

THEORY DATABASE



INTERNATIONAL
YOUNG BREEDERS

World Championships 2026

Without 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 Furthermore, the chapter “Stable Management” has been replaced by “Horse Conformation and Influence on Performance”.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 is the version without answers and is intended for practice. The correct answers and helpful study tips are available in the *Theory database_with answers*.

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 International Young Breeders World Championships, both Junior and Senior competitors are required to complete a theory test. This test consists of 50 multiple-choice questions, which are selected from this question bank.

Separate theory tests will be used for Junior and Senior teams.

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

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

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

3.1.4 The average length of pregnancy in a mare is:

- A. 340 days
- B. 390 days
- C. 400 days
- D. 425 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

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

3.1.7 Fertilisation of the egg with the sperm takes place in the:

- A. Fallopian tube
- B. Ovary
- C. Uterus
- D. Vagina

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3.1.16 Under natural conditions, most mares become sexually active during which period?

- A. Autumn
- B. Spring
- C. Summer
- D. Winter

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

3.1.18 Which of the following chromosome pairs results in a female foal?

- A. XY
- B. XX
- C. YX
- D. YY

3.1.19 Which of the following chromosome pairs results in a male foal?

- A. XY
- B. XX
- C. YX
- D. YY

3.1.20 In the following pedigree identify the sire of horse A

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

3.1.21 In the following pedigree identify the dam of horse A

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

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

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

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

Horse A	Horse B	Horse D
		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

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

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

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

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

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

3.1.32 Which of the following is part of the reproductive system of a mare?

- A. Caecum
- B. Cervix
- C. Colon
- D. Cranium

3.1.33 In the stallion, sperm is produced in the:

- A. Colon
- B. Penis
- C. Rectum
- D. Testicle

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

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

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

3.1.37 How many fallopian tubes does the mare have?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

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

3.1.39 One of the 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3.2.2 Which of the following feeds contains the highest level of carbohydrates (energy)?

