Marine Corps Inspection
Study Guide/Question Bank

HISTORY:

What is the Birth date of the Marine Corps – 10 Nov 1775

What is the Marine Corps Mascot – English Bulldog

What is the birthplace of the Marine Corps – Tun Tavern, Philadelphia, Pa.

Who was the first commandant of the Marines – Major Samuel Nicholas

Who was the longest serving Commandant of the Marines –
BGen Archibald Henderson

Who is the "Grand old man of the Corps" – BGen Archibald Henderson

Who was the first Marine Aviator – Alfred Cunningham

Who was the first female Marine – Opha Mae Johnson

Who was the first Marine Recruiter – Robert Mullen

Who are the two Marines who have been awarded two Medals of Honor –
Smedley Butler and Dan Daly

Who is the only Marine to be awarded 5 Navy Crosses –
Lewis "Chesty" Puller

In what conflict did the "Chosin Few" fight? Korean War

Who was presented the Mameluke Sword–
Lt Presley O'Bannon

What are the Marine Corps colors – Scarlet and Gold

What is the Marine Corps' motto and what does it mean –
Semper Fidelis: Latin for Always Faithful

What is the nickname of the Marine Band – The President's Own

What is the nickname of the Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps – The Commandant's Own

Where did the nickname Devil Dog Originate – The Battle of Belleau Wood

Where was the flag raised during the Battle of Iwo Jima – Mt. Suribachi

What is the Marine Corps Motto – Semper Fidelis, Always Faithful

What components make up the Marine Corps emblem – Eagle, Globe, and Anchor

When was the Marine Corps emblem adopted – 1868, modified in 1950

Who was the first Marine Medal of Honor winner – Corporal John Mackey

Leadership:

Leadership Primary and Secondary Objectives

1. Primary: Mission Accomplishment
2. Secondary: Troop Welfare

Leadership Principles

1. Be technically and tactically proficient.
2. Know yourself and seek self-improvement.
3. Know your people and look out for their welfare.
4. Keep your people informed.
5. Set the example.
6. Ensure that the task is understood, supervised and accomplished.
7. Train your people as a team.
8. Make sound and timely decisions.
9. Develop a sense of responsibility among subordinates.
10. Employ your command in accordance with its capabilities.
11. Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions.

Leadership Traits

1. Bearing – Creating a favorable impression in appearance and conduct.
2. Courage – Mental quality that recognizes fear of danger and criticism.
3. Decisiveness – Ability to reach sound decisions in a timely manner.
4. Dependability – Completing assigned tasks completely.
5. Endurance – Mental and physical strength.
6. Enthusiasm – Sincere interest in performing your task.

7. Initiative – Seeing what needs to be done and getting it done without being told to.
8. Integrity – Complete truth and honesty. The most important leadership trait.
9. Judgment – Using facts to make sound decisions.
10. Justice – Being impartial and fair.
11. Knowledge – Learning information.
12. Loyalty – Faithfulness to your organization and yourself.
13. Tact – The ability to deal with others without causing offense.
14. Unselfishness – Placing the welfare of your subordinates ahead of your own
15. Empathy – The ability to understand and share the feelings, thoughts, or experiences of another person

General Orders

1. To take charge of this post and all government property in view.
2. To walk my post in a military manner, keeping always on the alert and observing everything that takes place within sight or hearing.
3. To report all violations of orders I am instructed to enforce.
4. To repeat all calls from posts more distant from the guardhouse than my own.
5. To quit my post only when properly relieved.
6. To receive, obey and pass on the sentry who relieves me, all orders from the Commanding Officer, Officer of the Day, and Officers and Non-Commissioned officers of the guard only.
7. To talk to no one except in the line of duty.
8. To give the alarm in case of fire or disorder.
9. To call the Corporal of the Guard in any case not covered by instructionsTo salute all officers and colors and standards not cased.
10. To be especially watchful at night and during the time for challenging, challenge all persons on or near my post, and to allow no one to pass without proper authority.
11. To be especially watchful at night and, during the time for challenging, to challenge all persons on or near my post and to allow no one to pass without proper authority."

CHAIN OF COMMAND (as of 24 Mar 2026)

Who is the Commander-in-Chief? The Honorable Donald Trump

Who is the Vice President of the United States? The Honorable James Vance

Who is the Secretary of Defense? The Honorable Pete Hegseth

Who is the Secretary of State? The Honorable Marco Rubio

Who is the Chief Justice of the United States? John Roberts

Who is the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff? General Dan Caine US Air Force

Who is the Commandant of the Marine Corps – General Eric Smith

Who is the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps – Sergeant Major Carlos Ruiz

Who is the Director of the Marine Corps JROTC – Mr. Oltman

Drill and Ceremonies

What is the cadence for quick time? 112-120 steps per minute

What is the cadence for double time? 180 steps per minute

What is the length of step for marching at quick time? 30 inches

What is the length of step for marching at double time? 36 inches

What is the length of a side-step? 12 inches

What is the length of a back-step? 15 inches

What is the only command that can be given from "Parade, Rest"? Attention

What are the 4 positions of Rest? Parade Rest, Rest, At Ease, Fall Out

What is the definition of cadence? Uniform step and rhythm in marching

What is the definition of a "File"? A single column of troops behind one another

What is the definition of "Flank" in marching?
The right or left extremity of a unit either in line or in column.

