THEORY DATABASE

INTERNATIONAL
YOUNG BREEDERS

World Championships 2026

With answers

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1. Introduction

This question database is designed to support learning by testing both knowledge and understanding of key concepts. The questions encourage you to think critically, apply theory to practical situations, and reflect on best practice in real-life scenarios.

Each question may include a short tip to help guide your thinking or clarify important details. Use the database as a learning tool: to check your understanding, identify knowledge gaps, and build confidence step by step. There's no rush — learning is a process, not a race!

Nice to know: this question bank is a revised and updated version of the database that was used up to and including 2024. All questions have been critically reviewed and, where necessary, reworded for clarity and accuracy. In addition, the multiple-choice distractors have been improved where required to ensure fair and meaningful answer options. Some questions have been removed from the database where they were no longer considered suitable. Furthermore, the chapter "Stable Management" has been replaced by "Horse Conformation and Influence on Performance".

This version contains the correct answers (highlighted in **bold**) and includes study tips to make your learning process more engaging and effective.

Every effort has been made to ensure that all questions included in this database are fair, accurate, and appropriate for the competition. If you identify any question that you believe is not correct or not fair, please inform the President or the Secretary of the Board of the *International Young Breeders Organisation* as soon as possible. Your feedback is highly valued and helps us maintain high standards for the Championships.

2. General Information

For the WBFSH Young Breeders World Championships, both Junior and Senior competitors are required to complete a theory test. This test consists of 25 multiple-choice questions, which are selected from this question bank.

Separate theory tests will be used for Junior and Senior teams. However, both tests will include three identical questions from the *Sport and Studbook* section, which are the same for both age groups.

Age of Competitors

The Championships are divided into two age categories:

- Juniors: 16 to 20 years: born in the years 2006 to 2010 inclusive (2026 championships)
- Seniors: 21 to 26 years: born in the years 2000 - 2005 inclusive (2026 championships)

We wish you every success in your studies and the very best of luck with the test. 🍀

3. Junior and senior questions

3.1. Breeding

3.1.1 A colt is:
A. A male 10 to 12 years old
B. A horse between 1.48 m and 1.58 m in height
C. A young female horse three years of age and under
D. An entire male horse three years of age and under

👉 **Tip: Focus on sex + age. "Colt" = young + male + not castrated.**

3.1.2 A filly is:
A. A female 10 to 12 years old
B. A horse between 1.48 m and 1.58 m in height
C. An entire male horse three years of age and under
D. A young female horse three years of age and under

👉 **Tip: Filly = female version of a colt. Think *young* + *female*.**

3.1.3 An embryo is:
A. A foal immediately after birth
B. An unfertilised egg
C The developing equine from about Day 40 of pregnancy until birth
D. The developing equine from shortly after fertilisation until around Day 40 of development

👉 **Tip:** Embryo = **early development**. After Day 40 it's called a **foetus**.

3.1.4 The average length of pregnancy in a mare is:
A. 340 days
B. 390 days
C. 400 days
D. 425 days

👉 **Tip:** Remember **"11 months" ≈ 340 days**.

3.1.5 Ultrasound scanning a mare for twin pregnancies should ideally take place:
A. 5–7 days after ovulation
B. 11–13 days after ovulation
C. 14–16 days after ovulation
D. 21–23 days after ovulation

👉 **Tip:** Twins are checked **early**, before fixation — around **Day 14**.

3.1.6 After ovulation in the mare, the ruptured follicle produces which hormone?
A. Follicle Stimulating Hormone

B. Luteinising Hormone
C. Oestrogen
D. Progesterone

👉 **Tip:** After ovulation = **corpus luteum** = **progesterone** 💡 .

3.1.7 Fertilisation of the egg with the sperm takes place in the:
A. Fallopian tube
B. Ovary
C. Uterus
D. Vagina

👉 **Tip:** Fertilisation happens before the uterus — in the Fallopian tube.

3.1.8 The average length of the breeding cycle in mares is:
A. 5 days
B. 12 days
C. 21 days
D. 44 days

👉 **Tip:** Mare cycle ≈ 3 weeks → 21 days.

3.1.9 One of the signs of a mare *in oestrus (in season)* is:
A. Constantly lying down
B. Frequently urinating
C. Having a very high temperature
D. Kicking out at a stallion

👉 **Tip:** In season = showing interest, not aggression.

3.1.10 One of the signs of a mare *in oestrus (in season)* is:
A. Constantly lying down
B. Having a very high temperature
C. Kicking out at a stallion
D. Receptive to the stallion

👉 **Tip:** Oestrus = friendly and receptive behaviour.

3.1.11 One of the symptoms of a mare not “in season” is:
A. Constantly lying down
B. Frequently urinating
C. Having a very high temperature

D. Kicking out at a stallion

👉 **Tip:** Not in season = rejecting the stallion.

3.1.12 At the beginning of the breeding season, a mare begins cycling between oestrus and dioestrus as a result of:
A. Cold temperature
B. Increasing hours of daylight
C. Pregnancy
D. Reduction in feed availability

👉 **Tip:** Mares are seasonal breeders — light matters.

3.1.13 Ovulation is:

A. The development of the follicle in the ovary
B. The fertilisation of the egg by sperm
C. The release of the egg from the follicle
D. The thickening of the uterine lining

👉 **Tip:** Ovulation = egg release, not fertilisation.

3.1.14 A mare's period of extended sexual inactivity during the winter months is known as:
A. Anoestrus
B. Dioestrus
C. Oestrus
D. Sub oestrus

👉 **Tip:** Winter + inactive = anoestrus.

3.1.15 During oestrus, ovulation occurs:
A. At the beginning of oestrus
B. In the middle of oestrus
C. At the end of oestrus
D. None of these

👉 **Tip:** Ovulation usually happens towards the end of oestrus.

3.1.16 Under natural conditions, most mares become sexually active during which period?
A. Autumn
B. Spring
C. Summer
D. Winter

👉 **Tip:** More daylight = spring.

3.1.17 How much of a horse's genetic inheritance comes from each parent?
A. 40% from the dam, 60% from the sire
B. 50% from the dam, 50% from the sire
C. 60% from the dam, 40% from the sire
D. 70% from the dam, 30% from the sire
👉 **Tip:** Genetics are always split equally.

3.1.18 Which of the following chromosome pairs results in a female foal?
A. XY
B. XX
C. YX
D. YY

👉 **Tip:** XX = female (same as in humans).

3.1.19 Which of the following chromosome pairs results in a male foal?
A. XY
B. XX
C. YX
D. YY

👉 **Tip:** Presence of a Y chromosome = male.

3.1.20 In the following pedigree identify the sire of horse A

<table>
<tr><td rowspan="4">Horse A</td><td rowspan="2">Horse B</td><td>Horse D</td></tr>
<tr><td>Horse E</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Horse C</td><td>Horse F</td></tr>
<tr><td>Horse G</td></tr>
</table>

3.1.21 In the following pedigree identify the dam of horse A

<table>
<tr><td rowspan="4">Horse A</td><td rowspan="2">Horse B</td><td>Horse D</td></tr>
<tr><td>Horse E</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Horse C</td><td>Horse F</td></tr>
<tr><td>Horse G</td></tr>
</table>

3.1.22 In the following pedigree identify the paternal grandsire of horse A

<table>
<tr><td rowspan="4">Horse A</td><td rowspan="2">Horse B</td><td>Horse D</td></tr>
<tr><td>Horse E</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Horse C</td><td>Horse F</td></tr>
<tr><td>Horse G</td></tr>
</table>

3.1.23 In the following pedigree identify the paternal grandam of horse A

<table>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>Horse D</td></tr>
</table>

Horse A	Horse B	**Horse E**
	Horse C	Horse F
		Horse G

3.1.24 In the following pedigree identify the maternal grandsire of horse A

Horse A	Horse B	Horse D
		Horse E
	Horse C	**Horse F**
		Horse G

3.1.25 In the following pedigree identify the maternal grand-dam of horse A

Horse A	Horse B	Horse D
		Horse E
	Horse C	Horse F
		Horse G

3.1.26 What is the first oestrus period after foaling (also called "foal heat")?
A. The first oestrus period in a filly after puberty
B. The last oestrus period in the breeding season
C. The newborn foal
D. The first oestrus period in a mare after foaling

👉 **Tip:** "Foal heat" refers to the first post-partum oestrus of the mare following foaling.

3.1.27 On average, beads of wax will appear on the teats of a mare approximately:
A. 24 hours before foaling
B. 56 hours before foaling
C. 7 days before foaling
D. One month before foaling

👉 **Tip:** Waxing of the teats is a late pre-foaling sign, often occurring within 24 hours of foaling.

3.1.28 A breeding index for a stallion is:
A. An expression of the competitive success of the stallion's progeny compared to other stallions
B. An expression of the number of mares covered by a stallion compared to other stallions
C. An expression of the number of offspring of a stallion compared to other stallions
D. An expression of the stallion's success in competition compared to other stallions

👉 **Tip:** A breeding index reflects the competitive performance of a stallion's progeny, not the stallion himself.

3.1.29 What is the best time to inseminate a mare to optimise fertilisation when using artificial insemination with chilled semen?
A. 24 to 48 hours after ovulation
B. 24 to 48 hours before ovulation
C. 48 to 72 hours after ovulation
D. 48 to 72 hours before ovulation

👉 **Tip:** Chilled semen remains viable longer, so insemination is best before ovulation.

3.1.30 What is the best time to artificially inseminate a mare with frozen semen to achieve fertilisation?
A. 18 hours prior to and/or within 12 hours after ovulation
B. 12 hours prior to and/or within 6 hours after ovulation
C. 6 hours prior to and/or within 24 hours after ovulation
D. 36 hours prior to and/or within 24 hours after ovulation

👉 **Tip:** Frozen semen has a short lifespan, so insemination must be very close to ovulation.

3.1.31 Which of the following is **not** a typical sign of a mare in oestrus (season)?
A. Squatting
B. Urinating frequently
C. Winking her vulva
D. Sweating

👉 **Tip:** Signs of oestrus are mainly behavioural, not related to stress or illness.

3.1.32 Which of the following is part of the reproductive system of a mare?
A. Caecum
B. Cervix
C. Colon
D. Cranium

👉 **Tip:** Only one option is part of the reproductive tract; the others belong to different body systems.

3.1.33 In the stallion, sperm is produced in the:
A. Colon
B. Penis
C. Rectum
D. Testicle

👉 **Tip:** Sperm is produced, not transported, in the testicles.

3.1.34 "Teasing" a mare with a stallion means:
A. Checking to see if she is in oestrus (in season)
B. Checking to see if she is close to foaling

C. She has already foaled
D. She is about to foal

👉 **Tip:** Teasing is used to assess oestrous behaviour in the mare.

3.1.35 The mare's vulva is:
A. The internal muscular organ where the foetus develops
B. At the junction of the uterus (womb) and the fallopian tube
C. The external area of the mare's reproductive system
D. Another term used to describe her udder

👉 **Tip:** The vulva is the external part of the mare's reproductive system.

3.1.36 Which of the following is ideal conformation in relation to the position of the mare's vulva?
A. 20% of the mare's vulva below the pelvic floor
B. 40% of the mare's vulva below the pelvic floor
C. 60% of the mare's vulva below the pelvic floor
D. 80% of the mare's vulva below the pelvic floor

👉 **Tip:** Good conformation means that most of the vulva lies above the pelvic floor.

3.1.37 How many fallopian tubes does the mare have?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4

👉 **Tip:** The mare has two ovaries and two fallopian tubes, one on each side.

3.1.38 What is the term used to describe the object released from the follicle at ovulation?
A. Embryo
B. Ovum
C. Sperm
D. Zygote

👉 **Tip:** Ovulation is the release of an ovum (egg cell).

3.1.39 One of the possible symptoms of a mare approaching foaling time is:
A. Increase in udder size
B. Decrease in udder size
C. Nasal discharge
D. Prolonged discharge from the vulva

👉 **Tip:** As foaling approaches, the udder increases in size. However, some mares (maidens in particular) fail to show significant increase in udder size until they foal.

3.1.40 Which of the following hormones may be administered to mares with a retained placenta?
A. Oestrus
B. Oxytocin
C. Progesterone
D. Prolactin

👉 **Tip:** Oxytocin stimulates uterine contractions, helping expel the placenta.

3.1.41 At what stage is weaning of foals normally conducted in modern sport horse breeding enterprises?
A. 3 months after foaling
B. 6 months after foaling
C. 9 months after foaling
D. 12 months after foaling

👉 **Tip:** In modern sport horse breeding, foals are usually weaned at around 6 months.

3.1.42 Colostrum (the mare's first milk) contains a relatively high concentration of which of the following proteins?
A. Casein
B. Haemoglobin
C. Immunoglobulin
D. Keratin

👉 **Tip:** Colostrum is rich in immunoglobulins, providing early immunity to the foal.

3.1.43 Which of the following body conditions is most desirable at the time of covering?
A. Mares carrying excess weight and showing a firm crest on the neck
B. Mares in moderate flesh with ribs that can be felt under light pressure
C. Mares showing very prominent ribs and poor topline condition
D. Mares so fat that individual ribs cannot be felt at all

👉 **Tip:** The ideal mare is in moderate body condition, neither overweight nor underweight.

