Exam simulation

EASA Drone License A2 - Flight performance and planning

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STUDENT NAME:	DATE AND TIME:

01. What should you do with a LiPo battery immediately after completing a long, heavy flight?

a) Put it on the charger immediately to top it back up to 100%

b) Allow the battery to cool down to room temperature before charging it, as charging a hot LiPo can cause damage or a fire

c) Place it in a freezer to rapidly lower its internal resistance

d) Puncture it slightly to release the built-up heat

02. What is a 'NOTAM'?

a) National Operation for Toy Aviation Models

b) Notice To Air Missions (or Airmen); a temporary alert containing essential information regarding airspace conditions, hazards, or flight restrictions

c) A specific type of high-capacity drone battery

d) A certificate proving the pilot's medical fitness

03. When scanning the sky to maintain VLOS, the best visual technique is to:

a) Stare fixedly at the drone without moving your eyes

b) Use a systematic scanning pattern (e.g., sector by sector) to detect other aircraft and obstacles, resting the eyes briefly on different points

c) Look strictly at the telemetry screen, relying on peripheral vision for the sky

d) Scan the sky rapidly without pausing

04. How does a low-level temperature inversion affect local weather and visibility near the ground?

a) It creates violent thunderstorms

b) It acts like a lid, trapping dust, smoke, smog, and moisture near the surface, often leading to very poor visibility and hazy conditions

c) It clears the air instantly, providing perfect visibility

d) It causes the wind to double in speed

05. What is a 'Thermal Inversion'?

a) A weather condition where a layer of warm air sits over a layer of cooler air near the ground, trapping pollutants and causing hazy, low-visibility conditions

b) A situation where the drone flips upside down

c) A sudden drop in temperature during a hot day

d) The reversal of the Earth's magnetic poles

06. What is a 'Stationary Front'?

a) A front moving faster than 50 knots

b) A boundary between two different air masses where neither is strong enough to replace the other, resulting in very little movement

c) A thunderstorm that stays in one place

d) A solid wall of fog

07. What is the primary danger of operating a multirotor drone in freezing rain?

a) The rain will wash off the drone's registration number

b) The motors will spin twice as fast

c) Supercooled droplets will freeze instantly upon contact with the propellers, rapidly destroying their aerodynamic shape, reducing lift, and likely causing a crash

d) There is no danger if the drone has an IP54 waterproof rating

08. What does a Geo-awareness system do on a modern C-class drone?

a) It automatically reports the drone's position to local police

b) It alerts the remote pilot when a potential breach of airspace limitations (geozone) is detected

c) It physically prevents the drone from taking off anywhere in the world

d) It tracks the weather conditions in real-time

09. What is a 'Foehn Wind' (or Chinook)?

a) A freezing, wet wind blowing off an ocean

b) A wind that only blows at the equator

c) A localized tornado

d) A warm, dry, and often gusty downslope wind that occurs on the leeward (downwind) side of a mountain range

10. How does a high density altitude (e.g., a hot, humid day at a high elevation) affect the aerodynamic performance of a multirotor drone?

a) It decreases performance because the air is less dense, meaning the propellers generate less thrust and the motors must work harder

b) It increases performance because the warm air provides more lift

c) It has no effect on battery-powered drones

d) It cools the battery faster, extending flight time

11. If you are flying near the wake of a large commercial aircraft, how do the wingtip vortices (wake turbulence) generally move?

a) They shoot straight up into the sky

b) They sink downward and drift outward with the wind, posing a severe danger to UAS flying below and behind the large aircraft's flight path

c) They travel directly forward, ahead of the aircraft

d) They immediately dissipate within 2 seconds

12. When should a remote pilot prioritise a new compass (magnetometer) calibration even if the flight controller software does not explicitly request it?

a) When moving the operation to a significantly different geographical location (for example, more than 50-100 km from the last site)

b) Every time the battery is replaced during a single mission

c) Only when flying indoors

d) After every firmware update of the camera gimbal

13. Under what circumstance can you fly in the Specific category?

a) Only if you hold a commercial pilot's license for manned aircraft

b) Whenever you feel the Open category rules are too restrictive for your hobby

c) When the operation exceeds Open category limits (e.g., BVLOS or heavier drones) and an authorisation, STS, or LUC is approved

d) It is not a real category in Europe

14. In a METAR report, what does the term 'CAVOK' stand for?

a) Clouds And Visibility Over Kilometers

b) Ceiling And Visibility OK (Visibility 10km or more, no clouds below 5000 ft or Minimum Sector Altitude, and no significant weather)

