Exam simulation

EASA Drone License A2 - Flight performance and planning

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STUDENT NAME:	DATE AND TIME:

01. What is 'Relative Humidity'?

a) The exact weight of water in the air

b) The ratio of the amount of water vapour actually in the air compared to the maximum amount the air could hold at that specific temperature

c) The temperature at which water freezes

d) The pressure exerted by water droplets on the drone's frame

02. What does a 'Lithium fire' (caused by a punctured LiPo battery) require for safe containment?

a) A standard splash of water

b) Blowing on it with a fan

c) Covering it with dry leaves

d) A Class D fire extinguisher or covering it completely with sand, as lithium fires burn extremely hot and react dangerously with water

03. If the drone's telemetry shows a sudden, unexpected drop in altitude while hovering steadily, what might be the cause?

a) A sudden change in barometric pressure (e.g., a gust of wind or opening a door if indoors) affecting the barometer's readings

b) The GPS satellites moving out of orbit

c) The SD card malfunctioning

d) The battery voltage increasing

04. 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

05. What is the cloud coverage (in oktas) for an 'OVC' (Overcast) sky?

a) 1 to 2 oktas

b) 3 to 4 oktas

c) 5 to 7 oktas

d) 8 oktas (the sky is completely covered)

06. What is the best meteorological definition of a 'Thermal'?

a) A localized area of freezing rain

b) A horizontal wind caused by mountain peaks

c) A rising column or mass of warm air caused by the localized, uneven heating of the Earth's surface by the sun

d) The heat generated by the drone's battery

07. When wind flows through a narrow mountain valley or a dense group of tall buildings, its speed typically increases. What is this called?

a) The Coriolis Effect

b) The Thermal Inversion Effect

c) The Funneling (or Venturi) Effect

d) The Ground Effect

08. What does the term 'Absolute Altitude' mean?

a) Altitude above mean sea level (MSL)

b) Altitude above the standard pressure datum (1013.25 hPa)

c) The actual vertical distance between the aircraft and the surface of the ground directly below it (Height Above Ground Level - AGL)

d) The highest altitude the drone is technically capable of reaching

09. What is the standard validity period for an EASA A2 Certificate of Remote Pilot Competency before it needs to be renewed?

a) 1 year

b) 2 years

c) 5 years

d) It is valid indefinitely for the lifetime of the pilot

10. A limitation of optical obstacle avoidance sensors is that they:

a) Only work at night

b) Struggle to detect thin objects (like power lines or bare branches), transparent surfaces (like glass or water), and require adequate ambient light to function

c) Drain the battery in less than 5 minutes

d) Automatically report the pilot to the authorities if disabled

11. 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

12. If your drone is equipped with an Emergency Flight Termination System (FTS), what happens when you trigger it?

a) The drone will safely auto-land

b) The drone will fly back to the manufacturer

c) The power to the motors is immediately cut off to stop the drone from flying away, causing it to fall to the ground (often used in conjunction with a parachute in the Specific category)

d) The battery begins to recharge using wind power

13. How is 'Visual Line of Sight' (VLOS) defined in the context of EASA drone regulations?

a) Monitoring the drone's position solely through the live camera feed on the controller screen

b) Maintaining continuous, unaided visual contact with the drone to monitor its flight path and avoid collisions

c) Keeping the drone within a strict 500-metre radius regardless of visibility

d) Using binoculars to keep the drone in sight at distances up to 2 kilometers

14. When briefing a Visual Observer (VO) before an operation, the remote pilot must ensure the VO understands:

a) How to repair the drone's circuit board

b) How to edit the video footage

c) The flight plan, the emergency procedures, their specific scanning sector, and the communication protocols to be used

d) How to override the flight controller's firmware

15. If a drone flies upward into a strong Temperature Inversion layer, what unexpected aerodynamic effect might occur?

a) The sudden encounter with warmer, less dense air can cause a noticeable decrease in lift and motor efficiency

b) The drone will freeze instantly

c) The drone's lift will double

d) The propellers will spin backwards

16. What is the primary danger of fixing a broken propeller with superglue?

a) The glue will dissolve the plastic shell of the drone

b) It will make the drone completely waterproof

c) The structural integrity of the prop is permanently compromised; it will be unbalanced and is highly likely to shatter under the extreme centrifugal forces of flight

d) It changes the frequency of the ESCs

17. 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

18. Regarding power consumption, how does hovering 'In Ground Effect' (IGE) compare to hovering 'Out of Ground Effect' (OGE)?