What is the definition of "Rank" in marching?
A line of troops placed side by side

What is "normal Interval" in marching?
40 inches back to front.

What is the designation and title of your service's drill manual?
Marine Corps – MCO 5060.20 Marine Corps Drill and Ceremonies Manual

What is the proper arm swing while marching at Quick Time cadence?
6" to the front, 3" to the rear

Uniform Regulations

How far may the belt tip extend beyond the left edge of the buckle on the web belt – 2 to 4in

Describe the positioning of cadet enlisted ranks on the shirt collar – Rank will be positioned ½ inch from either edge with the insignia bisecting the angle of the collar. The spout of the Lamp of Learning will face inboard.

Describe the positioning of cadet enlisted ranks on the Blue Dress uniform - Insignia of rank shall be placed ¾ inch from the shoulder's edge and centered on the epaulet. The spout of the Lamp of Learning will face towards the front.

What is the Marine Corps policy regarding the length of a female's hair while in uniform - The hair may touch the collar, but will not fall below the collar's lower edge. Hair that would fall naturally below the collar's lower edge will be neatly and inconspicuously fastened or pinned.

What is the regulation for the placement of ribbons on the male uniform - Ribbon bars will be centered 1/8 inch above and parallel to the top edge of the left pocket or 1/8 inch above the top of the marksmanship badge.

Describe the positioning of cadet officer ranks on the Blue Dress uniform - Cadet officer rank insignia will be placed in the manner prescribed for Marine Corps general officer insignia. Rank insignia will be worn equally spaced between the armhole seam and the shoulder strap button or edge of the collar. The long axis of the insignia will point fore and aft.

What is the regulation for placement of ribbons on the female uniform – Ribbon bars will be placed even with or up to 2 inches above the first visible button and centered on the left side of the shirt. Between 1st and 2nd button.

What is the regulation regarding the length of the trousers/slacks on the Blue Dress Uniform – Trousers will be long enough to break slightly over the shoe in front and to reach the juncture of the welt of the shoe in the rear. A variation of ¼ inch above or below the welt of the shoe is acceptable.

Describe the positioning of the Marine Corps insignia on the (male/female) Blue Dress uniform- Insignia will be aligned vertically in the center of each side of the collar (males) or lapels with the wing span parallel to the bottom edge of the coat (females). The eagles on the insignia will face inboard.

Describe the regulations for male hair - Hair will be neat and closely trimmed**,** evenly graduated from zero length at the hairline. Sideburns will not extend below the top of the orifice of the ear and will not be flared or tapered.

What is the regulation regarding the wearing of earrings by females in the blue dress or service uniform – Small, polished, yellow gold color, ball, or round stud earrings, not to exceed 1/4 inch in diameter, may be worn in each earlobe provided the earring does not extend below the bottom of the lobe.

What is the regulation for placement of cadet enlisted ranks on the khaki shirt? – Rank will be positioned ½ inch from either edge with the insignia bisecting the angle of the collar. The spout of the Lamp of Learning will face inboard.

THE 4 LIFE SAVING STEPS

1. Start the breathing. Lack of oxygen leads to brain damage and death quickly. Restoring the breathing will be your primary concern.

2. Stop the bleeding. Once breathing is restored, the bleeding must be stopped. The body ceases to function without a steady supply of blood.

3. Protect the wound. Accomplished after you have stopped the bleeding, usually by bandaging the wound. Ensure that the injury is not aggravated by handling he casualty improperly, i.e. eye injury, cervical or spine injury, or broken bones.

4. Treat for shock. Sock is failure of the cardiovascular system to keep adequate blood circulation to the vital organs. Shock results from any injury and can kill just as easily as the wound. Shock requires careful observation and proper treatment of the casualty, i.e. keep the casualty worm, elevate the feet, keep the casualty hydrated and alert.

Note: Normally the 4 life saving steps are performed in these proper sequences however, depending on the situation and injury, stopping the bleeding may be the most important step to perform first, i.e. arterial bleeding.

3 TYPES OF HEAT INJURIES

1. Heat Cramps. The least sever type of heat injury. Identified by muscles beginning to cramp due to an imbalance of chemicals (electrolytes) lost through excessive sweating and dehydration. Treat by moving the casualty into shade, loosen clothing, slowly drink water.

