the operator?

- ☐ (A) The rear end swings wide in a turn, so check the tail-swing area first
- ☐ (B) The truck can only turn at high speed
- ☐ (C) The truck steers exactly like a car
- ☐ (D) Turns need no extra care in narrow aisles

17. Your load is so tall you cannot see over it. How should you travel?

- ☐ (A) Forward, leaning out to look around the load
- ☐ (B) Forward with the load raised higher
- ☐ (C) Forward, sounding the horn the whole way
- ☐ (D) In reverse with the load trailing, looking in the direction of travel

Ramps, docks and elevators

QUESTIONS 18-21

18. On a ramp or incline, what should you never do with a forklift?

- ☐ (A) Drive at a controlled speed
- ☐ (B) Turn or drive across the slope at an angle
- ☐ (C) Set the parking brake when parked with wheels blocked
- ☐ (D) Drive with the headlights on

19. When driving a loaded forklift up a ramp, which way should the load face?

- ☐ (A) Downhill
- ☐ (B) Uphill, so you drive forward up the ramp
- ☐ (C) Sideways across the ramp
- ☐ (D) It doesn't matter if the load is raised high

20. What does OSHA require before you drive over a dockboard (bridge plate)?

- ☐ (A) Nothing, if it looks level
- ☐ (B) Cross it fast so it doesn't have time to shift
- ☐ (C) Raise the forks high to clear it
- ☐ (D) It must be properly secured, and you cross slowly without exceeding its rated capacity

21. Driving a forklift onto a freight elevator, which is correct?

- ☐ (A) Approach slowly, enter squarely once the car is level, then neutralize the controls, shut off the power, and set the brakes
- ☐ (B) Enter fast so the doors don't close on you
- ☐ (C) Enter at an angle to fit more on board
- ☐ (D) Keep the truck running and in gear during the ride

People around the truck

QUESTIONS 22-24

22. A pedestrian is in the forklift's path of travel. What should the operator do?

- ☐ (A) Sound the horn and keep going if the pedestrian does not move
- ☐ (B) Drive around the pedestrian quickly
- ☐ (C) Stop and wait until the pedestrian has moved to a safe spot
- ☐ (D) Expect the pedestrian to get out of the way

23. Which statement about carrying passengers on a forklift is correct?

- ☐ (A) Passengers may ride on the forks if they hold on tightly
- ☐ (B) One extra person may ride standing on the counterweight
- ☐ (C) Passengers are fine in the operator compartment on short trips
- ☐ (D) No one may ride unless riding is authorized and the truck has a safe place to ride

People around the truck (continued)

QUESTIONS 22-24

24. A coworker wants to walk past your truck while the forks are raised. What is the rule?

- ☐ (A) No one may stand or pass under raised forks, loaded or empty
- ☐ (B) They may walk under the forks if the forks are empty
- ☐ (C) They may pass under if they wear a hard hat
- ☐ (D) They may pass under while you hold the lift lever still

Parking and leaving the truck

QUESTIONS 25-27

25. If a forklift will be left unattended, what must the operator do?

- ☐ (A) Leave the forks raised so no one trips over them
- ☐ (B) Leave it running in case someone else needs it
- ☐ (C) Fully lower the forks, neutralize the controls, shut off the power, and set the brakes
- ☐ (D) Set the parking brake and nothing else

26. You step off the truck to read a label 10 feet away, and the truck stays in your view. What must you do?

- ☐ (A) Nothing, since you are close by
- ☐ (B) Fully lower the forks, neutralize the controls, and set the brakes
- ☐ (C) Leave the forks raised so you can pick the load faster
- ☐ (D) Just switch off the lights

27. Which of these must always be kept clear, so you never park or stage loads there?

- ☐ (A) The designated forklift parking area
- ☐ (B) A marked pallet staging lane
- ☐ (C) Fire aisles, access to stairways, and fire equipment
- ☐ (D) An empty rack bay

Fuel, batteries and hazardous areas

QUESTIONS 28-32

28. Which precaution is required when charging an electric forklift battery?

- ☐ (A) Charge in a designated area with ventilation, an eyewash, and fire protection
- ☐ (B) Charge the battery wherever is convenient
- ☐ (C) Keep the battery compartment sealed during charging
- ☐ (D) Charging areas need no special equipment