a) Hovering IGE requires less power and thrust due to the reduction of induced drag near the surface

b) Hovering IGE requires significantly more power because the air is denser

c) There is absolutely no difference in power consumption

d) Hovering OGE requires the motors to spin at half their normal speed

19. When looking at a weather chart, what does the presence of isobars spaced very closely together in a specific region indicate?

a) An area of dead calm with a total absence of wind

b) An area with constant temperatures and high visibility

c) The imminent end of a cyclonic disturbance

d) A strong pressure gradient, which results in high-intensity winds

20. How does EASA define 'BVLOS'?

a) Basic Visual Line of Sight

b) Below Vertical Limit of Space

c) Beyond Visual Line of Sight: an operation where the remote pilot cannot maintain direct, unaided visual contact with the unmanned aircraft

d) Bi-Variable Landing Operation System

21. What is the minimum age for a remote pilot to operate a drone in the Open category, generally speaking (with some national exceptions)?

a) 12 years old

b) 14 years old

c) 16 years old

d) 18 years old

22. What is 'Wake Turbulence'?

a) Turbulence caused by water evapourating from a lake

b) Turbulence generated by solar radiation on black asphalt

c) Severe aerodynamic disturbances, primarily wingtip vortices, left behind a heavier aircraft in flight, posing a massive hazard to light drones

d) The vibration felt when a drone lands hard

23. When defining your operational area, what is a 'Contingency Volume'?

a) The maximum volume of noise the drone is allowed to produce

b) The physical size of the drone's transport case

c) A specific folder on the SD card for backup telemetry data

d) An outer buffer zone designed to safely contain the drone if it accidentally leaves the primary flight geography, before it breaches the ground risk buffer

24. If a remote pilot experiences sudden, severe eye strain and blurred vision during a flight, they should:

a) Hand the controller to an untrained bystander

b) Safely land the drone immediately, secure the equipment, and rest until vision returns to normal

c) Switch to looking exclusively at the screen instead of the drone

d) Fly the drone higher where the light is better

25. If you are flying in a public park and an unleashed dog starts jumping aggressively at your low-hovering drone, what is the best contingency action?

a) Smoothly increase altitude to a safe distance out of the dog's reach, then navigate away and land safely in a secure area

b) Fly the drone aggressively towards the dog to scare it

c) Turn off the motors so the drone falls on the grass

d) Activate the Return to Home function immediately

26. In meteorology, 'Convection' refers to:

a) The horizontal movement of air across the surface

b) The freezing of supercooled water droplets in a cloud

c) The deflection of wind by the Earth's rotation

d) The vertical transport of heat in the atmosphere, often causing warm, less dense air to rise and form thermals or cumulus clouds

27. How is 'Upslope Fog' formed?

a) By the sun heating a wet runway

b) By thunderstorms evapourating before hitting the ground

c) By high winds at altitudes above 20,000 ft

d) When moist, stable air is forced up a sloping landmass (like a mountain) by the wind, cooling adiabatically until it reaches its dew point

28. If you are flying a multirotor and experience a sudden, strong updraft from a thermal, what is the expected initial reaction of the drone?

a) The drone will pitch forward

b) The drone will suddenly drop towards the ground

c) The drone will rapidly gain altitude; the flight controller will then reduce motor RPM to compensate and bring it back down to its target altitude

d) The drone will turn off completely

29. What is the 'Tropopause'?

a) The layer of the atmosphere where meteors burn up

b) The boundary between the troposphere and the stratosphere, acting as a lid that traps most weather and moisture below it

c) The point where the Earth's magnetic field stops

d) The exact altitude where the air temperature reaches absolute zero

30. In Human Factors, what defines a pilot's 'Situational Awareness'?

a) The ability to manually solder broken electronics in the field

b) The accurate perception of the flight environment, understanding its meaning, and projecting its status into the near future

c) Knowing the exact serial number of the drone's motors

d) The process of memorizing the user manual

31. In Human Factors, what is the risk of a 'Steep Authority Gradient' between a pilot and a visual observer?

a) The observer feels intimidated by the pilot's experience or attitude and is afraid to speak up when they notice a safety issue or hazard