3.1.44 A speculum is used to:
A. Examine the mare's teeth for sharp edges
B. Inspect the uterus for signs of infection
C. Examine the mare's cervix
D. Measure the mare's temperature rectally

👉 **Tip:** A speculum is used for visual examination, not for measuring or palpation.

3.1.45 Which of the following is **not** a form of veterinary examination used to assess the mare's reproductive tract?
A. Rectal palpation
B. Speculum examination

C. Stethoscope examination
D. Ultrasonic ovarian examination

👉 **Tip:** A stethoscope is used for heart and lung examination, not reproduction.

3.1.46 The vagina can be described as:
A. The birth canal between the cervix and the vulva
B. The cord that carries waste from the bladder during pregnancy
C. The opening through which the foal is expelled
D. The organ in which the foal develops

👉 **Tip:** The vagina forms part of the birth canal, connecting the cervix and vulva.

3.1.47 What is the average duration of the second stage of labour in the mare?
A. 20 minutes
B. 30 minutes
C. 40 minutes
D. 60 minutes

👉 **Tip:** The second stage of labour in the mare is short and rapid.

3.1.48 Which of the following is described as a spotted or splotched coat pattern?
A. Appaloosa
B. Bay
C. Dappled grey
D. Skewbald

👉 **Tip:** Appaloosas are known for their distinctive spotted coat patterns.

3.1.49 A horse with a golden or tan coat and a flaxen or white mane and tail is called a:
A. Appaloosa
C. Buckskin
B. **Palomino**
D. Cream

👉 **Tip**: A palomino has a golden coat with a light or white mane and tail.

3.1.50 Which of the following coat colours is accompanied by a black mane and tail?
A. Bay
B. Chestnut
C. Grey
D. Liver chestnut

👉 **Tip:** Bay horses have a brown body with black points (mane, tail and lower legs).

3.1.51 A coat colour consisting of large irregular patches of brown and white is described as:
A. Appaloosa
B. Cremello
C. Piebald
D. Skewbald
👉 **Tip:** Skewbald describes a coat pattern of brown and white patches.

3.2. Feeding and nutrition

3.2.1 Protein in the diet provides:
A. **Amino acids for the growth and repair of body tissues**
B. Calcium for bone development
C. Energy for exercise
D. Water for body fluid regulation
👉 **Tip:** Protein supplies amino acids, which are essential for growth and tissue repair.

3.2.2 Which of the following feeds contains the highest level of carbohydrates (energy)?
A. **Barley**
B. Bran
C. Hay
D. Oats
👉 **Tip:** Think of cereal grains as the main source of carbohydrate energy.

3.2.3 What does the term “creep feeding” a foal mean?
A. Feeding after weaning
B. Feeding extra meals during the winter
C. Feeding milk only during the first week of life
D. **Feeding the foal while it is still suckling the dam**
👉 **Tip:** Creep feeding means supplementary feeding while the foal is still nursing the mare**.**

3.2.4 Horses should be fed at regular intervals because they:
A. Are fussy eaters
B. Can swallow better this way
C. **Have a relatively small stomach**
D. Will stop producing stomach acid otherwise
👉 **Tip:** Horses have a small stomach and are designed to eat little and often.

3.2.5 Which part of the digestive system has the greatest capacity?
A. **Large intestine**
B. Mouth
C. Rectum
D. Stomach
👉 **Tip:** Most digestion of fibre occurs in the large intestine, which is the largest section.

3.2.6 Which of the following is a mineral?
A. Biotin
B. **Calcium**
C. Niacin

D. Riboflavin

👉 **Tip:** Vitamins and minerals are different — calcium is a mineral**.**

3.2.7 Which nutrient provides the highest energy content per gram?
A. Carbohydrates
B. **Fats**
C. Minerals
D. Proteins
👉 **Tip:** Fat provides more than twice the energy of carbohydrates or protein.

3.2.8 Sunlight and sun-cured hay are major sources of which vitamin?
A. Vitamin A
B. Vitamin C
C. **Vitamin D**
D. Vitamin E
👉 **Tip:** Vitamin D is linked to sunlight exposure.

3.2.9 Beet pulp should be soaked before feeding to horses. What temperature should the water be in fair or warm weather?
A. Boiling
B. **Cold**
C. Hot
D. Lukewarm
👉 **Tip:** Beet pulp must always be soaked before feeding. Cold water is used to prevent fermentation and spoilage, which could upset the horse's digestive system.

3.2.10 Which of the following is a good source of protein for horses?
A. Molasses
B. Oats
C. Sugar beet pulp
D. **Soya bean meal**
👉 **Tip:** Protein-rich feeds often come from legumes or oilseed meals.

3.2.11 In a 10% Cool and Cooked coarse mix, what does the 10% indicate?
A. The amount of calcium in the feed
B. The amount of carbohydrates in the feed
C. The amount of fat in the feed
D. **The amount of protein in the feed**
👉 **Tip:** Feed percentages usually refer to the protein content.

3.2.12 Calcium and phosphorus are mainly found in which body tissue?
A. **Bone**
B. Fat
C. Muscle
D. Skin
👉 **Tip:** Calcium and phosphorus are the main building blocks of bone.

3.2.13 What is colostrum?
A. A supplement
B. An electrolyte
C. The foal's first droppings
D. **The mare's first milk after foaling**

👉 **Tip:** Colostrum is the mare's first milk after foaling. It is rich in antibodies (immunoglobulins) that protect the foal against disease during the first weeks of life.

3.2.14 Which of the following is a vitamin?
A. **Biotin**
B. Cobalt
C. Iodine
D. Manganese
👉 **Tip:** Biotin is a B-complex vitamin, not a mineral.

3.2.15 Which of the following minerals is required in relatively large amounts?
A. **Magnesium**
B. Manganese
C. Selenium
D. Zinc
👉 **Tip:** Minerals needed in larger quantities are called macrominerals.

3.2.16 Which of the following minerals is required only in small amounts (a trace mineral)?
A. Calcium
B. Magnesium
C. **Manganese**
D. Potassium
👉 **Tip:** Trace minerals are required in very small amounts, but they are still essential for normal body functions such as enzyme activity, growth and metabolism.

3.2.17 Which of the following vitamins functions as an antioxidant?
A. Vitamin A

B. Vitamin D
C. **Vitamin E**
D. Vitamin K
👉 **Tip:** Vitamin E helps protect body cells from damage.

3.2.18 Which of the following vitamins is essential for blood clotting?
A. Vitamin A
B. Vitamin D
C. Vitamin E
D. **Vitamin K**
👉 **Tip:** Vitamin K is necessary for the formation of blood clotting factors, helping to prevent excessive bleeding after injury.

3.2.19 Which of the following vitamins helps regulate calcium and phosphorus balance in the body?
A. Vitamin A
B. **Vitamin D**
C. Vitamin E
D. Vitamin K
👉 **Tip:** Vitamin D controls calcium and phosphorus metabolism.

3.2.20 Which of the following vitamins plays an important role in vision?
A. **Vitamin A**
B. Vitamin D
C. Vitamin E
D. Vitamin K
👉 **Tip:** Vitamin A is essential for normal vision, especially in low-light conditions, and also supports healthy skin and mucous membranes.

3.2.21 Microbial fermentation in the hindgut produces which of the following vitamins?
A. Vitamin A
B. **Vitamin B**
C. Vitamin D
D. Vitamin C

👉 **Tip:** Microbes in the hindgut synthesise B vitamins, which support metabolism and energy use.

3.2.22 Folic acid belongs to which of the following nutrient groups?
A. Fats
B. Minerals
C. Proteins
D. **Vitamins**

👉 **Tip:** Folic acid is part of the vitamin B group, not a mineral or macronutrient.

3.2.23 Protein is made up of:
A. **Amino acids for growth and repair**
B. Glucose for energy
C. Minerals for general health and wellbeing
D. Starch for heat and energy

👉 **Tip:** Proteins are built from amino acids, which are essential for growth, repair and muscle development.

3.2.24 The essential vitamin E, which cannot be produced by the horse itself, must be supplied through the feed. Which type of feed provides sufficient vitamin E (α-Tocopherol)?
A. Carbohydrate grain feeds
B. Electrolytes
C. **Green feeds**
D. Protein grain feeds

👉 **Tip:** Vitamin E is found mainly in fresh green feeds, such as pasture grass.

3.2.25 Which of the following cereals may be fed without processing?
A. Barley
B. **Oats**
C. Maize
D. Wheat

👉 **Tip:** Oats have a soft husk, making them easier for horses to digest without processing.

3.2.26 Sugar beet pulp pellets or cubes must be prepared safely before feeding to horses. They should be:
A. **Soaked in cold water for 12 hours**
B. Soaked in cold water for 24 hours
C. Soaked in hot water for 12 hours
D. Soaked in hot water for 24 hours

👉 **Tip:** Sugar beet pulp must be fully soaked so it can swell before feeding, reducing the risk of choke.

3.2.27 Which of the following is not a good source of protein?
A. Beans
B. **Carrots**
C. Peas
D. Soya beans

👉 **Tip:** Legumes like beans, peas and soya are high in protein, while carrots are not.

3.2.28 A horse must be fed plenty of roughage because:
A. Hay is a cheap feed
B. Horses are constantly eating
C. **It keeps the digestive process working efficiently**
D. The stomach is small

👉 **Tip:** Roughage keeps the digestive system functioning properly and supports gut health.

3.2.29 Which of the following minerals is found mainly in the skeleton?
A. **Calcium**
B. Cobalt
C. Iodine
D. Iron

👉 **Tip:** Calcium is the primary mineral in bones and teeth.

3.2.30 A bale of good-quality hay is:
A. **Dust-free**
B. Dark brown in colour
C. Mouldy
D. Warm

👉 **Tip:** Good hay should be dry, clean and dust-free, with no signs of mould or heat.to the touch

3.2.31 Digestively, although the horse eats grass like a cow, it is more closely related to a pig. Therefore, it is classified as a:
A. Carnivore
B. **Monogastric**
C. Omnivore
D. Ruminant

👉 **Tip:** Horses have a single stomach and rely on hindgut fermentation, so they are classified as monogastric.

3.2.32 Which of the following is considered roughage?
A. Wheat
B. **Hay**
C. Maize
D. Oats

👉 **Tip:** Roughage is high in fibre, such as hay or grass.

3.2.33 Which of the following is part of the horse's digestive system?
A. **Caecum**

B. Cervix
C. Lung
D. Ovary

👉 **Tip:** The caecum plays a key role in fibre digestion through fermentation.

3.2.34 Which of the following is not a risk factor for gastric ulcers?
A. Intensive exercise
B. Low forage intake
C. **Low starch diets**
D. Periods of fasting

👉 **Tip:** Diets low in starch and high in forage help protect the stomach lining.

3.2.35 Which of the following areas is not assessed during body condition scoring?
A. **Abdomen**
B. Ribs
C. Shoulder
D. Spine

👉 **Tip:** Body condition scoring focuses on fat cover, not abdominal size.

3.2.36 Sugar beet pulp is an excellent source of:
A. **Energy**
B. Fat
C. Vitamins
D. Protein

👉 **Tip:** Sugar beet pulp provides digestible fibre, which is a safe source of energy.

3.2.37 Salt is especially important for horses during the summer when they are:
A. Cold
B. Lying down
C. Out in the field
D. **Working hard**

👉 **Tip:** Horses lose salt through sweat, especially when working hard in warm weather.

3.2.38 Which of the following nutrients is not digested in the small intestine?
A. **Fibre**
B. Lipids (fats)
C. Sugar
D. Starch

👉 **Tip:** Fibre is digested later in the hindgut, not in the small intestine.

3.2.39 If given the choice, how much of their time would horses naturally spend feeding or grazing?
A. 10%
B. 30%
C. **70%**
D. 100%

👉 Tip: Horses are natural grazers and spend most of the day eating small amounts.

3.2.40 Which of the following is not a source of energy for the horse?
A. Carbohydrates
B. Fats and oils
C. Proteins
D. **Vitamins**

👉 **Tip:** Vitamins are essential for health but do not provide energy.

3.2.41 Hay may be soaked in water before feeding in order to:
A. Clean it
B. Ensure it is the correct temperature
C. **Help horses with respiratory problems**
D. Improve the colour

👉 **Tip:** Soaking hay helps reduce dust and airborne particles, making it more suitable for horses with respiratory conditions.

3.2.42 Which part of the horse's digestive system is the longest?
A. Duodenum
B. Large colon
C. Rectum
D. **Small intestine**

👉 **Tip:** Although large in volume, the small intestine is actually the longest section of the digestive tract.

3.2.43 What is the minimum forage requirement for an adult horse?
A. 1% of body weight
B. **1.5% of body weight**
C. 2% of body weight
D. 2.5% of body weight

👉 **Tip:** Horses should receive at least 1.5% of their body weight per day as forage to maintain gut health.

3.2.44 Directly after foaling, what should a mare be fed?
A. Bran mash
B. **The same feed as before**
C. The same feed as before with bran added
D. Twice the volume of feed as before

👉 **Tip:** After foaling, the mare should return to her normal ration, with any increases made gradually.

3.2.45 What is the main function of roughage in a horse's diet?
A. To help the horse gain weight rapidly
B. To increase sugar levels for quick energy
C. To provide high levels of protein for muscle growth
D. **To support healthy digestion through fibre intake**

👉 **Tip:** Roughage provides fibre, which is essential for normal gut movement and digestion.