29. When mixing electrolyte during battery charging, which is correct?

- ☐ (A) Pour water into acid
- ☐ (B) Either order is fine
- ☐ (C) Mix them by rocking the battery
- ☐ (D) Pour acid into water, never water into acid

30. TRUE OR FALSE Smoking is allowed in a battery charging area as long as the charger is switched off.

- ☐ (A) True
- ☐ (B) False

31. When changing the propane cylinder on a forklift, what should the operator do?

- ☐ (A) Keep the engine running so it restarts faster
- ☐ (B) Shut off the engine, work in a well-ventilated area, and keep away from open flames
- ☐ (C) Change it indoors with the doors closed to keep dust out
- ☐ (D) Smoke only if standing 3 feet from the forklift

32. You're asked to drive into a paint-mixing room marked as a hazardous (classified) location. What must be true?

- ☐ (A) Any electric truck is fine, because electric trucks never spark
- ☐ (B) The truck must be an approved type with the designation allowed for that location
- ☐ (C) Any truck is fine if the doors are open
- ☐ (D) Only diesel trucks may go in

Training and certification rules

QUESTIONS 33-38

33. Under OSHA's rule, how often must each forklift operator's performance be evaluated?

- ☐ (A) Every 6 months
- ☐ (B) Every year
- ☐ (C) At least once every 3 years
- ☐ (D) Only once, when first hired

34. A new hire is still in training. When may they drive a forklift?

- ☐ (A) Any time, as long as they drive slowly
- ☐ (B) Only on night shifts when the building is quiet
- ☐ (C) After watching another operator for one shift
- ☐ (D) Only under the direct supervision of a qualified trainer, where it doesn't endanger anyone

35. TRUE OR FALSE Finishing an online forklift course is enough, on its own, to be fully certified to operate.

- ☐ (A) True
- ☐ (B) False

36. TRUE OR FALSE An operator involved in a near miss must get refresher training, even if no one was hurt.

- ☐ (A) True
- ☐ (B) False

37. TRUE OR FALSE OSHA issues forklift licenses to operators who pass a written test.

- ☐ (A) True
- ☐ (B) False

38. What must an employer's forklift certification record include?

- ☐ (A) The operator's name, the training date, the evaluation date, and who did the training or evaluation
- ☐ (B) The operator's driver's license number
- ☐ (C) Only the operator's name and signature
- ☐ (D) The operator's test score and the course price

Order pickers

TRUCK TYPE, QUESTIONS 39-42

39. What makes an order picker different from a sit-down forklift?

- ☐ (A) It can only be used outdoors
- ☐ (B) It runs only on propane
- ☐ (C) The operator's platform rises with the forks, so the operator is lifted
- ☐ (D) It has no forks

40. Where should an order picker operator's fall protection lanyard be attached?

- ☐ (A) To a rack upright
- ☐ (B) To the pallet on the forks
- ☐ (C) Nowhere, if you stay in the middle of the platform
- ☐ (D) To the anchor point provided on the order picker

41. TRUE OR FALSE An order picker operator should stay tied off to the truck the whole time the platform is raised.

- ☐ (A) True
- ☐ (B) False

42. The case you need is just out of reach from the raised order picker platform. What should you do?

- ☐ (A) Lower the platform, reposition the truck, and raise it again
- ☐ (B) Unhook your lanyard and step onto the shelf
- ☐ (C) Unclip the lanyard so you can reach farther
- ☐ (D) Climb onto the pallet stack on the forks

Reach trucks

TRUCK TYPE, QUESTIONS 43-46

43. What lets a reach truck place a pallet deep into a rack without moving its base?

- ☐ (A) Its pneumatic tires
- ☐ (B) Its diesel engine
- ☐ (C) Its forks extend forward on a reach mechanism
- ☐ (D) Its forks are mounted on the side

44. How should you travel on a reach truck between rack locations?

- ☐ (A) With the forks extended so you can see the load
- ☐ (B) With the forks low, retracted, and tilted back, the load against the backrest
- ☐ (C) With the load raised to rack height to save time
- ☐ (D) With the forks tilted forward

45. You are backing a stand-up reach truck toward a storage rack with the forks trailing. What hazard does OSHA warn about?