b) The drone's flight controller overrides the pilot's inputs

c) The pilot cannot physically see the observer

d) The drone climbs at an angle steeper than 45 degrees

32. What effect does high humidity have on air density?

a) It makes the air denser, improving drone lift

b) It has no effect on air density

c) Because water vapour is lighter than dry air molecules, adding moisture makes the overall air mass less dense, which degrades aircraft performance

d) It causes the air density to fluctuate wildly every second

33. How is 'Density Altitude' best defined in aviation?

a) The physical altitude measured by a laser rangefinder

b) Pressure altitude corrected for non-standard temperature; it is the altitude the drone 'feels' like it is flying at

c) The altitude of the lowest cloud layer

d) The height above the terrain directly below the drone

34. 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

35. What is the primary danger of a microburst to a UAS during flight?

a) It causes the drone's battery to freeze

b) It creates a massive, localized downdraft followed by violent horizontal wind shear that can easily overpower the drone's propulsion and force it into the ground

c) It permanently magnetizes the drone's compass

d) It generates a thermal updraft that pushes the drone above the 120 m limit

36. 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

37. 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)

38. If you set your altimeter to 'QNE' (1013.25 hPa), what are you measuring?

a) True Altitude (Height above mean sea level)

b) Absolute Altitude (Height above the ground)

c) Pressure Altitude (Flight Level), used primarily by aircraft cruising at higher altitudes to ensure safe vertical separation

d) Density Altitude

39. In a METAR, what does the code 'FG' indicate?

a) Freezing Gusts
b) Fog (visibility is less than 1,000 metres)
c) Fair Gusts
d) Falling Graupel

40. A key operational advantage of a multirotor UAV compared to a fixed-wing UAV is:

a) Significantly longer flight endurance and range
b) The ability to glide safely to the ground if all power is lost
c) The ability to hover in place, fly at very low speeds, and take off or land vertically without a runway
d) Higher cruise speeds over long distances

41. 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

42. Which of these features is mandated by EASA for C1, C2, and C3 class drones?

a) A maximum weight of 250 grams
b) The ability to fly autonomously without a pilot
c) A Geo-awareness system and a Direct Remote Identification (Remote ID) system
d) A built-in parachute recovery system

43. Why is it important to use a pre-flight checklist every single time you fly?

a) Because the drone's software will not arm the motors otherwise
b) To increase the battery life
c) To mitigate human error, complacency, and memory lapses, ensuring all critical technical and safety parameters are verified systematically before launch
d) To log the pilot's working hours for taxation

44. In aviation weather reports, how is a 'Ceiling' defined?

a) The maximum altitude a drone can physically reach

b) The height above the Earth's surface of the lowest layer of clouds reported as 'Broken' (BKN) or 'Overcast' (OVC)

c) Any cloud layer reported as 'Scattered' (SCT)

d) The top of a thunderstorm cloud

45. Before relying on the Return to Home (RTH) function, the remote pilot must ensure:

a) The camera is recording

b) The home point is accurately recorded via GPS and the RTH altitude is set higher than any surrounding obstacles

c) The drone is in ATTI mode

d) The controller's speaker is muted

46. Are binoculars permitted to extend the visual line of sight (VLOS) during a drone flight?

a) Yes, provided they have a magnification of 10x or less

b) No, VLOS must be maintained unaided (except for corrective lenses/glasses)

c) Yes, but only for the Visual Observer

d) Only if flying in the Specific category

47. If you are flying in a valley during a sunny morning, how are the local winds likely moving?

a) Down the slopes into the valley

b) Up the slopes (anabatic winds), as the sun heats the mountain sides faster than the valley floor

c) In a perfect circle

d) They remain completely stagnant

48. What is the primary aerodynamic function of the wing on a fixed-wing UAV?

a) To generate vertical thrust while hovering

b) To generate lift by creating a pressure difference (lower pressure above, higher pressure below) as air flows over its airfoil shape during forward motion

c) To store the battery and electronics

d) To act as a physical bumper against obstacles

49. Why is it crucial to respect the Centre of Gravity (CG) limits specified by the UAS manufacturer?

a) It is completely irrelevant due to the automatic compensation of modern ESCs

b) The CG must always be positioned exactly on the front right propeller

c) It only affects the drone during the landing phase

d) To prevent overloading specific motors and maintain aerodynamic stability and control