3.2.46 Why is it important to divide a horse's forage ration into several smaller meals per day?
A. To improve the taste of the forage
B. To increase the amount of food eaten in one sitting
C. **To mimic natural grazing and support healthy digestion**
D. To save time during daily management

👉 **Tip:** Feeding little and often mimics natural grazing behaviour and supports digestive health.

3.2.47 What is the risk of mould or dust in hay?
A. **It can cause respiratory problems and digestive issues**
B. It helps prevent dehydration
C. It improves digestion and nutrient absorption
D. It makes the hay taste better to horses

👉 **Tip:** Dust and mould can irritate the respiratory tract and may also cause digestive disturbances.

3.2.48 Why should a horse's diet be changed gradually when introducing new feed?
A. To train the horse to eat faster
B. To make the feed taste better
C. **To avoid upsetting the horse's digestive system**
D. To reduce the need for water

👉 **Tip:** Sudden feed changes can disrupt gut bacteria and lead to digestive upset.

3.2.49 What is the importance of fresh drinking water in a horse's digestion?
A. **It aids in saliva production and nutrient absorption**
B. It increases the horse's appetite
C. It helps in the digestion of proteins only
D. It reduces the need for roughage in the diet

👉 **Tip:** Water supports saliva production and nutrient absorption, both essential for digestion.

3.2.50 Why should a horse always receive roughage before concentrate feed?
A. To increase the horse's appetite
B. **To stimulate saliva production and protect the stomach lining**
C. To reduce the horse's chewing time
D. To make the concentrate more palatable

👉 **Tip:** Roughage stimulates saliva production, helping to buffer stomach acid and protect the stomach lining.

3.2.51 How can you assess if a horse is at a healthy weight?
A. By visually estimating its body weight based on breed and size
B. **By using a body condition scoring system that evaluates fat cover in specific areas**
C. By measuring its height and calculating weight using a standard formula
D. By observing the fat cover only

👉 **Tip:** Body condition scoring assesses fat cover at specific points, giving a more accurate picture than weight alone.

3.2.52 What is an important nutritional goal during the last trimester of pregnancy in a broodmare?
A. Maintain a body condition score of 3 to 4
B. **Increase protein and energy intake to support foetal growth**
C. Reduce mineral intake to prevent excessive weight gain
D. Limit water intake to prevent bloating

👉 **Tip:** Most foetal growth occurs in the final trimester, increasing the mare's energy and protein needs.

3.2.53 When should the energy requirements of a broodmare be increased during pregnancy?
A. First trimester (0–3 months)
B. Second trimester (4–6 months)
C. **Third trimester (7–9 months)**
D. After foaling (lactation period)

👉 **Tip:** Energy demands rise significantly in the third trimester, when foetal growth accelerates.

3.2.54 Why is good colostrum quality important and indirectly dependent on nutrition in mares?
A. **It provides the foal with essential antibodies and nutrients**
B. It ensures the foal's immune system develops independently of maternal antibodies
C. It decreases the foal's energy levels during the first few days
D. It reduces the need for the foal to nurse during the first 24 hours

👉 **Tip:** High-quality colostrum provides the foal with antibodies and nutrients, supporting early immunity and health.

3.3. Horse conformation and influence on performance

3.3.1. Why are strong hooves important for a sport horse?

A. Strong hooves improve the overall elegance of the horse in the arena and contribute to a more correct stance when presented in hand.
B. Strong hooves ensure the horse can work for longer periods without fatigue, as they improve circulation and help regulate balance in the limbs.
C. **Strong hooves provide reliable support and reduce the risk of lameness, which is essential for horses in regular training and competition.**
D. Strong hooves make it easier for farriers to shoe the horse, giving the rider more options in saddle and bridle fit.

👉 **Tip:** Strong hooves are the foundation of soundness, helping to support the horse's weight and reduce the risk of lameness during training and competition.

3.3.2. What does it mean if a horse is "over at the knee"?

A. **The horse's front legs bend slightly forward at the knee, which can affect strength and soundness if the deviation is severe.**
B. The horse's knees appear to be positioned behind the vertical, creating extra flexion in the stride that is sometimes mistaken for suppleness.
C. The horse's knees are set wider apart than the hooves, which gives a broad base but may disturb straightness in movement.
D. The horse's front legs are too straight and rigid, which can limit flexibility but rarely causes serious problems in performance.

👉 **Tip:** "Over at the knee" describes a forward deviation at the knee, which can weaken the limb if excessive.

3.3.3. Why is a short, strong loin important in performance horses?

A. **A short, strong loin connects the front and hindquarters efficiently, allowing better transfer of power and improved balance in collected work.**
B. A short, strong loin improves the appearance of the topline, making the horse look more harmonious in presentation.
C. A short, strong loin allows for more saddle placement options, giving the rider increased comfort and security.
D. A short, strong loin reduces strain when grazing, since the back remains compact and stable in a lowered head position.

👉 **Tip:** The loin connects the back to the hindquarters, so strength here improves power transfer, balance and athletic performance.

3.3.4. What can be a problem if a horse has very upright pasterns?

A. Upright pasterns make the horse look taller and more impressive, which can influence how it is judged in the show ring.
B. Upright pasterns provide greater stiffness in the joints, which can help in pulling or heavy work but not in sport disciplines.
C. **Upright pasterns reduce the natural shock absorption of the limbs, which increases concussion and raises the risk of joint strain or lameness.**
D. Upright pasterns can make the movement appear higher and more spectacular, which may look useful in dressage but is mechanically inefficient.

👉 **Tip:** Upright pasterns reduce shock absorption, increasing concussion and the risk of joint or limb strain.

3.3.5. Why is a well-proportioned head and neck important for riding horses?

A. A well-proportioned head and neck allow smoother breathing and eating, which contributes to general health and endurance.
B. A well-proportioned head and neck reduce the risk of stumbling on uneven ground, because the centre of gravity is shifted forward.
C. **A well-proportioned head and neck improve balance, rider contact and steering, which are essential in both dressage movements and jumping courses.**
D. A well-proportioned head and neck make plaiting the mane easier before competition, saving time for grooms and riders.

👉 **Tip:** Correct head and neck proportions help with balance, contact and steering**,** which are essential for effective ridden work.

3.3.6 The angle of a horse's shoulder has a strong influence on stride length, shock absorption, and overall athletic ability. What is generally considered the ideal slope for a well-conformed shoulder? What is the ideal slope of a horse's shoulder
A. 25–35 degrees
B. 35–40 degrees
C. **45–50 degrees**
D. 50–55 degrees
👉 **Tip:** A well-sloped shoulder allows for a **longer, freer stride** and better shock absorption.

3.3.7 What is a potential disadvantage of a toe-out leg conformation in horses?
A. Greater lateral balance on uneven ground
B. Smoother action and longer stride
C. **Tendency to brush or interfere when moving**
D. Improved shock absorption in the limbs

👉 **Tip:** Horses that toe out may brush or interfere, increasing the risk of knocks or uneven wear.

3.3.8 What is a common welfare concern associated with a cow-hocked and sickle-hocked conformation?
A. Enhanced propulsion and strength from the hindquarters
B. **Increased strain on hocks and risk of joint inflammation**

C. Improved balance and straight tracking
D. Reduced likelihood of tendon injuries

👉 **Tip:** These conformations place extra strain on the hock joints, increasing the risk of wear and inflammation over time.

3.3.9 A horse that toes inwards in the front feet is said to be:
A. Cow-toed
B. Crow-toed
C. Penguin-toed
D. **Pigeon-toed**

👉 **Tip:** "Pigeon-toed" is the standard term used to describe toeing-in conformation.

3.4 Health and Welfare

3.4.1 Which of the following is a part of the hoof?
A. Ergot
B. Carpus bone
C. **Pedal bone**
D. Short pastern bone

👉 **Tip:** The pedal bone (coffin bone) is located inside the hoof capsule and supports the horse's weight.

3.4.2 Small triangular bones at the back of the fetlock joint are called:
A. Coffin bones
B. Navicular bones
C. **Sesamoid bones**
D. Splint bones

👉 **Tip:** Sesamoid bones are small, paired bones that support tendons and joints.

3.4.3 Which of the following is not a condition commonly seen in foals?
A. Bladder rupture
B. **Cushings**
C. Joint ill
D. Septicaemia

👉 **Tip: Cushing's disease** is an endocrine disorder seen mainly in older horses.

3.4.4 Ringworm is caused by a:
A. Bacteria
B. **Fungus**
C. Parasite
D. Virus

👉 **Tip:** Ringworm is a fungal infection, even though the name sounds misleading.

3.4.5 Strangles is caused by a:
A. **Bacteria**
B. Fungus
C. Parasite
D. Virus

👉 **Tip:** Strangles is a bacterial infection that affects the respiratory system.

3.4.6 A congenital condition is one that is:
A. Acquired in later life
B. **Clinical at birth**

C. Of hormonal origin
D. Of nutritional origin

👉 **Tip:** Congenital conditions are present at birth, even if they are not noticed immediately.

3.4.7 Wobbler syndrome affects:
A. Circulatory system
B. Digestive system
C. Limbs
D. **Spine**

👉 **Tip:** Wobbler syndrome involves the spine and spinal cord, leading to coordination problems.

3.4.8 If a horse is suffering from choke you should:
A. Administer a drench
B. Arrange to have its stomach tubed
C. Observe and do nothing
D. **Remove all hay, feed and water**

👉 **Tip:** During choke, all feed and water should be removed and veterinary help sought.

3.4.9 Which joint is not part of the forehand?
A. Fetlock
B. Shoulder
C. Short pastern
D. **Stifle**

👉 **Tip:** The stifle is part of the hind limb, not the forehand.

3.4.10 Which of the following statements is true of the 'white line' in the horse's hoof?
A. It is a colourless film of soft horn
B. It is found behind the frog
C. It is only found in the left hind hoof
D. **It is the junction between the sole and the hoof wall**

👉 **Tip:** The white line is the **junction between the hoof wall and the sole**.

3.4.11 How many vertebrae are in the horse's spinal column (backbone)?
A. 7
B. 18
C. 44
D. 54

👉 **Tip:** The horse has around 54 vertebrae in total, including the tail.

3.4.12 How many neck vertebrae does the horse have?
A. 4
B. 6
C. 7
D. 8

👉 **Tip:** Horses have 7 cervical vertebrae, just like humans.

3.4.13 The normal respiratory rate of an adult horse at rest should be between:
A. 4-8 breaths per minute
B. 5-10 breaths per minute
C. **10-16 breaths per minute**
D. 16-32 breaths per minute

👉 **Tip:** A healthy adult horse breathes 10–16 times per minute at rest.

3.4.14 What is an adult horse's normal temperature?
A. 36.9 – 37.6 °C [98.4 – 99.7 °F]
B. **37.2 – 38.3 °C [99.7 – 100.8 °F]**
C. 38.2 – 39.5 °C [100.8 – 103.1 °F]
D. 39.5 – 40.2 °C [103.1 – 104.4 °F]

👉 **Tip:** The normal temperature range for an adult horse is about 37.2–38.3 °C.

3.4.15 Which of the following does *NOT* cause laminitis?
A. **A knock on the cannon bone**
B. Bacterial infection
C. Retained placenta
D. High insulin levels in the blood

👉 **Tip:** Laminitis is linked to inflammation and metabolic stress.

3.4.16 What are the premolars?
A. **The front molars**
B. The front teeth
C. The lateral incisors
D. The rear molars

👉 **Tip:** Premolars are the front grinding teeth, located in front of the molars.

3.4.17 At what age do *male* horses usually develop canine teeth (tushes)?
A. 6–12 months
B. 2–3 years

C. **4–6 years**
D. 6–8 years

👉 **Tip:** Canine teeth usually erupt between 4 and 6 years of age.

3.4.18 By what age are the deciduous molars replaced in the horse?
A. By 6 months
B. By 3 years
C. **By 5 years**
D. Never

👉 **Tip:** Milk molars are replaced by permanent teeth by around 5 years of age.

3.4.19 At what age will the first teeth appear in a foal?
A. **When the foal is 1–2 weeks old**
B. When the foal is 3–4 weeks old
C. When the foal is 5–6 weeks old
D. When the foal is six months old

👉 **Tip:** Foals usually develop their first incisors within the first two weeks of life.

3.4.20 What teeth are commonly called the milk teeth?
A. The hind molars
B. The canine teeth
C. The permanent incisors
D. **The temporary incisors**

👉 **Tip:** Milk teeth are the temporary (deciduous) incisors.

3.4.21 Which is the most reliable indicator of the age of horses over 10 years?
A. First molar
B. First premolar
C. **Galvayne's groove**
D. Golden hoof

👉 **Tip:** In older horses, Galvayne's groove is commonly used as a guide for estimating age.

3.4.22 The 'stay apparatus' enables the horse to:
A. Sleep
B. Stand on three legs
C. Stand still
D. **Rest while standing**

👉 **Tip:** The stay apparatus allows the horse to rest while standing, using minimal muscle effort.

3.4.23 Which of the following is a sensitive part of the horse's hoof?
A. Horn
B. **Laminae**
C. Pedal bone
D. Wall

👉 **Tip:** The laminae are sensitive structures that connect the hoof wall to the pedal bone.