- ☐ (A) The battery running down
- ☐ (B) The tires wearing flat
- ☐ (C) A rack beam entering the operator compartment and crushing the operator
- ☐ (D) The load sliding off the front

46. At the top of a rack, when may you tilt a raised load forward?

- ☐ (A) Only when the load is in the deposit position over the rack
- ☐ (B) Any time you need a better view
- ☐ (C) While traveling to the rack
- ☐ (D) Whenever the load is under capacity

Electric pallet jacks

TRUCK TYPE, QUESTIONS 47-50

47. TRUE OR FALSE An electric walkie pallet jack is a powered industrial truck under OSHA's forklift rule, so operators need training and an evaluation.

- ☐ (A) True
- ☐ (B) False

48. Electric pallet jacks (walkie and walkie/rider trucks) are in which forklift class?

- ☐ (A) Class II, electric motor narrow aisle trucks
- ☐ (B) Class III, electric motor hand trucks or hand/rider trucks
- ☐ (C) Class V, internal combustion trucks with pneumatic tires
- ☐ (D) Class VI, tractors

49. Walking a walkie pallet jack power unit first (the truck following you), where should you walk?

- ☐ (A) Directly in front of it, walking backward
- ☐ (B) Directly in front of it, facing forward in its path
- ☐ (C) Riding on the forks
- ☐ (D) To one side and slightly ahead of the power unit, out of the truck's path

50. What is the reversing button on the end of a walkie pallet jack's control handle for?

- ☐ (A) It sounds the horn
- ☐ (B) If it is pushed against you in close quarters, the truck moves toward the forks, away from you
- ☐ (C) It raises the forks
- ☐ (D) It sets the parking brake

Answer key

The right letter, why it is right, and where the rule comes from. "CFR" is the Code of Federal Regulations; 29 CFR 1910.178 is OSHA's rule for forklifts and other powered industrial trucks.

1. ☐ C Tires, forks, fluid levels, controls, mast, brakes, steering, and safety devices

29 CFR 1910.178(q)(7) requires the examination. OSHA's Powered Industrial Trucks eTool lists what it covers: fluid levels, leaks, hoses and mast chains, tires, forks, decals and nameplates, and safety devices, then an operating check of brakes, steering, controls, horn, and lights.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(q)(7); OSHA eTool: Pre-Operation

2. ☐ A Tag the forklift out of service and report the problem to a supervisor

Under 29 CFR 1910.178(p)(1) and (q)(7), a truck that is defective or unsafe must be taken out of service until it is restored to safe operating condition, and the defect must be reported. Faulty brakes are never something to work around.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(p)(1), (q)(7)

3. ☐ D Report it, take the truck out of service, and leave the repair to authorized personnel

29 CFR 1910.178(q)(1): a truck not in safe operating condition shall be removed from service, and all repairs shall be made by authorized personnel. You need the horn at cross aisles and blind spots under (n)(4), and (q)(7) requires defects to be reported right away.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(q)(1), (q)(7), (n)(4)

4. ☐ B False

False. 29 CFR 1910.178(a)(6) requires all nameplates and markings to be in place and legible. Without the plate you cannot confirm the rated capacity that (o)(2) requires you to stay within, so report it and don't use the truck.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(a)(6), (o)(2)

5. ☐ B The manufacturer's prior written approval

29 CFR 1910.178(a)(4) says modifications and additions that affect capacity and safe operation may not be made without the manufacturer's prior written approval, and the capacity, operation, and maintenance plates must be changed to match.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(a)(4)

6. ☐ B On the data plate (nameplate) attached to the forklift

Capacity is printed on the truck's nameplate (data plate), and 1910.178 Appendix A-5.2 says the operator should always check the data plate for the maximum allowable weight. 29 CFR 1910.178(a)(6) requires all nameplates and markings to be kept in place and legible, and (o)(2) allows only loads within the rated capacity to be handled.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(a)(6), (o)(2); Appendix A-5.2

7. ☐ D The forklift's safe capacity goes down

Rated capacity assumes a set load center, usually 24 inches. The farther out the load's center of gravity, the harder it pulls the truck forward, so the safe weight drops. OSHA's example in 1910.178 Appendix A-5.3: a truck rated 3,000 lb at 24 inches can carry only 2,400 lb when the load center is 30 inches.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178 Appendix A-5.3

8. ☐ A Don't move it until the load is made stable, for example restacked or wrapped