c) Clear Air Visual Operational Knowledge

d) Current Air Velocity OK

15. In a TAF or METAR, the code 'FM' stands for:

a) Frequent Moisture

b) From; indicating a rapid and significant change in weather conditions occurring at a specific time

c) Foggy Morning

d) Fast Movement

16. Which of these factors is most likely to increase the structural load factor on a fixed-wing UAV?

a) A steep, high-speed banked turn or pulling out of a steep dive

b) Flying perfectly straight and level at cruising speed

c) Descending slowly at 1 m/s

d) Connecting to a 5G network

17. Why must you avoid flying your drone near active emergency response areas (e.g., a building fire or traffic accident)?

a) The smoke will permanently damage the camera lens

b) The flashing lights will confuse the optical sensors

c) The heat will melt the drone's battery

d) The drone can distract emergency personnel and pose a severe collision risk to emergency helicopters (e.g., medevac or firefighting aircraft), obstructing rescue operations

18. How does the Coriolis effect behave at the Earth's equator?

a) It is at its absolute maximum strength

b) It is effectively zero, meaning winds do not get deflected by planetary rotation at the equator

c) It pulls air directly into space

d) It causes water to drain counter-clockwise in sinks

19. During a level, coordinated turn, the load factor on the drone's structure:

a) Remains equal to 1G

b) Increases as the bank angle increases, requiring the motors to produce more lift to maintain altitude

c) Decreases proportionally to the speed of the turn

d) Shifts entirely to the rear propellers

20. If you are forced to operate your drone under the A3 subcategory rules, what is the minimum required distance from residential, commercial, industrial, or recreational areas?

a) 30 metres

b) At least 150 metres

c) 500 metres

d) 1000 metres

21. If an air mass is pushed up a mountain and its temperature drops below its dew point, what happens?

a) The invisible water vapour condenses into visible water droplets, forming clouds and potentially precipitation (Orographic lifting)

b) The air mass instantly becomes a jet stream

c) The air becomes perfectly dry and clear

d) The air mass catches fire

22. On a synoptic weather chart, what do closely spaced isobars indicate?

a) A strong pressure gradient, which results in high wind speeds

b) A weak pressure gradient, resulting in calm winds

c) An area of heavy snowfall

d) A region completely free of turbulence

23. The Beaufort scale is used in meteorology to:

a) Measure the intensity of an earthquake

b) Calculate the exact humidity in the air

c) Estimate wind speed empirically based on visual observations of its effects on the sea or land (e.g., leaves rustling, branches moving)

d) Determine the altitude of the cloud base

24. What is the proper procedure for long-term storage of a Lithium Polymer (LiPo) battery?

a) Store it fully charged at 100% capacity
b) Store it at a storage voltage (around 40-60% capacity) in a cool, fireproof location
c) Discharge it completely to 0% to prevent swelling
d) Keep it constantly plugged into the charger

25. In a METAR report, what does the code 'DZ' mean?

a) Drizzle (very fine, closely spaced water droplets falling from a cloud)
b) Dust storm
c) Danger Zone
d) Dense Fog

26. As the temperature of an air mass increases, its capacity to hold invisible water vapour:

a) Increases significantly
b) Decreases significantly
c) Remains exactly the same
d) Causes the air mass to immediately turn into snow

27. Which of the following indicates an UNSTABLE air mass?

a) Continuous, steady rain and stratus clouds
b) Poor visibility due to trapped smoke and haze
c) Towering cumuliform clouds, showery precipitation, good visibility, and turbulent air
d) A strong temperature inversion near the ground

28. In a METAR, how is a completely calm wind reported?

a) 00000KT
b) CALMKT
c) VRB00KT
d) NILWIND

29. What is the definition of 'True Altitude'?

a) The exact vertical distance of the aircraft above Mean Sea Level (MSL)

b) The exact vertical distance of the aircraft above the ground directly below it (AGL)

c) The altitude read on the controller when the drone is turned on

d) The altitude based on standard atmospheric pressure (1013.25 hPa)