- A. Barley
- B. Bran
- C. Hay
- D. Oats

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

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

3.2.5 Which part of the digestive system has the greatest capacity?

- A. Large intestine
- B. Mouth
- C. Rectum
- D. Stomach

3.2.6 Which of the following is a mineral?

- A. Biotin
- B. Calcium
- C. Niacin
- D. Riboflavin

3.2.7 Which nutrient provides the highest energy content per gram?

- A. Carbohydrates
- B. Fats
- C. Minerals
- D. Proteins

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

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

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

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

3.2.12 Calcium and phosphorus are mainly found in which body tissue?

- A. Bone
- B. Fat
- C. Muscle
- D. Skin

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

3.2.14 Which of the following is a vitamin?

- A. Biotin
- B. Cobalt
- C. Iodine
- D. Manganese

3.2.15 Which of the following minerals is required in relatively large amounts?

- A. Magnesium
- B. Manganese
- C. Selenium
- D. Zinc

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

3.2.17 Which of the following vitamins functions as an antioxidant?

- A. Vitamin A
- B. Vitamin D
- C. Vitamin E
- D. Vitamin K

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

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

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

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

3.2.22 Folic acid belongs to which of the following nutrient groups?

- A. Fats
- B. Minerals
- C. Proteins
- D. Vitamins

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

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

3.2.25 Which of the following cereals may be fed without processing?

- A. Barley
- B. Oats
- C. Maize
- D. Wheat

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

3.2.27 Which of the following is not a good source of protein?

- A. Beans
- B. Carrots
- C. Peas
- D. Soya beans

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

3.2.29 Which of the following minerals is found mainly in the skeleton?

- A. Calcium
- B. Cobalt
- C. Iodine
- D. Iron

3.2.30 A bale of good-quality hay is:

- A. Dust-free
- B. Dark brown in colour
- C. Mouldy
- D. Warm

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

3.2.32 Which of the following is considered roughage?

- A. Wheat
- B. Hay
- C. Maize
- D. Oats

3.2.33 Which of the following is part of the horse's digestive system?

- A. Caecum
- B. Cervix
- C. Lung
- D. Ovary

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

3.2.35 Which of the following areas is not assessed during body condition scoring?

- A. Abdomen
- B. Ribs
- C. Shoulder
- D. Spine

3.2.36 Sugar beet pulp is an excellent source of:

- A. Energy
- B. Fat
- C. Vitamins
- D. Protein

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

3.2.38 Which of the following nutrients is not digested in the small intestine?

- A. Fibre
- B. Lipids (fats)
- C. Sugar
- D. Starch

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%

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

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

3.2.42 Which part of the horse's digestive system is the longest?

- A. Duodenum
- B. Large colon
- C. Rectum
- D. Small intestine

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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)

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3.4.4 Ringworm is caused by a:

- A. Bacteria
- B. Fungus
- C. Parasite
- D. Virus

3.4.5 Strangles is caused by a:

- A. Bacteria
- B. Fungus
- C. Parasite
- D. Virus

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

3.4.7 Wobbler syndrome affects:

- A. Circulatory system
- B. Digestive system
- C. Limbs
- D. Spine

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

3.4.9 Which joint is not part of the forehand?

- A. Fetlock
- B. Shoulder
- C. Short pastern
- D. Stifle

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

3.4.11 How many vertebrae are in the horse's spinal column (backbone)?

- A. 7
- B. 18
- C. 44
- D. 54

3.4.12 How many neck vertebrae does the horse have?

- A. 4
- B. 6
- C. 7**
- D. 8

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

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]

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

3.4.16 What are the premolars?

- A. The front molars
- B. The front teeth
- C. The lateral incisors
- D. The rear 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

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

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

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

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

3.4.22 The 'stay apparatus' enables the horse to:

- A. Sleep
- B. Stand on three legs
- C. Stand still
- D. Rest while standing

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

3.4.24 Which of the following is not a contagious disease?

- A. Equine metritis
- B. Ringworm
- C. Strangles
- D. Tetanus

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

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

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 24–72 hours

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

3.4.29 Internal parasites are the most common cause of what disorder?

- A. Colic
- B. Navicular disease
- C. Pneumonia
- D. Sweet itch

3.4.30 Which of the following is a common internal parasite in horses?

- A. Lice
- B. Maggots
- C. Ticks
- D. Tapeworms

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

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

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

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

3.4.35 Which of the following trees are poisonous for horses?

- A. Ash
- B. Beech
- C. Birch
- D. Yew

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

3.4.37 Which one of the following is commonly considered an unsoundness?

- A. Capped elbow
- B. Capped hock
- C. Thoroughpin
- D. Ringbone

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3.4.48 Which of the following clinical signs are not indicative of inflammation?

- A. Heat
- B. Pain
- C. Rash
- D. Shivering

3.4.49 Which of the following diseases are contagious in horses?

- A. Botulism
- B. Brucellosis
- C. Tetanus
- D. Strangles

3.4.50 Which of the following insects causes the disease sweet itch?

- A. Horse fly
- B. Midge
- C. Mite
- D. Stable fly

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

3.4.52 A healthy horse will be:

- A. Breathing irregularly
- B. Dull and listless
- C. Lying down for long periods
- D. Breathing regularly

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

3.4.54 What bones make up the tail section of the horse?

- A. Cervical
- B. Lumbar
- C. Sacral
- D. Coccygeal

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3.4.64 Which of the following stable vices involves the horse gulping air?

- A. Cribbing
- B. Bolting
- C. Weaving
- D. Wood chewing

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

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

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

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

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

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)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 horning
- 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 Guéry
- 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5.1.12 Colostrum has a high content of:

- A. Antibodies
- B. Calcium
- C. Magnesium
- D. Vitamin K

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

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

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

5.1.16 A reproductive tract infection will most likely enter the mare through the:

- A. Mouth
- B. Nostril
- C. Vulva
- D. Udder

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5.1.25 The corpus luteum produces which hormone?