29 CFR 1910.178(o)(1): only stable or safely arranged loads shall be handled. OSHA's eTool adds that damaged goods should not be carried unless secured by wrapping or banding.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(o)(1)

9. ☐ C The two front wheels and the center pivot point of the rear (steer) axle

The steer axle is attached by a pivot pin at its center, so the truck rests on three points: the two front wheels and that pivot. 1910.178 Appendix A-4 calls this the stability triangle. The truck stays upright while the combined center of gravity of truck and load stays inside it.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178 Appendix A-4

10. ☐ D Low, about 4 to 6 inches off the floor, with the mast tilted slightly back

Keeping the load low keeps the center of gravity low. 1910.178 Appendix A-7.2 says a heavy load should be carried at the lowest position possible, and (n)(7)(iii) says on grades the load is raised only as far as needed to clear the road surface. Our course teaches 4 to 6 inches with a slight back tilt.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178 Appendix A-7.2, (n)(7)(iii)

11. ☐ A Slow down, sound the horn, and look before going ahead

29 CFR 1910.178(n)(4) requires the driver to slow down and sound the horn at cross aisles and other places where vision is obstructed, and (n)(6) requires looking in the direction of travel with a clear view of the path.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(4), (n)(6)

12. ☐ B About three truck lengths

29 CFR 1910.178(n)(1) requires a safe distance of approximately three truck lengths from the truck ahead, with your truck kept under control at all times.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(1)

13. ☐ C Stay behind it; passing at intersections, blind spots, or other dangerous spots is not allowed

29 CFR 1910.178(n)(3): other trucks traveling in the same direction at intersections, blind spots, or other dangerous locations shall not be passed.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(3)

Answer key (continued, questions 14–26)

14. **B** Slow down

29 CFR 1910.178(n)(10) requires the driver to slow down for wet and slippery floors. Report the spill so it can be cleaned up.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(10)

15. **C** No fixed number: follow your site's speed limits and drive at a speed that lets you stop safely

29 CFR 1910.178(n)(1) requires observing traffic regulations, including authorized plant speed limits, and (n)(8) requires a speed that lets the truck be stopped safely under all travel conditions. The rule itself sets no mph figure.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(1), (n)(8)

16. **A** The rear end swings wide in a turn, so check the tail-swing area first

How the truck differs from a car is a required training topic under 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(3)(i)(B). OSHA's eTool notes that when a lift truck turns a corner, the rear swings in the opposite direction of the turn, so plan for the swing.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(3)(i)(B); OSHA eTool: Traveling & Maneuvering

17. **D** In reverse with the load trailing, looking in the direction of travel

29 CFR 1910.178(n)(4) requires traveling with the load trailing when the load blocks your forward view, and (n)(6) requires looking in the direction of travel with a clear view of the path. Leaning out is barred by (m)(4).

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(4), (n)(6), (m)(4)

18. **B** Turn or drive across the slope at an angle

Turning or driving across a slope tilts the truck and can tip it sideways. OSHA's eTool says never turn on a grade; turn before the ramp so the forks already point the right way. Ramps and sloped surfaces are a required training topic under 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(3)(ii)(G).

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(3)(ii)(G); OSHA eTool: Ramps and Grades

19. **B** Uphill, so you drive forward up the ramp

29 CFR 1910.178(n)(7)(i) says loaded trucks on grades over 10 percent are driven with the load upgrade. Going up, that means driving forward. Coming down, drive in reverse so the load still points uphill.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(7)(i)

20. **D** It must be properly secured, and you cross slowly without exceeding its rated capacity

29 CFR 1910.178(n)(11): dockboards or bridge plates shall be properly secured before they are driven over, driven over carefully and slowly, and their rated capacity never exceeded.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(11)

21. **A** Approach slowly, enter squarely once the car is level, then neutralize the controls, shut off the power, and set the brakes

29 CFR 1910.178(n)(12) lists these steps. OSHA's eTool adds: make sure the elevator's rated capacity covers the combined weight of the truck and load.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(12)

22. **C** Stop and wait until the pedestrian has moved to a safe spot

OSHA's eTool says to yield to pedestrians: stop and wait until they pass. 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(1) requires the truck to be kept under control at all times, and (n)(8) requires a speed that lets you stop safely. Never assume a pedestrian will move.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(1), (n)(8); OSHA eTool: Pedestrian Traffic