30. When setting the Return to Home (RTH) altitude before a flight, the pilot should ensure that it is:

a) Set to the lowest possible altitude to save battery

b) Set higher than the 120 m legal limit just to be safe

c) Set higher than the tallest obstacle in the operational area to prevent collisions during the automated return

d) Set to exactly 10 metres regardless of the environment

31. The 'Swiss Cheese Model' of accident causation suggests that:

a) Incidents occur when multiple small failures or errors align perfectly across different layers of defence, defeating all safety barriers

b) Accidents are always caused by a single, catastrophic mechanical failure

c) Pilots from certain countries are more prone to errors

d) Software bugs are the sole cause of drone fly-aways

32. High video latency during an FPV or screen-guided flight can lead to:

a) A faster drone

b) Better battery life

c) Pilot-Induced Oscillations (PIO) or crashing into obstacles because the pilot is reacting to old visual information

d) The SD card formatting itself

33. How do you calculate the exact MTOM of your UAS before a complex operation?

a) By checking the drone's top speed

b) By physically weighing the drone along with its battery, propellers, and any attached payload immediately prior to take-off

c) By asking the visual observer to guess its weight

d) By reading the empty weight from the manual and ignoring the battery

34. When flying in high winds, the battery consumption will:

a) Decrease due to wind cooling

b) Remain exactly the same as in calm conditions

c) Stop entirely if the drone enters a glide

d) Increase significantly as the flight controller draws more power to the motors to maintain stability and position against the wind

35. An anemometer is an instrument used to measure:

a) Wind speed

b) Atmospheric pressure

c) Relative humidity

d) The altitude of the cloud base

36. In the event of a lost radio control link, what parameter must a remote pilot verify is set correctly BEFORE taking off?

a) The color balance of the camera

b) The Failsafe/Return to Home (RTH) altitude and the accurately recorded Home Point

c) The volume of the controller's speaker

d) The formatting of the SD card

37. In space weather, what does the 'G-scale' (G1 to G5) measure?

a) Gravity anomalies

b) Gust intensity

c) The severity of Geomagnetic Storms, with G5 being extreme and highly disruptive to satellite navigation (GNSS/GPS)

d) Ground visibility

38. During night operations (where legally permitted), EASA requires drones to be equipped with:

a) Infrared night-vision cameras

b) A flashing green light to ensure the drone is visible and distinguishable from manned aircraft

c) A continuous loud siren to warn bystanders in the dark

d) Laser rangefinders

39. What is 'Buys Ballot's Law' regarding wind and pressure?

a) Wind speed doubles for every 1000 feet of altitude

b) Wind always blows directly from South to North

c) In the Northern Hemisphere, if you stand with your back to the wind, the area of lower pressure will be to your left

d) Hot air is heavier than cold air

40. Flying a drone low over a densely packed city on a windy day is risky primarily due to:

a) Severe mechanical turbulence and funneling effects caused by the buildings disrupting the wind flow

b) The heat from the buildings melting the battery

c) Magnetic interference from streetlights

d) A total lack of wind between the buildings

41. What is the main regulatory advantage of a UAS classified as a 'toy' according to Directive 2009/48/EC, even if it is equipped with a camera?

a) It can fly above 120 metres in altitude

b) It has no limitations regarding flying over assemblies of people

c) The operator is not required to register on the national portal, unlike standard UAS equipped with personal data sensors

d) It is exempt from following geographical zones (UAS geographical zones)

42. When the low-speed mode is activated on a C2 drone, what is the maximum permitted speed according to EASA standards?

a) 1 m/s

b) 3 m/s

c) 5 m/s

d) 10 m/s

43. If an altimeter is set to 'QFE', what will it read when the aircraft is sitting on the runway?

a) Zero; QFE provides height above that specific airfield or ground level

b) The elevation of the airport above mean sea level

c) 1013 feet

d) The density altitude

44. What is the 'See and Avoid' principle in aviation?

a) A feature of the drone's obstacle avoidance camera

b) The fundamental responsibility of every pilot to maintain visual vigilance to spot other aircraft and take appropriate action to avoid collisions

c) A regulation requiring pilots to wear sunglasses

d) The protocol for avoiding bad weather

45. In an operational context, how does stress generally affect a remote pilot's performance?

a) Stress entirely eliminates human error

b) It always improves reaction time and decision-making

c) A small amount can increase alertness, but high stress leads to narrowed attention, poor decisions, and task saturation

d) Stress has zero impact on pilots controlling drones remotely

46. In standard aviation weather reports, wind speed is primarily expressed in:

a) Kilometers per hour (km/h)

b) Miles per hour (mph)

c) Knots (KT), where 1 knot equals 1 nautical mile per hour

d) metres per second (m/s) only

47. Why is knowing the 'Freezing Level' altitude critical for winter drone operations?

a) It tells the pilot when the battery will shut down

b) It determines how fast the drone can fly

c) It is where the airspace automatically becomes Class A

d) Flying into visible moisture (clouds/fog) at or above this altitude will result in rapid structural icing, which destroys lift and causes crashes