3.4.24 Which of the following is not a contagious disease?
A. Equine metritis
B. Ringworm
C. Strangles
D. **Tetanus**

👉 **Tip:** Tetanus is caused by bacteria entering a wound but is not spread from horse to horse.

3.4.25 A horse with small isolated bumps under the skin of the buttocks, quarters and back or crusty scabs with sticky pus underneath is displaying signs of:
A. Cushings
B. Mud fever
C. **Rain scald/rot**
D. Sweet itch

👉 **Tip**: Rain scald (rain rot) causes scabs and skin infection, often linked to wet conditions.

3.4.26 Which of the following statements is true?
A. Foals have total immunity to disease at birth
B. Foals only have immunity against bacteria in the mare's stable at birth
C. Foals have immunity to bacterial and viral infections at birth
D. **Foals have negligible natural immunity at birth**

👉 **Tip:** Foals are born with very little natural immunity and rely on colostrum for protection.

3.4.27 The foal has maximum ability to absorb colostrum antibodies through the digestive tract during what period after birth?
A. The entire first week of life
B. **The first 12–24 hours**
C. The first 24–48 hours
D. The first 24–72hours

👉 **Tip:** The foal absorbs antibodies most efficiently during the first 12–24 hours after birth.

3.4.28 Lice usually affect horses at what time of the year?
A. Autumn

B. Late summer
C. Summer grazing season
D. **Winter and early spring**

👉 **Tip:** Lice are most common in winter and early spring, especially when horses have thick coats.

3.4.29 Internal parasites are the most common cause of what disorder?
A. **Colic**
B. Navicular disease
C. Pneumonia
D. Sweet itch

👉 **Tip:** Heavy parasite burdens are a common cause of colic.

3.4.30 Which of the following is a common internal parasite in horses?
A. Lice
B. Maggots
C. Ticks
D. **Tapeworms**

👉 **Tip:** Tapeworms live inside the digestive system and are internal parasites.

3.4.31 Why is it important to consider the worm dose chemical ingredient when planning a parasite control programme?
A. Because it could cause abortion
B. Because it may have an unpleasant taste
C. **To help reduce the development of worm resistance to anthelmintic drugs**
D. To reduce the cost of worming treatments

👉 **Tip:** Using different active ingredients helps reduce resistance to anthelmintic drugs.

3.4.32 In relation to parasite burden, which of the following situations is considered high risk?
A. **Horses are under three years of age**
B. New horses are rarely or carefully introduced to the premises
C. Pasture droppings are removed twice weekly
D. Stocking density is no more than 1.5 horses per hectare

👉 **Tip:** Young horses have less developed immunity and are at higher risk of parasites.

3.4.33 Which of the following is typified by blood spurting from a wound in pulses equal to the heartbeat?
A. **Arterial bleeding**
B. Capillary bleeding

C. Skin graze
D. Venous bleeding

👉 **Tip:** Arterial bleeding is bright red and spurts in time with the heartbeat.

3.4.34 Which of the following is commonly characterised by enlarged lymph nodes under the jaw which swell and eventually rupture?
A. Abortion
B. Adenovirus
C. Influenza
D. **Strangles**

👉 **Tip:** Strangles causes swollen lymph nodes that may rupture and discharge pus.

3.4.35 Which of the following trees are poisonous for horses?
A. Ash
B. Beech
C. Birch
D. **Yew**

👉 **Tip:** Yew is extremely toxic to horses, even in small amounts.

3.4.36 The onset of which of the following diseases is associated with feeding mouldy hay?
A. Cushings
B. Haemolytic disease
C. Uterine infection
D. **Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease**

👉 **Tip:** Mouldy hay can trigger Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

3.4.37 Which one of the following is commonly considered an unsoundness?
A. Capped elbow
B. Capped hock
C. Thoroughpin
D. **Ringbone**

👉 **Tip:** Ringbone is a degenerative joint condition and is classed as an unsoundness.

3.4.38 Weaving refers to:
A. A horse arranging its hay across the stall
B. A horse trotting in circles
C. A horse walking in criss-cross patterns around the field
D. **A horse repeatedly shifting weight from one front foot to the other**

👉 **Tip:** Weaving is a stable vice, where the horse repeatedly shifts weight between the front legs.

3.4.39 Where on the body is a curb found?
A. On the fetlock joint
B. On the heel
C. On the interior of the front cannon
D. **Below the point of the hock**

👉 **Tip:** A curb is a swelling found below the point of the hock.

3.4.40 If a horse leans back and does not stand normally on the forelegs, what might be the problem?
A. The horse might have colic
B. The horse might have kidney problems
C. The mare may be foaling
D. **The horse might have laminitis**

👉 **Tip:** Horses with laminitis often lean back to reduce pressure on the front feet.

3.4.41 Which of the following vaccinations are necessary for your horse's health and mandatory for travel to equine events?
A. Equine Herpes Virus
B. Rotavirus
C. Strangles
D. **Influenza**

👉 **Tip:** Equine influenza vaccination is required for competition and travel.

3.4.42 Where are the splint bones located?
A. At the rear of the fetlock joint
B. At the rear of the hoof joint
C. On the inside of the hock
D. **At the sides of the cannon bone**

👉 **Tip:** Splint bones run along the sides of the cannon bone.

3.4.43 A splint is a:
A. Bony lump on the lower jaw
B. Soft enlargement at the top of the hoof
C. Thickening of the ligament about 15 cm below the point of the hock
D. **Bony lump on the front leg below the knee**

👉 **Tip:** A splint is a bony lump on the front leg below the knee, linked to splint bones.

3.4.44 Corrective trimming, where necessary, of a foal's feet should begin by:
A. **4 weeks of age**

B. 6 months of age
C. 12 months of age
D. 18 months of age

👉 **Tip:** Early correction is important, so trimming may begin from around 4 weeks of age.

3.4.45 High ringbone can be felt as hard areas located:
A. In the bulb of the heel
B. Just below the point of the hock
C. On the inside of the cannon bone
D. **In front of the pastern joint**

👉 **Tip:** High ringbone affects the pastern joint, felt at the front of the joint.

3.4.46 In an attempt to eradicate bots, the best time to dose your horse to prevent them is:
A. Early spring
B. Late summer
C. Mid-summer
D. **Late autumn / winter**

👉 **Tip:** Bots are best treated in late autumn or winter, after the first frosts.

3.4.47 When holding the horse for a vet or farrier, where should you stand?
A. Directly in front of the horse
B. 60 cm in front of the horse
C. On the opposite side to the vet or farrier
D. **On the same side as the vet or farrier**

👉 **Tip:** Always stand on the same side as the vet or farrier for safety and control.

3.4.48 Which of the following clinical signs are not indicative of inflammation?
A. Heat
B. Pain
C. Rash
D. **Shivering**
👉 **Tip:** Inflammation is characterised by heat, pain, swelling and redness, not shivering.

3.4.49 Which of the following diseases are contagious in horses?
A. Botulism
B. Brucellosis
C. Tetanus
D. **Strangles**

👉 **Tip:** Strangles spreads easily between horses through direct contact.

3.4.50 Which of the following insects causes the disease sweet itch?
A. Horse fly
B. **Midge**
C. Mite
D. Stable fly

👉 **Tip:** Sweet itch is caused by an allergic reaction to the bite of midges.

3.4.51 Which of the following is not a common cause of septicaemia in foals?
A. Contaminated udder of the mare
B. Failure to absorb sufficient antibodies from colostrum
C. Lack of hygiene in foaling boxes
D. **Keeping foals outside in cold, wet weather**

👉 **Tip:** Septicaemia is usually linked to infection and poor immunity, not to weather conditions alone.

3.4.52 A healthy horse will be:
A. Breathing irregularly
B. Dull and listless
C. Lying down for long periods
D. **Breathing regularly**

👉 **Tip:** A healthy horse shows regular, calm breathing and alert behaviour.

3.4.53 What condition would you suspect if you discovered a black, foul-smelling, moist material in the clefts of the frog?
A. Mud fever
B. Rain scald
C. Seedy toe
D. **Thrush**

👉 **Tip:** Thrush affects the frog and is associated with poor hygiene and wet conditions.

3.4.54 What bones make up the tail section of the horse?
A. Cervical
B. Lumbar
C. Sacral
D. **Coccygeal**

👉 **Tip:** The tail consists of coccygeal vertebrae, extending from the spine.

3.4.55 Warmblood Fragile Foal Syndrome (WFFS) is a hereditary disease with symptoms of:
A. Intermittent muscle tremors
B. Metabolic failure
C. Skin twitching
D. **Lax joints and abnormally fragile skin**

👉 **Tip:** WFFS is a genetic connective tissue disorder, causing fragile skin and loose joints.

3.4.56 Which of the following is NOT one of the Five Freedoms?
A. Freedom from discomfort
B. Freedom from fear and distress
C. Freedom from thirst, hunger and malnutrition
D. **Freedom from controlled exercise**

👉 **Tip:** The Five Freedoms focus on basic needs, comfort, health and behaviour, not exercise control.

3.4.57 Which of the following conditions is *NOT* associated with obesity in horses?
A. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
B. Colic
C. **Influenza**
D. Lameness

👉 **Tip:** Obesity increases the risk of metabolic and mechanical problems, not infectious diseases.

3.4.58 Normal adult pulse rate is:
A. 10–20 beats per minute
B. 20–30 beats per minute
C. **30–40 beats per minute**
D. 40–50 beats per minute

👉 **Tip:** A resting adult horse normally has a pulse of 30–40 beats per minute.

3.4.59 Normal adult breathing rate is:
A. 8–10 breaths per minute
B. **12–16 breaths per minute**
C. 16–18 breaths per minute
D. 18–22 breaths per minute

👉 **Tip:** At rest, an adult horse usually breathes 12–16 times per minute.

3.4.60 When attending to a wound, what should you do first?
A. Bandage the wound
B. Clean the wound
C. Make a cup of tea 😉
D. **Make sure the scene is safe**

👉 **Tip:** Always ensure safety first before treating the horse or the injury.

3.4.61 Loose housing systems are mainly used for which type of horse?
A. **Young horses**
B. Competition horses
C. Hard-working horses
D. Racehorses

👉 **Tip:** Loose housing suits young horses, encouraging movement and social interaction.

3.4.62 Which of the following types of bandage covers the largest area of the leg?
A. Exercise bandages
B. **Stable bandages**
C. Tail bandage
D. Travel bandages

👉 **Tip:** Stable bandages are designed to cover a large area for support and warmth.

3.4.63 A gelding is defined as:
A. **A castrated male horse of any age**
B. A female horse under four years of age
C. An uncastrated male horse of any age
D. An uncastrated male under four years of age

👉 **Tip:** A gelding is a castrated male horse, regardless of age.

3.4.64 Which of the following stable vices involves the horse gulping air?
A. **Cribbing**
B. Bolting
C. Weaving
D. Wood chewing

👉 **Tip:** Cribbing involves grasping an object and gulping air.

3.4.65 When turning a horse out into a field, the handler should:
A. Face him towards the centre of the field and release him
B. Release him before entering the field
C. **Turn him towards the gate and release him**
D. Walk him to the centre of the field and release him

👉 **Tip:** Turning the horse towards the gate allows for safer release and better control.

3.4.66 How does a horse lie down?
A. **First with the forelegs**
B. First with the hind legs
C. With the forelegs and hind legs at the same time
D. With the near fore and near hind together

👉 **Tip:** Horses usually lie down by folding the forelegs first, then the hindquarters.

3.4.67 Hair whorls in the coat of horses are used as an aid to:
A. Assessing temperament
B. Clipping patterns
C. **Identification**
D. Determining age

👉 **Tip:** Hair whorls are commonly used as an aid to identification.

3.4.68 Wide, high banks of bedding laid against the stable walls are designed to help prevent:
A. Draughts at floor level
B. Dust inhalation from bedding
C. **Horses becoming cast**
D. Pressure sores on joints

👉 **Tip:** High banks help prevent a horse from becoming cast against the stable wall.

3.4.69 Ermine marks are:
A. Black flecks throughout the body
B. **Black marks on a white leg commonly near the coronet band**
C. White flecks throughout the body
D. White marks on a black leg commonly near the coronet band

👉 **Tip:** Ermine marks are black spots on a white leg, usually near the coronet band.

3.4.70 What is the recommended size for a stable doorway?
A. 1.2 m high and 2.4 m wide (3.9 ft × 7.9 ft)
B. 2.0 m high and 2.1 m wide (6.6 ft × 6.9 ft)
C. **2.4 m high and 1.2 m wide (7.9 ft × 3.9 ft)**
D. 4.2 m high and 2.1 m wide (13.8 ft × 6.9 ft)

👉 **Tip:** Stable doors must be wide and high enough to allow safe entry and exit.

3.4.71 What type of fence is the safest choice for enclosing horses in a paddock?
A. Barbed wire
B. Chicken wire

C. **Post and rail**
D. Sheep wire

👉 **Tip:** Post and rail fencing is highly visible and reduces the risk of injury.

3.4.72 The trot is a:
A. Four-time movement
B. Four-time movement with a moment of suspension
C. **Two-time movement with a moment of suspension**
D. Three-time movement with a moment of suspension

👉 Tip: The trot is a two-beat gait with a moment of suspension.

3.4.73 What is the most reliable indicator of a horse's emotional wellbeing?
A. Heart rate
B. Body condition score
C. **Facial expression and body language**
D. Weight gain

👉 **Tip:** A horse's facial expression and body language give the clearest insight into its emotional state.