23. **D** No one may ride unless riding is authorized and the truck has a safe place to ride

29 CFR 1910.178(m)(3): unauthorized personnel may not ride on powered industrial trucks, and a safe place to ride must be provided where riding is authorized. Forks, pallets, and counterweights are not a safe place to ride.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(m)(3)

24. **A** No one may stand or pass under raised forks, loaded or empty

29 CFR 1910.178(m)(2): no person shall be allowed to stand or pass under the elevated portion of any truck, whether loaded or empty.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(m)(2)

25. **C** Fully lower the forks, neutralize the controls, shut off the power, and set the brakes

29 CFR 1910.178(m)(5)(i) lists exactly these steps, plus blocking the wheels if the truck is on an incline. Under (m)(5)(ii), a truck is unattended when you are 25 feet or more away, or whenever it is out of your view.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(m)(5)(i), (m)(5)(ii)

26. **B** Fully lower the forks, neutralize the controls, and set the brakes

29 CFR 1910.178(m)(5)(iii): when the operator is dismounted and within 25 feet with the truck still in view, the forks must be fully lowered, controls neutralized, and brakes set. OSHA's eTool notes the power does not have to be shut off in this case.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(m)(5)(iii)

Answer key (continued, questions 27–39)

27. [C] Fire aisles, access to stairways, and fire equipment

29 CFR 1910.178(m)(14): fire aisles, access to stairways, and fire equipment shall be kept clear.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(m)(14)

28. [A] Charge in a designated area with ventilation, an eyewash, and fire protection

29 CFR 1910.178(g)(1) and (g)(2) require a designated charging area with facilities for flushing and neutralizing spilled electrolyte, fire protection, and ventilation for battery gases. Where eyes can be exposed to battery acid, 1910.151(c) requires quick-flush facilities such as an eyewash. Under (g)(9) the battery cover stays open to let heat escape.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(g)(1), (g)(2), (g)(9); 1910.151(c)

29. [D] Pour acid into water, never water into acid

29 CFR 1910.178(g)(7): when charging batteries, acid shall be poured into water; water shall not be poured into acid.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(g)(7)

30. [B] False

False. 29 CFR 1910.178(g)(10) prohibits smoking in the charging area, and (g)(11) requires precautions against open flames, sparks, or electric arcs there. Charging batteries give off hydrogen gas, which can explode.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(g)(10), (g)(11)

31. [B] Shut off the engine, work in a well-ventilated area, and keep away from open flames

29 CFR 1910.178(p)(2) bars filling fuel tanks while the engine is running, and (f)(2) requires propane to be handled under NFPA 58. The course teaches: close the cylinder valve, let the engine run until it stops, turn off the key, work in a designated area away from flames and sparks, and never smoke.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(p)(2), (f)(2)

32. [B] The truck must be an approved type with the designation allowed for that location

29 CFR 1910.178(m)(11): only approved industrial trucks shall be used in hazardous locations, and 1910.178(c) sets which designations (such as DS, ES, EE, or EX) may be used in each kind of location. Approved trucks carry a label or mark showing that approval, under (a)(3).

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(m)(11), (c), (a)(3)

33. [C] At least once every 3 years

29 CFR 1910.178(l)(4)(iii) requires an evaluation of each operator at least once every three years. Under (l)(4)(ii), refresher training is also due, whenever it happens, after unsafe operation, an accident or near miss, a failed evaluation, a move to a different type of truck, or a workplace change.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(4)(ii), (l)(4)(iii)

34. [D] Only under the direct supervision of a qualified trainer, where it doesn't endanger anyone

29 CFR 1910.178(l)(2)(i) lets trainees operate only under the direct supervision of people with the knowledge, training, and experience to train and evaluate operators, and only where it does not endanger the trainee or other employees.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(2)(i)

35. [B] False

False. 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(2)(ii) requires formal instruction, practical training, and an evaluation of the operator's performance in the workplace. An online course covers the formal instruction. Your employer still provides the hands-on part and the evaluation.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(2)(ii)

36. [A] True

True. 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(4)(ii)(B) requires refresher training when the operator has been involved in an accident or a near-miss incident.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(4)(ii)(B)

37. [B] False

False. OSHA does not license forklift operators or issue them cards. Under 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(6), the employer certifies that each operator has been trained and evaluated.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(6)

38. [A] The operator's name, the training date, the evaluation date, and who did the training or evaluation

29 CFR 1910.178(l)(6) lists exactly these items: the name of the operator, the date of the training, the date of the evaluation, and the identity of the person or people performing the training or evaluation.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(l)(6)

39. [C] The operator's platform rises with the forks, so the operator is lifted

An order picker raises the operator along with the forks so they can pick cases from shelving. OSHA's eTool describes order pickers as Class II narrow aisle trucks designed to lift the operator to retrieve items, which is why fall protection matters.

