

WK 10 - PSC FOCUS



**CHINA PSC (MSA) CONDUCTING
PRE ARRIVAL EXAM FOR SEAFARERS**

China MSA exam for Seafarer

– China Ports (Ningbo & Surrounding Areas)

Please find a sample question paper attached at the end of the document for your reference.

Recent inspections conducted by the China Maritime Safety Administration (MSA) at Chinese ports, particularly Ningbo, indicate a **significant shift from documentation-based checks to competency-based verification.**

MSA boarding teams are now conducting:

- Pre-arrival **knowledge assessments (QR-based exams)**
- Direct questioning of **Deck Officers and Master**
- Detailed verification of:
 - Passage Planning
 - Night Orders
 - Bridge Team Management (BTM)

Inspection Trend

Masters are required to:

- Confirm **receipt of study materials (via agents)**
- Ensure **crew familiarization prior arrival**
- Be accountable for **crew knowledge and practical understanding**

Failure to demonstrate competency may lead to:

- Deficiencies raised
- Vessel delay
- Increased inspection scrutiny

Examination Focus Areas

Based on recent onboard examinations (ref. attached questionnaire):

Navigation in Fishing Vessel Dense Areas

- Minimum **2 watchkeepers on bridge**
- Master to take command when required
- Use of **Hand Steering mode**

Collision Avoidance Practices

- Early communication on VHF Channel 16
- Avoid reliance solely on AIS
- Maintain:
 - **1 NM CPA (normal)**
 - **0.5 NM CPA (fishing areas)**

Bridge Equipment & Preparedness

- Testing of :
 - Radar (both units)
 - ECDIS
 - AIS / GPS / VDR
 - Navigation lights & sound signals

Fishing Vessel Behavior Awareness

- Sudden course alteration / acceleration
- Poor radar detection (wooden hulls)
- Possible lack of VHF response

Emergency & Collision Response

- **Immediate:**
 - Engine standby / speed reduction
 - Sound signals (≥ 5 short blasts)

- **Post-collision:**
 - Stop vessel
 - Rescue operations
 - Report to **MSA & SAR immediately**

PSC ATTENTION POINTS

Inspectors are specifically verifying:

- Crew **practical understanding**, not memorization
- Consistency between:
 - Passage Plan
 - Night Orders
 - Actual bridge practice
- Evidence of:
 - Pre-arrival briefing
 - Familiarization records
- Master's involvement and oversight

MASTER'S RESPONSIBILITY

The Master must ensure:

- ✓ Study materials received and acknowledged
- ✓ Crew briefing conducted prior arrival
- ✓ Officers capable of answering practical questions
- ✓ Bridge procedures aligned with Chinese coastal requirements

Recommended Actions

Before entering Chinese waters:

- Conduct **Navigation Safety Briefing**
- Emphasize:
 - Fishing vessel risk management
 - Proper lookout practices
 - COLREG application in congested waters
- Record:
 - Attendance entry in deck log book
 - Discussion points
- Verify:
 - Equipment operational readiness

Message

*“Inspection focus has shifted from paperwork to real competence.”
“If the officer cannot explain it, the vessel does not comply.”*

Conclusion

All vessels calling Chinese ports must treat this as a **high-priority PSC focus area**.

Preparedness must go beyond documentation and reflect **actual bridge team capability**.

Attached sample question paper for your reference.