48. If you are flying a C2 drone in a city environment under the A2 subcategory, why is the 'Multipath Effect' a significant concern?

a) It causes the video feed to display two images

b) It drains the remote controller's battery

c) GNSS/GPS signals bounce off tall buildings, reaching the drone at different times, which can cause erratic position holding, fly-aways, or sudden switches to ATTI mode

d) It magnifies the noise of the propellers

49. What is the primary danger of 'Wind Shear' to a drone during takeoff or landing?

a) It drains the battery by creating a vacuum

b) It causes the drone's compass to lose north

c) A sudden loss of airspeed and lift can cause the drone to stall and crash into the ground before the motors can spool up to compensate

d) It cuts the radio signal from the remote

50. In a METAR report, what does the cloud abbreviation 'TCU' stand for?

a) Thick Cloud Underlayer

b) Towering Cumulus; a cloud of significant vertical development that often precedes a cumulonimbus (CB) and indicates strong updrafts

c) Total Cloud Umbrella

d) Thin Cirrus Uplift

51. Gliders and certain drones can gain altitude without motor power by flying into 'Thermals'. What characterizes a thermal?

a) A horizontal gust of wind

b) A localized column of warm air rising due to convective solar heating of the ground

c) A sudden downdraft of cold air

d) An area of high atmospheric pressure

52. In a METAR report, what does the sky condition 'SCT' (Scattered) mean?

a) Cloud coverage of 3 to 4 oktas (eighths) of the sky

b) Cloud coverage of 5 to 7 oktas

c) A completely overcast sky

d) Sky clear, 0 oktas

53. If you are flying and notice the video transmission on your screen is lagging heavily and breaking up, what should you do?

a) Switch to a higher video resolution

b) Immediately look up to locate the drone via direct Visual Line of Sight (VLOS), bring it closer to improve signal strength, or land safely if the control link is also at risk

c) Turn off the remote controller

d) Fly the drone behind a building to reset the antennas

54. What does a 'green flashing light' on a drone typically signify during night operations under EASA?

a) The battery is critically low

b) It acts as a distinctive anti-collision light, making the drone easily identifiable in the dark compared to manned aircraft

c) The drone is recording video

d) The pilot has lost the radio link

55. How does severe physical or mental fatigue affect a remote pilot?

a) It increases the pilot's field of vision

b) It has no measurable effect on controlling a highly automated drone

c) It improves fine motor skills on the controller sticks

d) It degrades decision-making, slows reaction times, and decreases overall situational awareness

56. If a METAR reports the sky condition as 'BKN' (Broken), what is the cloud coverage?

a) 1 to 2 oktas (eighths)

b) 5 to 7 oktas (eighths); this constitutes a 'ceiling' in aviation

c) 8 oktas (fully overcast)

d) Only high-altitude cirrus clouds

57. How does ice accumulation directly affect a drone's propellers?

a) It improves the propeller's aerodynamic efficiency by smoothing scratches

b) It keeps the motors cool, allowing for faster flight

c) It has no effect unless the ice is more than 5cm thick

d) It alters the airfoil shape, drastically reducing lift and increasing drag, while uneven ice shedding causes severe, potentially destructive vibrations

58. Why is Hail (GR) a critical threat to UAS operations?

a) Falling ice stones can physically shatter drone propellers, smash optical sensors, and completely destroy the aircraft in seconds

b) It makes the battery overheat

c) It causes the compass to reverse

d) It increases the drone's lift too much

59. In the context of Human Factors, 'confirmation bias' during a pre-flight check refers to:

a) Relying on a co-pilot to confirm all checklist items

b) The tendency to see what you expect to see, potentially missing obvious faults (e.g., assuming a prop is secure because it usually is)

c) Confirming the drone's home point via GPS

d) The flight controller's internal validation process

60. If a METAR reports 'R27/1200U', what does this indicate?

a) The Runway Visual Range (RVR) for Runway 27 is 1,200 metres, and the visibility is trending Upward (improving)

b) There is a rainstorm (R) at 27 degrees, moving at 1,200 metres per hour

c) The wind is rotating 27 degrees every 1,200 seconds

d) Radar detects a storm 27 miles away at 1,200 feet

61. What is the primary danger of flying a drone near a cumulonimbus cloud, even if you are not directly underneath the rain shaft?

