

Landscape Architect Registration Examination

LARE Review

Section A

Sample Exam

Project and Construction Administration

Second Edition

Matt Mathes, ASLA

Construction Evaluation

- 43.** Which of the following tasks and cost elements should be the basis for quoting a fee to a client with a project requiring several phases of construction?
- (A) plans, correspondence, codes, permits, and calculations to determine hourly rates
 - (B) feasibility studies, design and construction documents, and estimates for post-construction services
 - (C) preliminary concepts, final designs, and the construction phase services compiled for a lump sum fee
 - (D) taxes, 401(K)s, pensions, and Social Security charged as part of overhead, then added to cost of direct expenses
- 44.** Twenty-five percent of a project site's trees died, and undisputed test results showed a tree disease was at fault. Who is responsible for informing the landscape contractor and adjusting the landscaping contract amount?
- (A) the landscape architect
 - (B) a professional forester
 - (C) a plant pathologist
 - (D) a terrestrial ecologist
- 45.** Surveyors conduct which of the following tasks during construction?
- (A) mapping, legal descriptions, verification of earthwork quantities, measurement of ponds, and layouts of vertical and horizontal alignment
 - (B) site inspections, submittals of products, and start-up instructions
 - (C) safety instructions
 - (D) supervision of contractor staff
- 46.** Material testing firms perform all of the following during the construction phase of a project EXCEPT
- (A) verification of earthwork densities
 - (B) sieve analyses
 - (C) irrigation systems evaluations
 - (D) slump and break tests
- 47.** The main functions of the clerk of works do NOT include
- (A) verifying the quantities of delivered earthwork
 - (B) logging and tracking visitors in and out of the jobsite
 - (C) measuring stored products
 - (D) supervising contractor staff

40. Retainage has no impact on the contract value. The periodic or monthly payment requests/amounts might be reduced for retainage, but the overall contract value would not increase or decrease.

The answer is (C).

41. To close out a new project, one should create file folders for contract closeout correspondence, warranty phase inspections, and permit closeouts. All other options (i.e., hire staff or creating other files) are not as directly tied to project closeout procedures.

The answer is (C).

42. The attractive nuisance doctrine states that a landowner may be held liable for a child's injuries if the injuries are caused by a hazardous object or property condition that is likely to attract children. The problem statement indicates that the sculpture has bright colors, looks like a play structure, and is placed in a client's unfenced front yard, which is close to an elementary school. Because children are unable to assess an object's potential risk, landowners have a duty to exercise reasonable care to eliminate danger or to protect children from accessible objects on their property.

None of the other answer choices are legal doctrines. Caveat emptor means "let the buyer beware" and is associated with concealed conditions for property purchase. Value by design is a concept describing a property's financial value that stems from qualitative improvements. Proximate cause is an event related to the last negligent action that occurs prior to an injury, and that without which, the injury would not have occurred.

The answer is (A).

Construction Evaluation

43. A landscape architect should use a feasibility study for time and materials, design and construction documents to determine a lump sum fee or a percentage of the construction cost, and estimates of post-construction services for time and materials to determine a quote for a client whose project will require several phases of construction. Master planning and schematic design are also cost elements that should be factored into a project's fee.

Organizing plans, correspondence, and permits, and estimating taxes, pensions, and Social Security are actions related to file structure, not fees. A lump sum fee for the preliminary concept, final design, and the construction phase is incomplete because it leaves out construction documents fee, and is not the most complete sequential description.

The answer is (B).

44. In 49 states and the District of Columbia, a project site's landscape architect is recognized as responsible for informing the landscape contractor that trees have died, and to adjust the contract amount for the landscape planting. Arborists, foresters, or plant pathologists might be able to determine a tree's cause of death, but they would not be the best arbiters of contractual issues.

The answer is (A).

45. Surveyors provide mapping, legal descriptions, verification of earthwork quantities, measurement of ponds, and layouts of vertical and horizontal alignment. Site inspections, submittals of products, start-up and safety instructions, and the supervision of contractor staff are conducted by the project's contractor.

The answer is (A).

46. Material testing firms perform a number of tasks during construction, such as verifying earthwork densities, conducting sieve analyses to measure particle sizes in granular soil or rock material, and performing slump and break tests to check concrete strength. They do not typically evaluate irrigation systems. An irrigation system's evaluation is performed by the landscape architect, or an irrigation consultant assisting the landscape architect.

The answer is (C).

47. The clerk of works, also known as the site inspector, verifies the quantities of delivered earthwork, measures stored products, and logs and tracks visitors in and out of the jobsite. A clerk of works may meet with contractor staff while carrying out visual inspections of the works, but contractor staff supervision is a project manager or supervisor task.

The answer is (D).

48. Conducting agronomic soil testing during a project's construction phase is important because it verifies soil amendment performance and soil fertility to ensure soil is more productive for plant growth. Verifying plant material quantities is not related to agronomy.

The answer is (D).

49. Retainage is a contracted portion or a percentage of payments due for work completed. The amount is retained by the owner until a project is finished. An improper use of retainage would be to correct defective work using the withheld funds, or to use the funds to improve cash flow during the construction phase. Retainage should not be used in counterclaims against a contractor, or in claims unrelated to the retainage.

The answer is (A).

50. Substantial completion is a term used to describe work that is in "move-in" condition, meaning that the owner may occupy or use the site for its intended purpose. When a site is substantially complete, it is not finished. Rather, at this time, a punch list is created to catalog all items needing to be completed or corrected. Finally, a contractor would not receive final payment until all mechanics liens are certified as being paid, at which point he or she is released from all contractual obligations.

The answer is (B).

51. The professional land surveyor is most frequently the member of the design team to read and also show the property restrictions. The owner may know of the restrictions, but not be able to fully understand how a restriction affects a project's proposed use or improvements. The title company staff is responsible to provide the restrictions, typically to the party