To keep you updated on the Latest Maritime news, regulations IMO, IACS, IG club, SIRE 2.0, Rightship PSC, Flag activities, we Invite you to follow our official Linked in page

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PSC SUPPORT

Your Partner During Port State Control



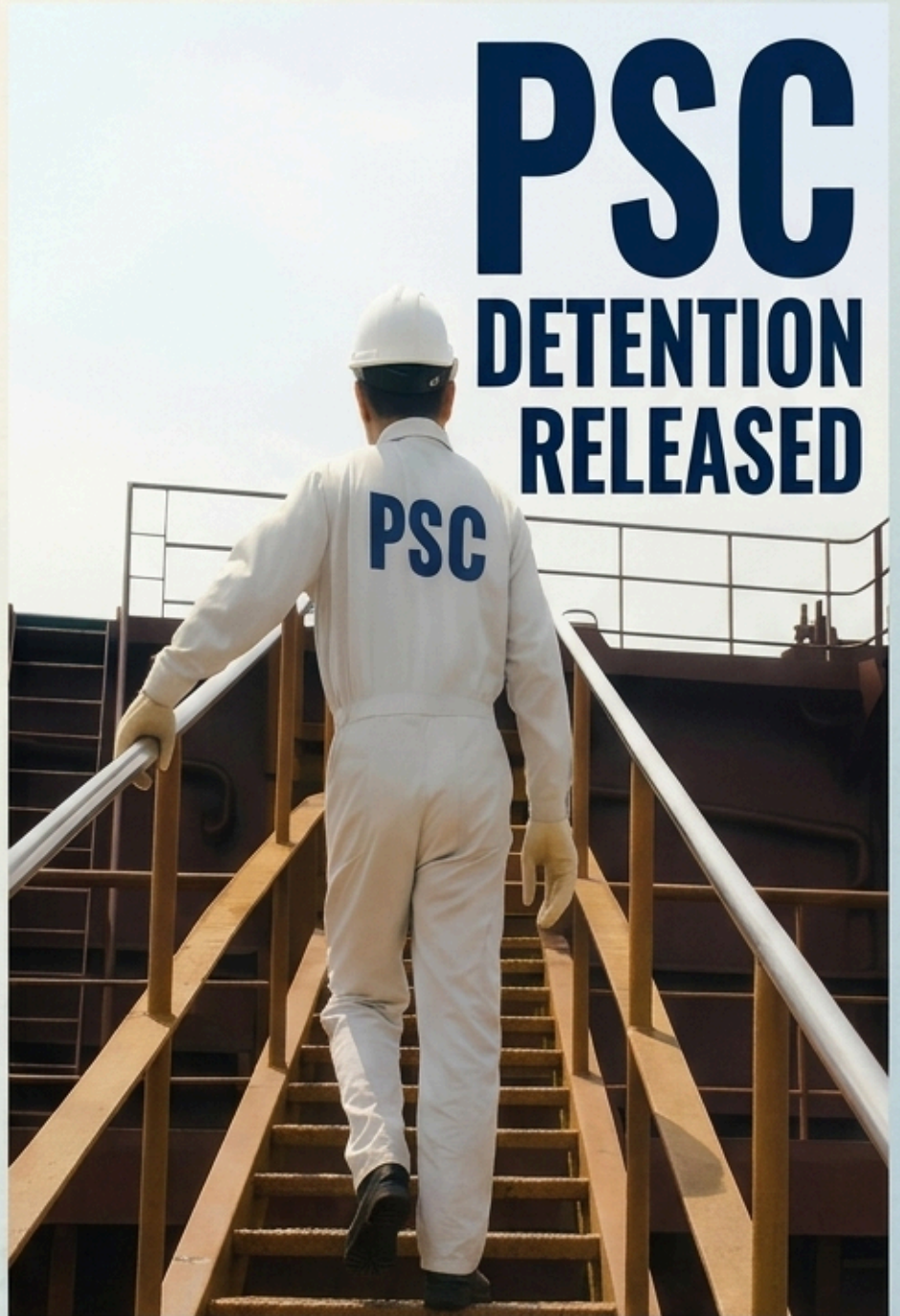
**PSC PREPARATION
INSPECTION**



**PSC GUIDANCE
& TRAINING**



**PSC DETENTION
RELEASE ASSISTANCE**



Crew's Examination on Knowledge and Practice for Preventing Collisions

80

答对

16

总分100

共20题

[答题解析](#) [仅看错题](#)

* Name:

Ya

Single Choice Questions (5 points each, total 30 points)

* 1. When formatting a passage plan, which document requires strict adherence to using coastal public shipping routes and keeping to the right? 分值5分

- International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea
- Coastal Public Route Guide
- Ship Safety Management Rules
- Fishing Vessel Operation Safety Specifications

 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

According to navigation regulations, when formatting a passage plan, the Coastal Public Route Guide and other relevant documents shall be strictly followed to use coastal public routes and keep to the right.