a) The drone's paint will fade

b) Extreme turbulence, severe wind shear, and destructive microbursts can extend for miles outward from the storm cell

c) The cloud will block the Wi-Fi signal to your phone

d) The air is too thin to provide lift

62. According to the EASA A2 subcategory rules, when can you fly a C2 UAS exactly 5 metres away from an uninvolved person?

a) Whenever you want, as long as it is daylight

b) Only if the person is inside a car

c) Only if low-speed mode is active, limiting speed to a maximum of 3 m/s, and the remote pilot has assessed the weather, area and UAS performance as safe

d) Never; the absolute minimum is always 30 metres

63. Which of these METAR codes represents an obscured sky where the vertical visibility is restricted (e.g., by thick fog)?

a) CAVOK

b) VV (Vertical Visibility, e.g., VV002)

c) FEW

d) SKC (Sky Clear)

64. During which stage of a thunderstorm is the iconic 'anvil' top most likely to form?

a) The Cumulus stage

b) The Mature stage, when the updraft hits the tropopause and spreads out horizontally

c) The Dissipating stage

d) Before the cloud even begins to form

65. Before conducting a flight near a residential area, the remote pilot must consult:

a) Social media groups for local approval

b) Standard road map applications

c) The drone manufacturer's website

d) Official aeronautical sources, NOTAMs, and national UAS geozone maps to check for airspace restrictions

66. If you are flying a C2 class drone in the A2 subcategory and an assembly of people suddenly forms within your flight area, what must you do?

a) Immediately interrupt the operation and safely fly the drone away from the assembly

b) Activate the low-speed mode and continue flying directly above them

c) Turn off the drone's motors to force an immediate landing in the crowd

d) Ignore the crowd if your drone weighs less than 4 kg

67. What causes 'Steam Fog'?

a) Very cold, dry air moving over much warmer water, causing rapid evapouration and immediate condensation

b) Warm air moving over a cold snowpack

c) Pollution trapped in a city by an inversion layer

d) A sudden drop in barometric pressure

68. Which of the following is an example of an unsafe 'Macho' attitude in a remote pilot?

a) Following the pre-flight checklist meticulously

b) Taking unnecessary risks, such as flying too close to people or buildings, to impress bystanders or show off piloting skills

c) Canceling a flight because the wind exceeds the drone's limits

d) Asking a visual observer for help

69. What is a 'Microburst'?

a) A small, localized thermal updraft

b) A gentle rain shower without wind

c) A sudden, intense, localized downdraft of air associated with a thunderstorm that spreads out violently upon hitting the ground

d) A minor electrical short circuit in the drone's motors

70. An 'Absolutely Stable' atmosphere is characterized by:

a) A temperature lapse rate that is less than the moist adiabatic lapse rate, meaning any displaced air parcel will tend to return to its original position (resists upward motion)

b) Continuous, severe thunderstorms

c) Winds exceeding 50 knots

d) A complete absence of clouds forever

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Response Scheme

Compare your answers with the following diagram and mark your score!

01: **B**	02: **B**	03: **B**	04: **B**
05: **A**	06: **B**	07: **C**	08: **B**
09: **D**	10: **A**	11: **B**	12: **A**
13: **C**	14: **B**	15: **B**	16: **A**
17: **D**	18: **B**	19: **B**	20: **B**
21: **A**	22: **A**	23: **C**	24: **B**
25: **A**	26: **A**	27: **C**	28: **A**
29: **A**	30: **C**	31: **A**	32: **C**
33: **B**	34: **D**	35: **A**	36: **B**
37: **C**	38: **B**	39: **C**	40: **A**
41: **C**	42: **B**	43: **A**	44: **B**
45: **C**	46: **C**	47: **D**	48: **C**
49: **C**	50: **B**	51: **B**	52: **A**
53: **B**	54: **B**	55: **D**	56: **B**
57: **D**	58: **A**	59: **B**	60: **A**
61: **B**	62: **C**	63: **B**	64: **B**
65: **D**	66: **A**	67: **A**	68: **B**
69: **C**	70: **A**		

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Response form

Use this form to mark your answers

01:	02:	03:	04:
05:	06:	07:	08:
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