3.4.74 What is the main welfare benefit of keeping horses in social groups rather than individually?
A. Easier feeding control
B. Improved coat condition
C. **Reduced stress and more natural behaviour**
D. Lower risk of contagious disease

👉 **Tip:** Social groups allow natural behaviour and help reduce stress.

3.4.75 Which of the following stable features best supports good welfare?
A. Solid concrete floors for easy cleaning
B. **Rubber matting combined with deep, clean bedding**
C. Fully closed windows to avoid draughts
D. Bright artificial lighting throughout the night

👉 **Tip:** Rubber matting with deep, clean bedding improves comfort and joint protection.

3.4.76 Why is early handling of foals important for welfare?
A. It strengthens the foal's musculoskeletal development
B. **It helps develop calm, confident behaviour and trust around humans**
C. It accelerates learning of basic commands
D. It reduces the risk of separation anxiety later in life

👉 **Tip:** Early handling helps foals develop confidence and trust around humans.

3.4.76 What is a key welfare concern when using new technology such as blanketing sensors or automatic feeders?
A. They can reduce the need for veterinary visits
B. **They may replace human observation and empathy**
C. They improve horse fitness automatically
D. They reduce feed costs

👉 **Tip:** Technology should support, not replace, human observation and care.

4. Sports questions

Unlike the other sections of this theory question bank, the sport questions used at the World Championships will not be made available to competitors in advance. However, the type of knowledge and information required to answer these questions is clearly outlined below.

The World Championships host organisation is responsible for composing the questions for this section, in line with the example questions provided. When included in the theory test at the World Championships, these questions must follow the same format as the rest of the question bank, with four multiple-choice answer options.

Competitors are expected to have knowledge of:

1.) WBFSH Rankings

The top placings from the WBFSH Rankings from the year before the World Championships: https://wbfsh.com/rankings

a. The top three studbooks in the Dressage, Jumping and Eventing rankings.

b. The top three horses representing the leading studbooks for Dressage, Jumping and Eventing

c. The top three ranked individual horses and the studbook they represent (found under breeder rankings)

d. The top three sires in the sire rankings for Dressage, Jumping and Eventing

2.) Olympic Games

The most recent Olympic Games. https://www.olympic.org/

https://www.olympics.com/en/olympic-games/paris-2024/results/equestrian

a. The year and location (Country/City) of the most recent Olympic Games and the next Olympic Games

b. Gold, Silver, Bronze Medallists Individuals for Eventing, Dressage Grand Prix, and Showjumping

i. Name of Rider
ii. Name of Horse
iii. Country represented by Rider
iv. Studbook represented by Horse
v. Sire of Horse

c. Gold, Silver, Bronze Medallists Team Rankings for Eventing, Dressage Grand Prix, and Showjumping

i. Country represented

3.) World Equestrian Games

The most recent World Equestrian Games. The website changes for this.

https://www.fei.org/events/fei-world-championships-herning-denmark-2022

https://www.fei.org/events/fei-world-championships-pratoni-2022

a. The year and location (Country/City) of the most recent World Equestrian Games.

b. Gold, Silver, Bronze Medallists Individuals for Eventing, Dressage Grand Prix Special and Jumping.

i. Name of Rider
ii. Name of Horse
iii. Country Represented by Rider
iv. Studbook Represented by Horse
v. Sire of Horse

c. Gold, Silver, Bronze Medallists Team Rankings for Eventing, Dressage Grand Prix, and Jumping

Example questions, reflecting the situation at the end of 2025

1) Where did the Olympic Games 2024 take place?

- Aachen, Germany
- London, Great Britain
- **Paris, France**
- Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

2) Which team won the Silver Medal in Eventing at the Olympic Games 2024?

- **France**
- Germany
- Japan
- USA

3) Which rider won the Gold Medal in Individual Show Jumping at the Olympic Games 2024?

- **Christian Kukuk**
- Maikel van der Vleuten
- Scott Brash
- Steve Guerdat

4) What is the sire of the horse that won Olympic Gold in Dressage at the Olympic Games 2024?

- **Easy Game**
- Gribaldi
- Quaterback
- Sezuan

5) What is the studbook of the horse that won the Silver Medal in Show Jumping at the Olympic Games 2024?

- Holstein
- Irish Sport Horse
- KWPN
- **Selle Français**

6) What was special about the FEI World Championships 2022?

- Change of date due to bad weather conditions
- First Games including a new discipline: hobby horsing
- The new blood rule was introduced to improve equine welfare
- **Two locations were used: Herning and Pratoni**

7) Which team won Gold in Dressage at the FEI World Championships 2022?

- **Denmark**
- Germany
- Great Britain
- Sweden

8) Which rider won the Silver Medal in Show Jumping at the FEI World Championships 2022 in Herning?

- Ben Maher
- **Jérôme Guery**
- Maikel van der Vleuten
- Marcus Ehning

9) What is the sire of the dressage horse that won both Grand Prix tests at the FEI World Championships 2022?

- Gribaldi
- **Lord Leatherdale**
- Lord Loxley
- Vitalis

10) Which team won the Gold Medal in Eventing at the FEI World Championships 2022?

- France

- **Germany**
- Ireland
- New Zealand

11) What is the studbook of the horse that won Individual Show Jumping at the FEI World Championships 2022?

- **Belgian Warmblood**
- Hannover
- Holstein
- Selle Français

12) Where will the next World Equestrian Games take place in 2026?

- **Aachen, Germany**
- Calgary, Canada
- Herning, Denmark
- Rome, Italy

13) WBFSH: Which studbook is leading in Dressage?

- Danish Warmblood
- Hannover
- **KWPN**
- Oldenburg

14) WBFSH: Which studbook is ranked second in Eventing?

- Holstein
- **Irish Sport Horse**
- Selle Français
- Swedish Warmblood

15) WBFSH: Which sire is ranked first in the Dressage sire rankings?

- **Johnson**
- Quaterback
- Totilas
- Vitalis

16) WBFSH: Which sire is ranked third in the Jumping sire rankings?

- **Chacco-Blue**
- Chacoon Blue
- Contendro II
- Cornet Obolensky

17) WBFSH: Which horse is ranked second in Eventing?

- Bond Jamesbond de Hay
- **Bull Run's Jireh**
- Donatello d'Auge
- Greya

18) WBFSH: Which studbook is represented by the best Dressage horse?

- Danish Warmblood
- **Hannover**
- KWPN
- Rheinland

19) WBFSH: Which are the top three horses representing the leading studbook for Jumping?

- Bull Run's Jireh, Casturano, Monaco N.O.P.
- **Donatello d'Auge, Bond Jamesbond de Hay**
- Imagine, Incredible, Farrel
- Mr Tac, Otello de Guldenboom, Qualista DN

20) WBFSH: Which studbook is ranked second in Jumping?

- Belgian Warmblood
- **Holstein**
- KWPN
- Selle Français

5. Senior questions

5.1. Breeding

5.1.1 The *Cervical Star* refers to:
A. The circular fold of tissue at the entrance to the uterus
B. **The small area where the placenta attaches and ruptures at foaling**
C. The upper part of the oviduct where fertilisation occurs
D. The pattern visible on the cervix during oestrus

💡 *Tip:* The cervical star is the thin area of the placenta through which the foal breaks during birth.

5.1.2 Which of the following helps protect and cleanse the reproductive tract?
A. The urethra and bladder
B. The udder and teats
C. **The vagina and its natural microbial balance**
D. The vestibule and its mucous secretions

💡 *Tip:* The vagina has a self-cleaning mechanism and healthy bacteria that protect against infections.

5.1.3 On average, how many semen jets occur when a stallion ejaculates?
A. 1–3
B. 3–6
C. **6–9**
D. 9–12

💡 *Tip:* The first few jets usually contain most of the sperm cells.

5.1.4 The *perineum* of a mare includes:
A. **The external area between the vulva and anus**
B. The muscular structure supporting the uterus
C. The opening of the cervix leading into the vagina
D. The region between the udder and hind legs

💡 *Tip:* Proper hygiene of the perineum helps prevent infections and foaling complications.

5.1.5 How long does an ovulated egg typically remain viable in the mare before fertilisation?
A. **6–12 hours**
B. 12–24 hours

C. 24–36 hours
D. 48–72 hours

💡 *Tip:* An ovulated egg is most viable for **approximately 6–12 hours after ovulation** and may not be fertilised at all.

5.1.6 For how long can stallion sperm remain viable inside the mare's reproductive tract after natural mating?
A. Up to 6 hours
B. Up to 24 hours
C. Up to 48 hours
D. **Up to 72 hours under optimal conditions**

💡 *Tip:* With natural mating, fertilisation is most likely to occur when mating takes place within 12–24 hours before ovulation.

5.1.7 Which of the following is a *fungus* that can cause abortion in mares?
A. **Aspergillus**
B. Equine herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1)
C. Leptospira interrogans
D. Streptococcus equi
💡 *Tip:* Fungal infections like *Aspergillus* or *Candida* can cause mycotic abortion in mares.

5.1.8 What is the typical viability period of frozen semen after thawing and insemination in the mare?
A. **6-12 hours**
B. 12-24 hours
C. 24-36 hours
D. 36-48 hours

💡 *Tip:* Optimal results are obtained when insemination with frozen semen occurs as close to ovulation as possible, ideally within 6 hours before or after ovulation.

5.1.9 Which of the following is a common cause of infectious diarrhoea in foals?
A. Contagious equine metritis
B. **Rotavirus**
C. Roundworm
D. Tapeworm

💡 *Tip: Rotavirus* is a major cause of diarrhoea in young foals — good hygiene and vaccination of mares can help prevent it.

5.1.10 On average how many days after fertilisation does the embryo travel from the fallopian tube and enter the womb
A. 2
B. 4
C. **6**
D. 8

5.1.11 Meconium is/are the:
A. The cord connecting the foetus to the placenta
B. **The first dung of a newborn foal**
C. The first milk of a mare after foaling
D. The tissues surrounding a newborn foal

💡 *Tip:* Meconium is dark, sticky, and should be passed soon after birth; retention can cause colic in foals.

5.1.12 Colostrum has a high content of:
A. **Antibodies**
B. Calcium
C. Magnesium
D. Vitamin K

💡 *Tip:* These antibodies (immunoglobulins) protect the foal from infections during its first weeks of life.

5.1.13 The estimated foaling date for a mare covered on 30th May 2026 is:
A. 1st April 2027
B. 15th April 2027
C. **5th May 2027**
D. 30th May 2027

💡 *Tip:* The average gestation period for mares is about **340 days**, though it can vary slightly by breed and season.

5.1.14 What is the normal presentation of a foal at birth?
A. Head first with the front legs trailing
B. **Front legs first, head following in a diving position**
C. One hind leg and one front leg together
D. Two front legs together with the head resting on the knees

💡 *Tip:* This "diving" position allows the foal to pass smoothly through the birth canal.

5.1.15 How many days after ovulation is a mare usually scanned to detect a foetal heartbeat?
A. 10 days
B. 16 days
C. 21 days
D. **28 days**

💡 *Tip:* A heartbeat is typically visible around day 25–28 on an ultrasound — a key sign of a healthy early pregnancy.

5.1.16 A reproductive tract infection will most likely enter the mare through the:
A. Mouth
B. Nostril
C. **Vulva**
D. Udder

💡 *Tip:* The vulva forms a protective seal of the external reproductive tract. If this seal is compromised (for example due to poor vulval conformation or positioning relative to the pelvic floor), bacteria can enter and cause infection.

5.1.17 The period of time from the mare breaking water to delivering a foal on the ground is usually no longer than:
A. **30 minutes**
B. 2 hours
C. 3 hours
D. 4 hours

💡 *Tip:* The active stage of foaling (second stage) is usually very quick. If it takes longer than 30 minutes, it may indicate complications and requires veterinary help.

5.1.18 When the foal is born, what should you do with the umbilical cord?
A. **Allow it to break naturally**
B. Break it straight away
C. Cover it with iodine before it breaks
D. Cut it with scissors

💡 *Tip:* The cord normally breaks on its own when the mare or foal moves, allowing the last blood to pass from the placenta to the foal.

5.1.19 What is the first job you should do with a newborn foal?
A. Break the umbilical cord
B. **Clear the foal's airways**
C. Give the mare a drink of water
D. Milk the mare

💡 *Tip:* The foal must breathe freely as soon as possible — clear mucus from the nostrils and mouth to help oxygen flow.

5.1.20 After the umbilical cord breaks, what should be done to help prevent infection entering the navel stump?
A. Give the foal a vitamin injection
B. Give the foal an injection of 5% penicillin

C. **Treat the navel stump with an appropriate antiseptic solution**
D. Wash the stump with soap and water
💡 *Tip:* The navel stump is an open entry point for bacteria immediately after birth. Applying an appropriate antiseptic helps disinfect and protect it during the first hours of life.

5.1.21 How soon after the birth of the foal should the mare normally pass the placenta (afterbirth)?
A. **Within three hours**
B. 10 to 12 hours after birth
C. 24 hours after birth
D. 48 hours after birth
💡 *Tip:* If the placenta hasn't passed within three hours, it's considered a *retained placenta* — call a vet immediately.