* 2. When navigating in waters densely populated with fishing vessels along China's coast, how many watchkeeping personnel must be maintained on the bridge

at minimum? 分值5分

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

When passing or approaching areas densely populated with fishing vessels, at least two watchkeeping personnel shall be maintained on the bridge; the master shall take command if necessary.

*3. What steering mode should be adopted when navigating into an area densely populated with fishing vessels? 分值5分

- Automatic steering
- Hand steering
- Follow-up steering
- Emergency steering

 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

Hand steering shall be used when navigating into an area densely populated with fishing vessels.

*4. At what speed (knots) or below is a fishing vessel typically considered to be engaged in fishing operations? 分值5分

- 2 knots
- 3 knots
- 4 knots
- 5 knots

 回答错误

+0分

正确答案:

3 knots

答案解析:

Special notes specify that a fishing vessel with a speed of 3 knots or below is usually engaged in fishing operations.

* 5. If traffic conditions permit, what minimum passing distance should be maintained, and what distance should be maintained in waters densely populated with fishing vessels? 分值5分

- 0.5 nautical miles, 0.5 nautical miles
- 1 nautical mile, 1 nautical mile
- 1 nautical mile, 0.5 nautical mile
- 0.5 nautical mile, 1 nautical mile

 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

If traffic conditions permit, a passing distance of at least 1 nautical mile should be maintained, and at least 0.5 nautical mile in waters densely populated with fishing vessels.

* 6. When there is a risk of collision, which VHF channel should be used to call fishing vessels at an early stage? 分值5分

- VHF Channel 13
- VHF Channel 12
- VHF Channel 16
- VHF Channel 18

 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

Collision avoidance procedures state that when there is a risk of collision, fishing vessels should be called via VHF Channel 16 at an early stage.

Multiple Choice Questions (5 points each, total 50 points)

* 7. Before departure, which navigational aids should be inspected and tested? 分值5分

- Radar
- Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS)
- GPS
- AIS
- VDR
- VHF
- Navigation lights and sound signals

 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

Before navigating into waters densely populated with fishing vessels, inspect and test navigational aids including radar, ECDIS, GPS, AIS, VDR, VHF, navigation lights, and sound signals.

*** 8. When passing or approaching waters densely populated with fishing vessels, what measures should watchkeeping personnel take to enhance lookout?** 分值5分

- Activate two radars
- Strengthen long-range scanning and observation
- Strengthen short-range scanning and observation
- Over-rely on a single navigational aid
- Avoid collisions based solely on AIS information

 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

Enhance lookout by activating two radars, conducting long/short-range scanning (including AIS self-testing), and avoid over-reliance on single equipment or AIS-only avoidance.

*** 9. When a fishing vessel is engaged in drift net fishing or other trawling operations, what equipment is used to display the fishing net, and what graphical symbol does it appear on ECDIS?** 分值5分

- AIS Net Position Indicator
- CPS Position Indicator
- Triangular symbol
- Circular symbol
- Square symbol

 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

Special notes indicate that fishing vessels engaged in drift net or trawling operations may use an AIS Net Position Indicator to display nets, which appear a triangular graphic symbol on ECDIS.