Source: OSHA eTool: Narrow Aisles; course lesson Types of Forklifts

Answer key (continued, questions 40–50)

40. **D** To the anchor point provided on the order picker

Order pickers have an anchor point on the truck for the lanyard. In Massachusetts FACE investigation 99-MA-058-01, a clerk died after falling about 12 feet from a raised order picker: he wore a harness, but his lanyard was not attached to the truck's anchor point.

Source: MA FACE Report 99-MA-058-01; OSHA eTool: Narrow Aisles

41. **A** True

True. The Massachusetts FACE report on an order picker fall (99-MA-058-01) recommends a mandatory tie-off, no-unhook policy: the operator stays tied off to the order picker and never unhooks the lanyard while the platform is raised.

Source: MA FACE Report 99-MA-058-01

42. **A** Lower the platform, reposition the truck, and raise it again

Never unhook or step off a raised platform. The FACE report on a fatal order picker fall (99-MA-058-01) recommends a policy that bans unhooking while raised and bans stepping off onto shelved product. Move the truck instead.

Source: MA FACE Report 99-MA-058-01

43. **C** Its forks extend forward on a reach mechanism

A reach truck's forks extend forward on a scissor-like reach mechanism, so the operator can reach into the rack without moving the base. OSHA's eTool notes that reach trucks are used for high tiering, storing material in multiple tiers high off the ground.

Source: OSHA eTool: Narrow Aisles; course lesson Types of Forklifts

44. **B** With the forks low, retracted, and tilted back, the load against the backrest

Crown's RR 5700 reach truck manual says to travel with the forks close to the ground, retracted and tilted up, with the load against the backrest. 1910.178 Appendix A-7.2 says a heavy load should be carried at the lowest position possible.

Source: Crown RR 5700 Operator Manual; 29 CFR 1910.178 Appendix A-7.2

45. **C** A rack beam entering the operator compartment and crushing the operator

OSHA's Safety and Health Information Bulletin on stand-up forklift under-ride (SHIB 07-27-2009) describes a rack crossbar entering the operator's compartment when the operator travels with the forks trailing and backs toward a rack. Look in the direction of travel, as 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(6) requires.

Source: OSHA SHIB 07-27-2009; 29 CFR 1910.178(n)(6)

46. **A** Only when the load is in the deposit position over the rack

29 CFR 1910.178(o)(6): an elevated load shall not be tilted forward except when it is in a deposit position over a rack or stack, and only enough backward tilt to stabilize the load is used when stacking.

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(o)(6)

47. **A** True

True. 29 CFR 1910.178(a)(1) covers motorized hand trucks powered by electric motors, and (l)(1)(ii) requires training before an employee operates one. The employer must also evaluate and certify the operator under (l)(6).

Source: 29 CFR 1910.178(a)(1), (l)(1)(ii), (l)(6)

48. **B** Class III, electric motor hand trucks or hand/rider trucks

Our course places electric pallet jacks in Class III, electric motor hand trucks or hand/rider trucks, one of the seven classes listed in OSHA's eTool. They are powered trucks, so training and an evaluation are required before use.

Source: OSHA eTool: Forklift Classifications; course lesson Types of Forklifts

49. **D** To one side and slightly ahead of the power unit, out of the truck's path

Crown's WP 3200 walkie manual says that when traveling power unit first, stay to one side of the truck and slightly ahead of the power unit, use the hand closest to the truck on the handle, and stay out of the truck's path.

Source: Crown WP 3200 Operator Manual

50. **B** If it is pushed against you in close quarters, the truck moves toward the forks, away from you

Crown's walkie manual says that if the reversing button is hit while working in close quarters, the truck moves in the direction of the forks. The manual also warns that the button cannot prevent all injuries, so stay out of the truck's path.

Source: Crown WP 3200 Operator Manual

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