5.1.22 How soon should a foal be standing after a normal birth?
A. **Within 2 hours**
B. After 6 hours
C. After 8 hours
D. After 12 hours
💡 *Tip:* A healthy foal stands and looks for the udder within one to two hours. Delay can signal weakness or health problems.

5.1.23 How soon after a normal birth should a foal be suckling effectively?
A. **Within one hour**
B. Within 3 hours
C. After 6 hours
D. After 10 hours
💡 *Tip:* Early suckling helps the foal absorb *colostrum*, which provides vital antibodies to protect against infections.

5.1.24 If a foal is showing signs of colic within 24 hours of birth, what would you suspect?
A. The foal has drunk too much milk
B. The foal has eaten too much roughage
C. The foal has not had enough milk
D. **The foal is unable to pass the first dung**
💡 *Tip:* The first dung is called *meconium*. If it is not passed soon after birth, the foal can develop severe abdominal pain.

5.1.25 The corpus luteum produces which hormone?
A. Follicle Stimulating Hormone
B. Oestrogen
C. **Progesterone**
D. Prostaglandin

💡 *Tip:* Progesterone maintains pregnancy by preparing and stabilising the lining of the uterus.

5.1.26 The white, glistening tissue that a foal is normally born in is the:
A. **Amnion**
B. Connective tissue
C. Placenta
D. Umbilical cord 💡 *Tip:* The *amnion* is the thin white membrane that surrounds and protects the foal during gestation and at birth.

5.1.27 What can the breeder do to start the breeding season earlier than naturally?
A. Adjust the mare's diet to include more protein
B. Give the mare hormone treatment to induce oestrus
C. Increase stable ventilation to improve air quality
D. **Use artificial lights to extend the length of daylight**

💡 *Tip:* Increasing light exposure tricks the mare's body into thinking spring has arrived, stimulating earlier oestrus cycles.

5.1.28 An enema is used for what purpose?
A. **To assist with the passage of droppings in the foal**
B. To clean the lower bowel of the mare before foaling
C. To deliver medication through the rectum
D. To relieve bloating caused by trapped gas in the intestines

💡 *Tip:* A gentle enema helps a newborn foal pass *meconium* (the first dung) if it struggles to do so on its own.

5.1.29 When using artificial lighting to bring the mare into season earlier, the mare must have:
A. 1 hour of darkness
B. 4 hours of darkness
C. **8 hours of darkness**
D. 24 hours of light

💡 *Tip:* A total of about **16 hours of light per day** best mimics spring conditions, so around 8 hours of darkness works well.

5.1.30 At seven months of pregnancy, how big is the foal?
A. 20% birth weight
B. 30% birth weight
C. 40% birth weight
D. **50% birth weight**

💡 *Tip:* The foal grows most rapidly during the last three months of pregnancy — before that, development mainly involves organs and structure.

5.1.31 Which coat colour (phenotype) is most likely when both parents are homozygous for the dominant Agouti allele (genotype)?

A. **Bay**
B. Black
C. Chestnut
D. Cremello

💡 *Tip:* The Agouti gene restricts black pigment to the points (mane, tail, legs), producing a bay coat — a common dominant trait.

5.2. Feeding and nutrition

5.2.1 Which of the following is a trace mineral?
A. Biotin
B. **Cobalt**
C. Lysine
D. Riboflavin
💡 *Tip:* Trace minerals are required only in minute amounts but are vital for enzyme and hormone function — cobalt, for example, is essential for vitamin B_{12} production.

5.2.2 The recommended amount of protein in a foal pellet is:
A. 12%
B. 14%
C. 10%
D. **18%**
💡 *Tip:* Growing foals need a higher protein level (around 16–18%) to support muscle and bone development; mature horses require much less.

5.2.3 Linseed is an excellent source of which of the following?
A. Vitamin A
B. Carbohydrates
C. **Omega-3 fatty acids**
D. Vitamin K
💡 *Study Tip:* Linseed (flaxseed) provides beneficial omega-3 fatty acids, which support coat condition, joint mobility, and the immune system.

5.2.4 Which of the following supplements may be fed to a horse with hoof problems?
A. **Biotin**
B. Cod liver oil
C. Vitamin C
D. Yeast
💡 *Tip:* Biotin supports keratin formation in the hoof wall. Consistent feeding over several months is needed for visible improvement.

5.2.5 Which of the following supplements may be fed to horses with respiratory problems?
A. **Vitamin C**
B. Copper
C. Methionine
D. Vitamin D
💡 *Tip:* Vitamin C supports the immune and respiratory systems. Horses under stress or in dusty environments may benefit from supplementation.

5.2.6 Which two primary minerals must be provided in the correct ratio, together with vitamin D, for proper skeletal growth in the horse?
A. **Calcium (Ca) and Phosphorus (P)**

B. Magnesium (Mg) and Manganese (Mn)
C. Potassium (K) and Selenium (Se)
D. Sodium (Na) and Chloride (Cl)

💡 *Tip:* Calcium and phosphorus are the **main minerals** required for bone development. The ideal calcium-to-phosphorus ratio in growing horses is approximately 2 : 1. Excess phosphorus can reduce calcium absorption and weaken bones.

5.2.7 Foals and weanlings that have an irregular or abnormal rate of growth may suffer from:
A. **Epiphysitis**
B. Founder
C. Colic
D. Tying-up

💡 *Tip:* Rapid or uneven growth can stress developing joints and growth plates, leading to epiphysitis, a common developmental orthopaedic disorder.

5.2.8 The organ in the horse's digestive system that allows the digestion of cellulose is called:
A. **Caecum**
B. Colon
C. Liver
D. Stomach

💡 *Tip:* The caecum contains microbes that ferment fibrous feed, breaking down cellulose into volatile fatty acids — an essential energy source for horses.

5.2.9 Which of the following enzymes acts in the digestion of starch?
A. **Amylase**
B. Lactase
C. Lipase
D. Pepsin

💡 *Tip:* Amylase breaks down starch into simple sugars. Horses produce little amylase, so large starchy meals can overload the digestive system.

5.2.10 Which of the following enzymes acts in the digestion of protein?
A. Lactase
B. Lipase
C. **Pepsin**
D. Sucrase

💡 *Tip:* Pepsin, produced in the stomach, breaks proteins into smaller peptides — the first step in protein digestion.

5.2.11 Which of the following enzymes acts in the digestion of milk sugar?
A. **Lactase**
B. Lipase
C. Pepsin
D. Sucrase

💡 *Tip:* Lactase enables foals to digest lactose from milk. As horses mature, lactase activity decreases, so adult horses may not tolerate large amounts of milk.

5.2.12 Which of the following is not part of the large intestine?
A. Caecum
B. Colon
C. **Duodenum**
D. Rectum
💡 *Tip:* The duodenum is part of the small intestine. The large intestine includes the caecum, colon, and rectum, where microbial fermentation occurs.

5.2.13 The liver produces which of the following?
A. **Bile**
B. Blood
C. Pancreatic liquids
D. Saliva
💡 *Tip:* Bile emulsifies fats to aid digestion. Horses lack a gallbladder, so bile flows continuously into the small intestine.

5.2.14 Most digested food is held in the stomach for approximately how long in the horse?
A. **15-20 minutes**
B. 40-60 minutes
C. 2-4 hours
D. 18–24 hours
💡 *Tip:* Food passes quickly through the horse's stomach, usually within **15–20 minutes**. Fibre then remains in the hindgut for many hours of fermentation.

5.2.15 Which of the following is not part of the small intestine?
A. Duodenum
B. Ileum
C. Jejunum
D. **Sacrum**
💡 *Tip:* The sacrum is part of the spine, not the digestive tract. The small intestine consists of the duodenum, jejunum, and ileum.

5.2.16 Saliva contains a small amount of which of the following enzymes?
A. **Amylase**
B. Lactase
C. Maltase
D. Sucrase
💡 *Tip:* Horse saliva contains only traces of amylase, which starts limited starch digestion. Its main role is to moisten food and buffer stomach acid.

5.2.17 Depending on workload, feed and climatic conditions, a stabled horse will normally drink how many litres of water per day?
A. 5–10 litres (1.3–2.6 gallons)
B. **20–40 litres (5.3–10.6 gallons)**
C. 80–100 litres (21.1–26.4 gallons)
D. 120–140 litres (31.7–37.0 gallons)
💡 *Tip:* An average 500 kg horse drinks 20–40 litres daily. Work, temperature and dry feed can greatly increase this requirement.

5.2.18 How many teeth does a mature horse have?
A. 12–14
B. 24–26
C. **40–42**
D. 60–65
💡 *Tip:* Adult horses have around 40 teeth — mares may have slightly fewer due to smaller or missing canine teeth.

5.2.19 Which of the following nutrients acts as an antioxidant?
A. Cobalt
B. Iron
C. Phosphorus
D. **Selenium**
💡 *Tip:* Selenium, often combined with vitamin E, helps protect cells from oxidative damage caused by exercise and stress.

5.2.20 When should colostrum be fed to a foal?
A. **Within 12 hours of birth**
B. 36–48 hours after birth
C. 3 days after birth
D. 5 days after birth
💡 *Tip:* Foals must receive colostrum within the first 12 hours; their gut can only absorb the protective antibodies for a short time.

5.2.21 Each day a horse can eat hay and concentrates weighing about:
A. **2.5% of its body weight**
B. 5% of its body weight
C. 7.5% of its body weight
D. 10% of its body weight
💡 *Tip:* Horses should consume about 2–2.5% of their body weight in total feed daily — mostly forage to keep the gut active.

5.2.22 Fibre is essential in the horse's diet because without it:
A. The digestive system would cease to work
B. The horse would develop mineral deficiencies
C. **The hindgut microbes would lose activity and balance**
D. The stomach would produce less saliva
💡 *Tip:* Fibre keeps the hindgut functioning by maintaining healthy microbial fermentation. Without sufficient fibre, gut movement slows, leading to colic and digestive upset.

5.2.23 The letters A, B, D, E and K are associated with which supplement?
A. Electrolytes
B. Fibre
C. Minerals
D. **Vitamins**
💡 *Tip:* Vitamins A, D, E and K are fat-soluble; excess amounts are stored in the body, unlike the water-soluble B-vitamins.

5.2.24 A compound feed:
A. Contains no protein
B. Must be mixed with a mineral supplement
C. **Provides a constant, balanced diet**
D. Should not be fed to mares
💡 *Tip:* Compound feeds are formulated blends of cereals, proteins, minerals and vitamins — offering balanced nutrition when used correctly.

5.2.25 Bacteria in the caecum help the horse by producing the enzyme cellulase that digests cellulose. In this process, the bacteria produce a substance that is used as an energy source by the horse and is called:
A. Fats
B. Glucose
C. Starch
D. **Volatile fatty acids**
💡 *Tip:* Volatile fatty acids (VFAs) are produced when gut bacteria ferment fibre. They supply up to 70% of a horse's energy needs.

5.2.26 Rapidly changing a mare's diet can cause:
A. Azoturia
B. Coughing
C. **Diarrhoea**
D. Premature foaling
💡 *Tip:* Sudden diet changes upset the gut microbes in the hindgut, leading to loose droppings or diarrhoea. Always introduce new feeds gradually.

5.2.27 Which of the following statements is true in relation to the digestive system of the horse?
A. **The large intestine contains microbes which aid in digestion**

B. The liver secretes enzymes
C. The small intestine consists of the caecum, colon and rectum
D. The stomach can cope with 5 kg of concentrate feed at a time
💡 *Tip:* The large intestine hosts bacteria that ferment fibre and release energy. Overloading the stomach or small intestine can cause digestive upset.

5.2.28 The ideal pH of mineral soils for grazing horses is:
A. 3.0 to 4.0
B. 4.5 to 5.0
C. **6.0 to 6.5**
D. 7.0 to 7.5
💡 *Tip:* Slightly neutral to mildly acidic soil (pH 6.0–6.5) promotes optimal grass growth and nutrient availability for grazing horses on mineral soils. On peat soils, a slightly lower pH (5.5–5.8) is more appropriate.

5.2.29 Where does the horse digest fat?
A. In the caecum and large intestine
B. In the liver
C. In the stomach
D. **In the small intestine**
💡 *Tip:* Fat digestion occurs in the small intestine, where bile from the liver emulsifies fats for absorption — even though horses have no gallbladder.

5.2.30 Which of the following is **not** a structural carbohydrate?
A. Hay
B. **Oats**
C. Oat hull
D. Soya bean hull
💡 *Tip:* Structural carbohydrates come from fibrous plant cell walls (like hay and hulls). Oats contain mostly non-structural carbohydrates — starches.

5.2.31 Which of the following is a source of protein?
A. Beet pulp
B. Maize
C. Molasses
D. **Sunflower seeds**
💡 *Tip:* Sunflower seeds, like other oilseeds, provide valuable plant protein that supports muscle and tissue repair in the horse.

5.2.32 Which of these is not needed in large amounts?
A. Calcium
B. **Copper**
C. Magnesium

D. Sodium

💡 *Tip:* Copper is a trace mineral required in very small amounts for enzyme function and bone development — too much can be toxic.

5.2.33 When is peak lactation in the mare?
A. 1–2 weeks after foaling
B. 3–5 weeks after foaling
C. **6–12 weeks after foaling**
D. 16–20 weeks after foaling

💡 *Tip:* Peak lactation coincides with the period of fastest foal growth and usually occurs between 1½ and 3 months after foaling!