*** 10. When a fishing vessel's speed is 3 knots or below, what possible situations may exist?** 分值5分

- Engaged in fishing operations
- Unattended
- Not displaying appropriate lights or shapes

- Not operating VHF or other equipment
- Navigating at high speed

 回答错误

+0分

正确答案:

Engaged in fishing operations ; Unattended ; Not displaying appropriate lights or shapes ; Not operating VHF or other equipment

答案解析:

A speed of 3 knots or below typically indicates fishing operations; the vessel may be unattended, not displaying correct lights/shapes, or not operating VHF equipment, requiring heightened vigilance and avoidance action.

*** 11. What evasive maneuvers might fishing vessels perform, requiring enhanced lookout?** 分值5分

- Sudden course change
- Acceleration
- Maintain course
- Deceleration
- Stop

 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

Fishing vessels may suddenly change course or accelerate to protect their nets, requiring enhanced lookout.

*** 12. Why might some wooden fishing vessels be difficult to detect by radar?** 分值5分

- Material
- Construction
- Size
- Color
- Speed

 回答错误

+0分

正确答案:

Material ; Construction

答案解析:

Wooden fishing vessels may be hard to detect by radar due to their material, construction.

*** 13. When there is a risk of collision, after calling fishing vessels several times without response, what measures can be taken to attract their attention?** 分值5分

- Flash day light signal at least 5 times
- Sound at least 5 consecutive short blasts
- Speed away
- Maintain course

 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

When a risk of collision exists, if several attempts to call receive no response, indicating that the fishing vessel may have an abnormal watchkeeping situation, you should flash the daylight signaling lamp at least 5 times and/or sound at least 5 consecutive short blasts to attract the attention of the fishing vessel, and take timely and proactive avoidance actions.

*** 14. If safe passage cannot be ensured, what actions should be taken?** 分值5分

- Standby engine
- Decelerate
- Accelerate
- Alter course
- Stop engines

 回答错误

+0分

正确答案:

Standby engine ; Decelerate

答案解析:

If safe passage cannot be ensured, decisive measures such as standing by engine and reducing speed shall be taken promptly (when the distance is more than 3 nautical miles or more than 15 minutes before the closest point of approach).

*** 15. If collision with a fishing vessel is unavoidable, what measures should be taken to avoid a head-on collision?** 分值5分

- Decelerate
- Stop engine
- Reverse engines
- Alter course

Accelerate

回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

If collision is unavoidable, decisively slow down, stop engine, reverse engines or alter course to avoid a head-on collision with the fishing vessel.

* 16. Immediately after a collision occurs, what actions should be taken?
n? 分值5分

- Stop the vessel
- Prioritize rescuing personnel
- Execute full-scale rescue operations
- Report to the nearest SAR immediately
- Report to the MSA immediately

回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

After a collision, stop the vessel, prioritize rescue efforts, Execute full-scale rescue operations, and report to the nearest SAR and operating MSA immediately.

True/False Questions (5 points each, total 20 points)

* 17. Nighttime is a high-incidence period for collisions between merchant ships and fishing vessels. 分值5分

- True
- False

回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

Special notes clearly state that nighttime is a high-incidence period for collisions between merchant ships and fishing vessels, requiring special attention.

* 18. During fog navigation, fog signals shall be sounded in accordance with regulations even if no fishing vessels are detected on radar. 分值5分

- True
- False

回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

When passing or approaching waters densely populated with fishing vessels, fog signals shall be sounded in accordance with regulations during fog navigation even if no fishing vessels are detected on radar.

*19. There is no need to hold a navigation safety briefing before departure

e. 分值5分

True

False

✔ 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

Before navigating into waters densely populated with fishing vessels, a navigation safety briefing must be held before departure to ensure all bridge watchkeeping personnel are aware of relevant precautions.

*20. When navigating in waters densely populated with fishing vessels along China's coast, the master shall take command personally if necessary. 分值5分

True


False

✔ 回答正确

+5分

答案解析:

When passing or approaching waters densely populated with fishing vessels, at least two watchkeeping personnel shall be maintained on the bridge when navigating in such waters along China's coast, and the master shall take command personally if necessary.

收起答题解析 

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