- A. Follicle Stimulating Hormone
- B. Oestrogen
- C. Progesterone
- D. Prostaglandin

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

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

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

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

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

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

5.2. Feeding and nutrition

5.2.1 Which of the following is a trace mineral?

- A. Biotin
- B. Cobalt
- C. Lysine
- D. Riboflavin

5.2.2 The recommended amount of protein in a foal pellet is:

- A. 12%
- B. 14%
- C. 10%
- D. 18%

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

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

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

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)

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

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

5.2.9 Which of the following enzymes acts in the digestion of starch?

- A. Amylase
- B. Lactase
- C. Lipase
- D. Pepsin

5.2.10 Which of the following enzymes acts in the digestion of protein?

- A. Lactase
- B. Lipase
- C. Pepsin
- D. Sucrase

5.2.11 Which of the following enzymes acts in the digestion of milk sugar?

- A. Lactase
- B. Lipase
- C. Pepsin
- D. Sucrase

5.2.12 Which of the following is not part of the large intestine?

- A. Caecum
- B. Colon
- C. Duodenum
- D. Rectum

5.2.13 The liver produces which of the following?

- A. Bile
- B. Blood
- C. Pancreatic liquids
- D. Saliva

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

5.2.15 Which of the following is not part of the small intestine?

- A. Duodenum
- B. Ileum
- C. Jejunum
- D. Sacrum

5.2.16 Saliva contains a small amount of which of the following enzymes?

- A. Amylase
- B. Lactase
- C. Maltase
- D. Sucrase

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)

5.2.18 How many teeth does a mature horse have?

- A. 12–14
- B. 24–26
- C. 40–42
- D. 60–65

5.2.19 Which of the following nutrients acts as an antioxidant?

- A. Cobalt
- B. Iron
- C. Phosphorus
- D. Selenium

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

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

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

5.2.23 The letters A, B, D, E and K are associated with which supplement?

- A. Electrolytes
- B. Fibre
- C. Minerals
- D. 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

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

5.2.26 Rapidly changing a mare's diet can cause:

- A. Azoturia
- B. Coughing
- C. Diarrhoea
- D. Premature foaling

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

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

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

5.2.30 Which of the following is **not** a structural carbohydrate?

- A. Hay
- B. Oats
- C. Oat hull
- D. Soya bean hull

5.2.31 Which of the following is a source of protein?

- A. Beet pulp
- B. Maize
- C. Molasses
- D. Sunflower seeds

5.2.32 Which of these is not needed in large amounts?

- A. Calcium
- B. Copper
- C. Magnesium
- D. Sodium

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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.

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

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. It increases the height of the foreleg action, which is required for advanced dressage movements.

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 long-term soundness.
- D. It refers mainly to the angle of the pasterns, which helps absorb concussion during movement.

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.

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. It increases the appearance of height, making the horse look more impressive in the arena.

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.

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.

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.

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. The legs are placed too far in front of the body, often as a response to pain 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.

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

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

5.4.3 Which of the following wormer ingredients is effective against encysted small redworms (cyathostomins)?

- A. Ivermectin
- B. Moxidectin
- C. Praziquantel
- D. Pyrantel

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

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

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

5.4.7 Which of the following is a viral disease in horses?

- A. Equine influenza
- B. Contagious equine metritis
- C. Laminitis
- D. Salmonella

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

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

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

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

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. Over the fetlock joint

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

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. The top jaw is longer than the bottom jaw

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

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

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

5.4.18 Which of the following parasites mainly affects foals and young horses?

- A. Bloodworm
- B. Lungworm
- C. Roundworm
- D. Tapeworm

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5.4.27 Internal parasites are the most common cause of:

- A. Colic
- B. Headshaking
- C. Navicular disease
- D. Pneumonia

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

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

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

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

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

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)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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