5.2.34 When should creep feeding begin?
A. **3 weeks after birth**
B. 3 months after birth
C. 6 months after birth
D. One year after birth

💡 *Tip:* Start creep feeding early — around three weeks — so the foal can gradually learn to eat solid feed while still drinking milk. It helps avoid growth gaps later.

5.2.35 Choice of hard feed does NOT depend on:
A. Body condition
B. Quality of forage/grazing available
C. **Time of day being fed**
D. Time of year being weaned

💡 *Tip:* What matters most is what and how much you feed — not when during the day. Timing affects routine, not feed choice.

5.2.36 What can happen if a horse receives large amounts of concentrate feed too quickly?
A. **The horse may develop digestive issues such as colic or laminitis**
B. The horse may develop muscle stiffness or tying-up symptoms
C. The horse may show signs of excitability or restlessness
D. The horse may sweat excessively and show irregular breathing

💡 *Tip:* Always introduce concentrates gradually! Sudden changes upset the gut microbes and can trigger colic or laminitis.

5.2.37 Which factor largely determines a horse's energy requirement?
A. The horse's age and breed type
B. The horse's body condition and temperament
C. **The horse's level of activity or workload**
D. The time of year and weather conditions

💡 *Tip:* A horse's energy requirement is mainly driven by workload. This includes not only exercise

and training, but also late pregnancy and lactation, both of which place high energy demands on the mare.

5.2.38 What is a common cause of vitamin deficiencies in a horse's diet?
A. Ensuring a balanced diet with adequate vitamins and minerals
B. Feeding high-quality, sun-cured hay
C. **Feeding poor-quality or aged hay**
D. Providing access to fresh pasture
💡 *Tip:* Old or poorly stored hay loses vitamins A and E quickly. Always check hay quality — fresh, green hay means more nutrients

5.2.39 What is a primary function of fibre in a horse's digestive system?
A. To aid in the digestion of proteins and fats in the small intestine
B. To increase the absorption of sugars and starches in the stomach
C. To provide a quick energy source for immediate physical activity
D. **To support microbial fermentation in the hindgut, producing volatile fatty acids for energy**
💡 *Tip:* Fibre is fuel for the hindgut microbes — they keep digestion healthy and provide steady energy.

5.2.40 Why is it important to adjust the diet with changes in work or condition?
A. To ensure the horse maintains an appropriate body condition and meets its energy requirements
B. To prevent the horse from becoming overweight or underweight
C. To support optimal performance and overall health
D. **All of the above**
💡 *Tip:* It's important to change a horse's diet when its workload or condition changes because:
(A) The horse needs the right amount of energy to stay in good body condition.
(B) Adjusting the diet helps prevent the horse from becoming too fat or too thin.
(C) Proper feeding supports the horse's performance, recovery, and overall health.
So, since all these points are true, the best answer is D) All of the above.

5.2.41 What are signs that a horse may have a feed deficiency or excess?
A. Bright coat, increased appetite, and improved muscle tone
B. **Dull coat, weight loss, lethargy, and poor hoof growth**
C. Excessive energy, rapid weight gain, and bloated abdomen
D. None of the above
💡 *Tip:* Poor coat and hoof quality often show nutrition problems before anything else — keep an eye on shine.

5.2.42 Why is soil analysis important when determining pasture quality?
A. It assesses the taste preference of horses for the pasture grass
B. It determines the colour of the pasture grass
C. **It helps identify nutrient deficiencies and imbalances in the soil**
D. It measures the height of the pasture grass
💡 *Tip:* Healthy soil supports healthy pasture. Soil analysis does not balance nutrients by itself, but

it provides essential information about soil nutrient levels, allowing informed decisions to be made about fertiliser application and pasture management

5.2.43 Which nutrients are especially important for milk production in a lactating mare?
A. Iron, Vitamin K, Sodium, Vitamin C
B. Magnesium, Vitamin B12, Potassium, Vitamin D
C. **Protein, Calcium, Phosphorus, Omega-3 Fatty Acids**
D. Zinc, Vitamin A, Copper, Vitamin E
💡 *Tip:* Milk production places high demands on the mare for protein**,** calcium, and phosphorus for foal growth, as well as omega-3 fatty acids, which support milk quality and overall foal development.

5.2.44 What is a potential consequence of copper deficiency during pregnancy in a mare?
A. Accelerated foetal growth
B. Enhanced immune function in the foal
C. Improved coat quality
D. **Increased risk of developmental orthopaedic diseases in the foal**
💡 *Tip:* Copper is crucial for bone and joint development — always ensure broodmares get enough trace minerals.

5.2.45 What is a potential risk of overfeeding a broodmare before mating?
A. Enhanced foal growth and development
B. Decreased risk of laminitis
C. Improved fertility and conception rates
D. **Increased risk of early embryonic death**
💡 *Tip:* Overfeeding can lead to excess body condition and hormonal imbalance. Mares should be fit, not fat, as over-conditioned mares may have reduced fertility and an increased risk of early embryonic loss.

5.2.46 Which mineral is needed in increased amounts during the last months of pregnancy for foal skeletal development?
A. **Calcium**
B. Iron
C. Magnesium
D. Sodium
💡 *Tip:* Calcium is essential for bone and skeletal formation in the developing foal. During the final months of pregnancy, the mare's calcium requirement increases significantly. Feeds rich in calcium, such as alfalfa or specialised broodmare concentrates, are particularly beneficial.

5.2.47 What is the role of Body Condition Scoring (BCS) in determining a broodmare's diet?
A. **To assess the mare's fat reserves and adjust her feeding programme accordingly.**
B. To determine the mare's age and adjust her vaccination schedule.
C. To evaluate the mare's muscle tone and adjust her exercise regimen.
D. To measure the mare's water intake and adjust her hydration plan.
💡 *Tip:* Body Condition Scoring helps you assess whether a mare is under-, over-, or ideally conditioned. Regardless of the scoring scale used, it is a practical tool to guide adjustments to the feeding programme.

5.2.48 What is an important characteristic of suitable concentrate feed for a lactating mare?
A. High in fat content to promote rapid weight gain.
B. **High in quality protein and essential amino acids to support milk production.**
C. High in simple sugars and starch to increase energy intake.
D. Low in fibre content to reduce bulk and increase caloric density.
💡 *Tip:* Think of milk production as a protein-driven process. Concentrates containing easily digestible, high-quality protein sources such as soya or alfalfa support milk yield while helping the mare maintain her body condition.

5.2.49 Which factor plays the least significant role in influencing a broodmare's nutritional requirements?
A. **Her age**
B. Her body condition score (BCS)
C. Her stage of gestation or lactation
D. The quality and availability of pasture or forage
💡 *Tip:* A mare's age generally has much less influence on her nutritional needs than her body condition**,** physiological stage (pregnancy or lactation), and the quality and availability of forage (including grazing). These factors should be the main focus when planning her feeding regime.

5.3. Horse conformation and influence on performance

5.3.1 Why is a sloping shoulder beneficial for a riding horse?
A. **It allows greater freedom of movement in the forelimb and a longer, smoother stride, improving comfort and rideability.**
B. It helps keep the saddle in place by providing a flatter area for tack fitting.
C. It improves the horse's visual appearance in the show ring but has little effect on performance.
D.I t increases the height of the foreleg action, which is required for advanced dressage movements.
💡 *Tip:* A well-sloped shoulder allows the foreleg to move more freely, resulting in a longer, smoother, and more elastic stride, which benefits both horse and rider.

5.3.2 What is meant by a correct foundation in a horse?
A. It describes limb placement that improves balance in advanced schooling but does not influence injury risk.
B. It indicates that the horse has proportionally long limbs, which may improve athletic appearance but does not guarantee soundness
C. **It means the limbs and hooves are straight, correctly aligned, and free from deformities, allowing even weight distribution and supporting long-term soundness.**
D.I t refers mainly to the angle of the pasterns, which helps absorb concussion during movement.
💡 *Tip:* Correct limb and hoof alignment form the foundation of soundness. Straight, well-aligned limbs distribute weight evenly and reduce strain on joints, tendons, and ligaments.

5.3.3 What influence does a long back have on sports performance?
A. **A long back can reduce stability and carrying capacity, which is a disadvantage in sports requiring strength, balance, and collection.**
B. A long back offers more space for saddle placement, which may help rider comfort but does not improve athletic performance.
C. A long back may allow more flexibility in the body, but this does not necessarily translate into improved performance in demanding sports.
D.A long back can encourage a stretched outline in young horses, but may make advanced collection more difficult later on.
💡 *Tip:* A strong, shorter back generally provides better power, balance, and weight-carrying ability. Long-backed horses may struggle more with collection, jumping, and sustained athletic effort.

5.3.4 Why is a well-developed wither important for a riding horse?
A. **It allows for better saddle stability and helps prevent pressure points, improving comfort during work.**
B. It helps the rider feel more secure over fences, but does not influence saddle fit or comfort.
C. It improves elevation of the forehand, contributing to more expressive movement.
D.I t increases the appearance of height, making the horse look more impressive in the arena.
💡 *Tip:* A well-developed wither helps anchor the saddle in the correct position, reducing slipping and uneven pressure, which improves comfort for both horse and rider..

5.3.5 What are possible consequences of a *straight hind limb conformation* for a horse's movement?

A. A straight hind limb conformation improves quick acceleration, making the horse faster in sprint work.
B. A straight hind limb conformation increases stability on landing, improving safety in jumping.
C. A straight hind limb conformation improves the ability to sit and collect, which is beneficial in dressage.
D.**A straight hind limb conformation often results in reduced power from behind and stiffer movement, limiting impulsion, endurance, and speed.**

💡 *Tip:* The hind limbs act as the horse's engine. A moderate angle in the hind leg allows effective engagement and power. A too straight hind limb reduces shock absorption and limits impulsion.

5.3.6 Which conformation traits are often sought in a show-jumping horse?
A. **Strong hindquarters, correct limb alignment, good jumping technique and sufficient musculature are considered essential.**
B. A steeper shoulder angle is beneficial as it helps in quicker turns, even if it shortens the stride.
C. Thinner legs and smaller hooves are sometimes desired for elegance, but they can compromise long-term soundness.
D. A slightly longer back provides more flexibility but can reduce strength and carrying capacity.

💡 *Tip:* Jumpers need strength, balance, and correct angles — powerful hindquarters and a free shoulder make all the difference.

5.3.7 How can an abnormal leg position affect joint stress?
A. An abnormal leg position allows the horse to distribute weight differently, which might improve stability in sharp turns.
B. An abnormal leg position enhances elasticity in the gaits, giving the impression of greater suppleness.
C. **An abnormal leg position creates uneven loading on joints, which can accelerate wear and increase the risk of injury.**
D. An abnormal leg position may support a wider stance, which can help balance but reduces efficiency in collected movements.

💡 *Tip:* Crooked legs put uneven pressure on bones and tendons — soundness always starts with straight legs.

5.3.8 What does it mean if a horse stands "camped under"?
A. **One or both pairs of legs are positioned too far underneath the body, increasing strain on tendons and ligaments.**
B. The hind legs are placed too far behind the body, reducing the horse's ability to carry weight.
C. The knee joint bends backwards when viewed from the side due to tight ligaments or tendons.
D.T he legs are placed too far in front of the body, often as a response to pain or discomfort.

💡 *Tip:* A horse can be *camped under in front, behind, or both*. This stance places increased strain on the supporting structures of the limbs and may be related to conformation or discomfort.

5.3.9 Why is symmetry important in conformation evaluation?
A. It enhances presentation in competition without influencing how the horse moves or stays sound.
B. **It indicates even development on both sides of the body, supporting balance, straightness, and reducing the risk of injury.**

C. It mainly improves the visual appearance of the horse but has little influence on movement or soundness.
D. It ensures equal muscle size on both sides, which improves the impression of strength but does not affect long-term soundness.

💡 *Tip:* A symmetrical horse tends to move straighter and more evenly, distributing weight more fairly across the limbs. Asymmetry often leads to uneven wear, compensation, and a higher risk of injury.

5.4. Health and Welfare

5.4.1 Which of the following conditions affects the cartilage within the hoof?
A. Cracked heels
B. **Side bone**
C. Navicular syndrome
D. Stringhalt
💡 *Tip:* Remember that "side bone" refers to ossification (hardening) of the lateral cartilages of the hoof — common in heavier horses or those working on hard ground.

5.4.2 A hot poultice would not be used in which of the following situations?
A. **To decrease inflammation and swelling**
B. To draw out infection
C. To increase blood supply to an area
D. To encourage an abscess to burst
💡 *Tip:* Hot poultices help draw out infection or abscesses, but if blood flow is already high, heat can make inflammation worse.

5.4.3 Which of the following wormer ingredients is effective against encysted small redworms (cyathostomins)?
A. Ivermectin
B. **Moxidectin**
C. Praziquantel
D. Pyrantel
💡 *Tip:* Only moxidectin, and a five-day course of fenbendazole, are effective against encysted small redworm larvae. These stages are not targeted by most standard wormers and require specific treatment decisions.

5.4.4 Which of the following organisms does not cause respiratory disease in horses?
A. Adenovirus
B. Equine herpes virus
C. Equine viral arteritis
D. **Clostridia**
💡 *Tip:* Clostridia cause digestive and wound infections, not respiratory conditions. Keep respiratory diseases linked to airborne viral transmission in mind.