2. Heat Exhaustion. The second most sever type of heat injury. Identified by confusion and wet clammy and cool skin. Weakness, dizziness, unsteadiness, drowsiness, or faintness and headaches and nausea. Treat by moving the casualty into shade, loosen and/or remove clothing and footwear, pour water on the casualty and fan the casualty, slowly drink water, rest and elevate legs, keep casualty alert, monitor closely.

3. Heat Stroke. The most sever type of heat injury. THIS IS A MEDICAL EMERGENCY! This can be fatal. Identified by hot, red, dry skin. Dizziness or confusion, headaches, seizures, nausea, loss of consciousness. The casualty may collapse suddenly with respiration (breathing) and pulse either fast or weak. This is caused when the body can no longer cool itself and the body's temperature continues to rise. (Dial 911 procedures.)
Treat (Identify someone to go call 911) by moving the casualty into shade. Remove or loosen clothing and footwear. Pour water on the casualty and fan the casualty. Massage the skin. Apply ice to warm areas of the body and vessels to cool the body, i.e. the arm pits, neck, femoral (legs). Slowly drink water if the casualty is conscious.

3 TYPES OF COLD INJURIES

1. Dehydration. The least sever type of cold injury. Identified by a lack of water in the body. This occurs easily in cold climates when the body loses too much fluid, salt, and minerals and an individual layers clothing to stay warm and does not hydrate properly. Casualties can experience muscle cramps, feel tired, weak, dizzy, faint, have nausea, and the mouth tongue, and throat become dry. Treat by loosening clothing to allow circulation but keep the casualty warm. Begin fluid replacement immediately. Rest to recover.

2. Hypothermia. The second most sever type of cold injury. Identified when the body's core temperature falls to an unsafe level and can occur above freezing temps due to being wet, wet and cold, and being in wet and cold and windy conditions. A casualty experiences uncontrolled shivering, is drowsy and mentally slow, has uncontrolled movements, slurred speech, breathing becomes slow and shallow, pulse becomes weak or absent, and the casualty can collapse. Treat (seek medical authorities) by immediately preventing further heat loss by moving the casualty to shelter, remove wet clothing to dry and warm the casualty. Cover the casualties head and body with (warm if possible) blankets, sleeping bag etc., and provide warm high-caloric and/or high sugar fluids. Keep the casualty alert.

3. Frostbite. The most sever type of cold injury. Frostbite occurs when the body is exposed to cold temperature. There are two types of frostbite, superficial frostbite and deep frostbite.

Superficial Frostbite involves primarily the skin and the tissue just beneath the skin.
Deep Frostbite involves the freezing of the tissue below the skin, and possible muscle and bone.

Superficial Frostbite Symptoms
- White or yellowish skin at site
- Redness of skin in surrounding areas
- Blistering and peeling may occur 12-36 hours after exposure

Deep Frostbite Symptoms
- Painless and pale yellowish, waxy appearance of skin at site
- Swollen, hard (wooden) to the touch
- Poor to no muscle movement of the limb

Frostbite treatment. (Seek medial authorities immediately.)
Face: Cover the face with your bare hands to try to warm the affected area.
Hands: Open the casualty's top clothing and place the affected hand(s) under the arm pits. Close the clothing to try to warm the affected hand(s).
Feet: Remove footwear and socks and place the casualty's feet under clothing to try to warm.

DO NOT:

Soak the affected body part in water
Attempt to thaw deep frostbite
Warm by massage or open flame
Use ointments or other medications
Allow the casualty to use alcohol or tobacco

CATEGORY	Rank Insignia of the United States Marine Corps					
	E-1	E-2	E-3	E-4	E-5	E-6
ENLISTED	(no insignia)	 Private First Class	 Lance Corporal	 Corporal	 Sergeant	 Staff Sergeant
	E-7	E-8		E-9		
	 Gunnery Sergeant	 Master Sergeant	 First Sergeant	 Master Gunnery Sergeant	 Sergeant Major	 Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps
	W-1	W-2	W-3	W-4	W-5	
WARRANT OFFICER	 Warrant Officer	 Chief Warrant Officer 2	 Chief Warrant Officer 3	 Chief Warrant Officer 4	 Chief Warrant Officer 5	
	0-1	0-2	0-3	0-4	0-5	0-6
COMPANY AND FIELD GRADE OFFICER	 (gold) 2nd Lieutenant	 (silver) 1st Lieutenant	 (silver) Captain	 (gold) Major	 (silver) Lieutenant Colonel	 (silver) Colonel
	0-7	0-8	0-9	0-10		
GENERAL OFFICER	 Brigadier General	 Major General	 Lieutenant General	 General		

Drill Instructors are usually Sergeants, Staff Sergeants, or sometimes Gunnery Sergeants