5.4.5 Excess of which mineral may lead to loss or crumbling of the hoof wall?
A. Copper
B. **Fluorine**

C. Iron
D. Selenium
💡 *Tip:* Too much fluorine (fluorosis) affects the integrity of bones and hoof horn — balance in mineral intake is essential.

5.4.6 Cleft palate is a deformity sometimes seen in foals. How could it be recognised?
A. **Milk dribbling down the nostrils after suckling**
B. Milk dribbling from the mouth after suckling
C. Profuse diarrhoea after suckling
D. Straining when passing droppings after suckling
💡 *Tip:* Milk from the nostrils signals a defect between mouth and nasal cavity — a typical sign of cleft palate.

5.4.7 Which of the following is a viral disease in horses?
A. **Equine influenza**
B. Contagious equine metritis
C. Laminitis
D. Salmonella
💡 *Tip:* Equine influenza is highly contagious and spreads quickly through shared airspace — vaccination is key prevention.

5.4.8 Which of the following diseases cannot be prevented by vaccination?
A. **Contagious equine metritis**
B. Equine viral arteritis
C. Influenza
D. Rotavirus
💡 *Tip:* Not all infectious diseases have vaccines — CEM is controlled by strict hygiene and testing rather than vaccination.

5.4.9 Where on the horse's body would a curb be found?
A. **Below the point of the hock**
B. On the fetlock joint
C. On the heel
D. On the inner side of the front cannon
💡 *Tip:* A curb is a thickening of the plantar ligament just below the hock — often caused by strain or poor conformation.

5.4.10 What is the normal resting heart rate of an adult horse?
A. 10–15 beats per minute
B. **30–40 beats per minute**
C. 50–60 beats per minute
D. 70–80 beats per minute

💡 Tip: Fit adult horses have a surprisingly slow heart rate — higher values may indicate stress, pain, or illness.

5.4.11 The yellow eggs attached to the hairs on a horse's legs during late summer and autumn are laid by:
A. **The bot fly**
B. The horse fly
C. The midget fly
D. The warble fly
💡 *Tip:* Bot fly eggs are often seen on the forelegs — horses ingest them while grooming, leading to internal larvae.

5.4.12 Where on the body would you find a windgall?
A. Below the point of the hock
B. On the heel
C. On the inner front cannon just below the knee
D.**O ver the fetlock joint**
💡 Tip: Windgalls are small fluid swellings around the fetlock — usually harmless but can reflect strain in hard-working horses.

5.4.13 Pregnant mares should be vaccinated in the fifth, seventh, and ninth months of gestation to prevent:
A. **EHV abortion**
B. Azoturia
C. Colic
D. Strangles
💡 *Tip:* EHV (equine herpes virus) vaccination reduces the risk of virus-induced abortion and protects both mare and foal.

5.4.14 A parrot mouth describes a condition in which:
A. The top and bottom jaws are equal in length
B. The top jaw has one extra tooth
C. The top jaw is shorter than the bottom jaw
D.**T he top jaw is longer than the bottom jaw**
💡 Tip: Parrot mouth causes misalignment of incisors — regular dental care is vital for correct chewing and bit comfort.

5.4.15 Grazing horses together with cattle helps to:
A. **Reduce the level of worm infestation on pasture**
B. Minimise harmful weeds that horses might eat
C. Prevent horses escaping from the field
D. Stop horses chewing on the fence
💡 *Tip:* Grazing cattle or sheep at appropriate stocking densities, either alongside horses or as part

of a rotational grazing system, can help break parasite life cycles. Most equine parasites are host-specific and cannot complete their life cycle in other grazing species.

5.4.16 The cannon bone is a part of the horse's leg. How is it correctly defined?
A. From the elbow to the fetlock
B. **From the knee to the fetlock**
C. From the knee to the hoof
D. From the fetlock to the hoof
💡 *Tip:* The cannon bone runs between the knee and the fetlock in the foreleg (or between the hock and fetlock in the hindleg) — it's the main weight-bearing bone of the lower limb.

5.4.17 If a mare dies during foaling and you urgently need milk for the foal, which type of milk is most suitable as a temporary replacement?
A. **From a goat**
B. From a cow
C. From a sheep
D. From a sow
💡 *Tip:* Goat's milk is chemically closest to mare's milk — it's easier for foals to digest than cow's milk, which has too much fat and protein.

5.4.18 Which of the following parasites mainly affects foals and young horses?
A. Bloodworm
B. Lungworm
C. **Roundworm**
D. Tapeworm
💡 *Tip:* Roundworms (*Parascaris equorum*) are common in young horses with developing immune systems. An effective deworming programme should be planned with your vet, taking into account the individual horse's age and the farm's parasite risk profile, rather than relying on routine dosing.

5.4.19 Strangles is highly contagious. Which category of disease does it belong to?
A. **Bacterial airway disease**
B. Allergy
C. Inflammatory condition
D. Viral infection
💡 *Tip:* Strangles is caused by *Streptococcus equi* bacteria — it affects the lymph nodes of the head and neck, leading to swelling and nasal discharge.

5.4.20 In healthy horses, haemoglobin is mainly carried by which component of the blood?
A. Plasma
B. **Red blood cells**
C. White blood cells
D. Platelets
💡 *Tip:* Haemoglobin binds oxygen within red blood cells, delivering it throughout the body — vital for stamina and recovery in sport horses.

5.4.21 Which of the following diseases can cause both abortion in mares and respiratory illness?
A. Equine pneumonia
B. Equine rhinovirus
C. **Equine herpes virus**
D. Tetanus
💡 *Tip:* EHV-1 and EHV-4 are the main strains; EHV-1 may cause abortion storms, while both can trigger respiratory symptoms.

5.4.22 What does the abbreviation E.I.A. stand for?
A. **Equine Infectious Anaemia**
B. Equine Infectious Arthritis
C. Endogenous Interior Anaemia
D. External Infectious Arthritis
💡 *Tip:* EIA is a viral disease spread by biting insects — affected horses remain carriers for life and must be isolated or euthanised.

5.4.23 Equine Herpes Virus (EHV) is not responsible for which of the following conditions?
A. Abortion
B. Neurological disease
C. **Skin disease**
D. Respiratory disease
💡 *Tip:* EHV causes respiratory, neurological, and reproductive problems — skin conditions are unrelated.

5.4.24 The term “golden hoof” refers to which of the following?
A. A hardened keratin layer formed after birth
B. **A soft, protective capsule covering the foal’s hooves in the uterus**
C. A temporary laminitic condition in newborn foals
D. A yellow discolouration caused by mineral imbalance in the hoof horn
💡 *Tip:* These “foal slippers” protect the mare’s uterus during pregnancy and disappear after birth.

5.4.25 How can haemolytic disease in a newborn foal be recognised?
A. **Jaundice**
B. Lack of suck reflex
C. Swollen limbs
D. Bleeding from the nostrils
💡 *Tip:* Jaundice (yellowing of eyes and gums) indicates destruction of red blood cells — an emergency requiring prompt care.

5.4.26 A condition in which a yellow colour appears in the mouth, eyes, and vulva is called:
A. Contagious equine metritis
B. Equine coital exanthema
C. **Jaundice**
D. Venereal disease
💡 *Tip:* Jaundice often signals liver issues or blood breakdown; always check mucous membranes for early signs.

5.4.27 Internal parasites are the most common cause of:
A. **Colic**
B. Headshaking
C. Navicular disease
D. Pneumonia
💡 *Tip:* Worm burdens can block or irritate the intestines, leading to painful colic episodes — keep to a deworming schedule.

5.4.28 Warmblood Fragile Foal Syndrome (WFFS) is an autosomal recessive trait, meaning a foal is affected only if it inherits the gene from:
A. **Both parents**
B. The dam
C. The grandsire
D. The sire
💡 *Tip:* Both sire and dam must be carriers for the foal to be affected — genetic testing is essential before breeding.

5.4.29 Which of the following breathing patterns is not a cause for concern?
A. **Heavy breathing immediately after exercise**
B. Heavy breathing at rest
C. Heaves line along the abdomen
D. Laboured breathing with an outstretched neck
💡 *Tip:* It's normal for horses to breathe heavily after exertion; persistent or laboured breathing at rest signals respiratory distress.

5.4.30 Which of the following indicates that a horse is in pain?
A. **Lips pressed together with a flattened chin**
B. Ears pricked forward
C. Flehmen position with top lip curled over the nostrils
D. Snorting
💡 *Tip:* A tense muzzle and tight lips show discomfort or pain — unlike the Flehmen response, which relates to scent or taste.

5.4.31 In which of the following situations should you call the vet?
A. Horse has a small wound oozing some blood

B. **Horse has a small wound oozing straw-coloured fluid**
C. Horse has a resting breathing rate of 14 breaths per minute
D. Horse has a temperature of 38.1°C
💡 *Tip:* Clear or straw-coloured discharge can indicate deeper tissue or joint involvement — far more serious than a superficial bleed.

5.4.32 Which part of the horse's hoof bears most of the horse's weight?
A. Seat of corn
B. The frog
C. The sole
D. **The wall**
💡 *Tip:* The hoof wall takes the main impact when the horse moves — it's designed to bear weight and protect inner structures.

5.4.33 What is the recommended stable size for foaling down a mare?
A. 1 m × 1 m (3.3 ft × 3.3 ft)
B. 2.4 m × 2.4 m (7.9 ft × 7.9 ft)
C. **3.7 m × 3.7 m (12.1 ft × 12.1 ft)**
D. 4.5 m × 4.5 m (14.8 ft × 14.8 ft)
💡 *Tip:* A spacious foaling box allows the mare to lie down safely and gives attendants enough room to help during delivery.

5.4.34 What is the correct footfall sequence in the walk?
A. **Near hind, near fore, off hind, off fore**
B. Near hind, off fore, off hind, near fore
C. Off fore, off hind, near fore, off fore
D. Off hind, near fore, near hind, off fore
💡 *Tip:* The walk is a four-beat gait — each hoof strikes the ground separately in a clear rhythm.

5.4.35 What is the correct footfall sequence in the trot?
A. Near hind and near fore together; off hind and off fore together
B. **Near hind and off fore together; off hind and near fore together**
C. Near hind and off hind together; near fore and off fore together
D. Near hind, off fore, off hind, near fore
💡 *Tip:* The trot is a two-beat diagonal gait — opposite legs move together, giving a rhythmic "rise and sit" motion.

5.4.36 What is the correct footfall sequence in canter when the left foreleg is leading?
A. Near hind, near fore and off hind together, near fore, moment of suspension
B. Near hind, off hind and near fore together, off fore, moment of suspension
C. **Off hind, near hind and off fore together, near fore, moment of suspension**

D. Off hind, off fore and near hind together, off fore, moment of suspension

💡 *Tip:* In canter, the leading leg determines direction — in left canter, the left foreleg (near fore) lands last before suspension.

5.4.37 What is the correct footfall sequence in the gallop?
A. **Off hind, near hind, off fore, near fore, moment of suspension**
B. Off hind, near fore, near hind, off fore, moment of suspension
C. Off hind, off fore, near hind, near fore, moment of suspension
D. Near hind, near fore, off hind, off fore, moment of suspension

💡 *Tip:* The gallop is a four-beat gait with a moment of suspension — it's an extended version of canter, used for speed and power.

5.4.38 Tendons are:
A. Ligaments which protect the bones from injury
B. **Cords extending from muscles that attach to bones**
C. Vessels which carry blood to the bones
D. Vessels which carry blood to the muscles

💡 *Tip:* Tendons connect muscle to bone, while ligaments connect bone to bone — both are strong yet flexible fibrous tissues.

5.4.39 When applying a bandage over a joint, it should be placed:
A. **In a figure-eight pattern over the joint**
B. From above the joint spiralled downward
C. From below the joint spiralled upward
D. From the top to the bottom

💡 *Tip:* The figure-eight method allows freedom of movement while giving even pressure and protection to the joint area.

5.4.40 Weaving is generally considered a result of:
A. **Boredom or lack of social interaction**
B. Digestive discomfort from high-starch diets
C. Hormonal imbalance during the breeding season
D. Poor saddle fit causing physical tension

💡 *Tip:* Weaving is a stable vice caused by stress or lack of stimulation — turnout, companionship, and enrichment help prevent it.

5.4.41 Normally, the correct number of nails used when shoeing a horse is:
A. 3 on the outside and 3 on the inside
B. **4 on the outside and 3 on the inside**
C. 3 on the outside and 4 on the inside
D. 6 on both sides

💡 *Tip:* A total of seven nails gives secure attachment without weakening the hoof wall — more nails can increase the risk of cracks.

5.4.42 Which of the following training practices is most consistent with modern welfare principles?
A. Using punishment to stop unwanted behaviour
B. **Employing pressure–release learning and positive reinforcement**
C. Exercising horses until they submit
D. Avoiding any physical contact with the horse
💡 *Tip:* Welfare-friendly training builds trust through reward-based systems — pressure–release and positive reinforcement encourage learning without fear.

5.4.43 Which welfare risk increases most in horses kept on full-time stable rest?
A. **Joint stiffness and stereotypic behaviour**
B. Obesity and laminitis
C. Vitamin deficiency
D. Skin infections
💡 *Tip:* Lack of movement and social contact can lead to stiffness and stress-related behaviours — regular turnout and enrichment are vital for welfare.