50. On a sunny afternoon, a pilot flying a drone from a dark asphalt parking lot over a cool lake should anticipate:

a) A strong thermal updraft over the asphalt, followed by sinking air (subsidence) over the cooler water, requiring throttle adjustments to maintain altitude

b) Perfectly smooth, uninterrupted flight at all times

c) A sudden loss of GPS signal over the water

d) The drone's compass reversing its polarity

51. Under what specific conditions does 'Upslope Fog' form, and why is it a significant hazard for drone pilots in hilly terrain?

a) It is caused by the sun heating the surface too quickly, creating a steam-like effect

b) It forms only in urban areas due to the high density of buildings and smog

c) It is formed by the cooling of the Earth's surface during a completely calm, clear night

d) It forms when moist, stable air is forced up rising terrain by the wind and cools adiabatically; it can persist even with strong winds, unlike radiation fog

52. Regarding thunderstorms, which statement about lightning is true and highly relevant to drone pilots?

a) Lightning can strike the ground miles away from the main cumulonimbus cloud (even outside the rain area), posing a lethal threat to the pilot and the drone

b) Lightning only strikes directly beneath the darkest part of the cloud

c) Drones are completely immune to lightning because they have no direct connection to the ground

d) Lightning only occurs when the temperature is above 20°C

53. If a pilot incorrectly sets the altimeter to a higher QNH than the actual local pressure, how will this affect the drone's perceived altitude?

a) The altimeter will indicate a higher altitude than the drone's actual height above sea level

b) The altimeter will show zero at all times

c) The drone will automatically switch to GPS altitude only

d) The altimeter will indicate a lower altitude than the actual height

54. What is a 'Jet Stream'?

a) The exhaust trail left by a jet engine

b) A warm ocean current flowing from the tropics

c) A narrow band of very strong, high-altitude winds (often exceeding 100 knots) flowing generally from west to east near the tropopause

d) A sudden burst of wind near a mountain valley

55. In a METAR report, what does the abbreviation 'VCTS' stand for?

a) Very Clear and Tranquil Skies

b) Variable Cloud Thickness Status

c) Visibility Cleared To South

d) Thunderstorms in the Vicinity (within 8 to 16 km of the aerodrome reference point)

56. What is a strong indicator that a LiPo battery is damaged and should not be used?

a) The battery charges to 100% too slowly

b) The battery feels slightly warm after a 20-minute flight

c) The connector is a different color than the drone

d) The battery pack is visibly swollen, puffed, or deformed

57. How is wind direction typically reported in aviation weather forecasts (such as METAR or TAF)?

a) In degrees True (from True North), indicating the direction the wind is blowing FROM

b) In degrees Magnetic, indicating the direction the wind is blowing TOWARDS

c) Using only cardinal points (N, S, E, W)

d) As a percentage of the Earth's rotation

58. What two conditions are strictly required for structural icing to form on a drone in flight?

a) Clear skies and a temperature of exactly 0 °C

b) Visible moisture (clouds, fog, rain) and temperatures at or below freezing (0 °C / 32 °F)

c) High winds and low humidity

d) A high-pressure system and direct sunlight

59. Which cloud prefix indicates a 'Middle Cloud' (base typically between 6,500 and 20,000 ft)?

a) Cirro-

b) Nimbo-

c) Alto- (e.g., Altostratus, Altocumulus)

d) Strato-

60. 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

61. In aviation, how is 'Visibility' officially defined?

a) The distance a laser can travel before scattering

b) The depth a pilot can see into the water from the air

c) The greatest horizontal distance at which prominent unlit objects can be seen and identified by day, and prominent lit objects by night

d) The vertical distance from the ground to the cloud base

62. A remote pilot is conducting a mapping mission, moving from a high-pressure area to a low-pressure area. If they do not recalibrate the barometric sensor, what risk do they face regarding the displayed altitude?

a) The altimeter will indicate a lower altitude than actual, leading the drone to fly too high into controlled airspace

b) The drone will lose its GPS signal due to the change in atmospheric density

c) The battery will drain faster because of the reduced pressure

d) The altimeter will display a value higher than the actual altitude, potentially leading the pilot to descend dangerously into ground obstacles

63. What is the standard temperature lapse rate in the troposphere under ISA conditions?

a) It decreases by approximately 2.0 °C per 1,000 feet (or 6.5 °C per 1,000 metres) of altitude gained

b) It increases by 1 °C for every 100 metres of altitude

c) It remains completely constant up to 30,000 feet

d) It drops by exactly 10 °C per 1,000 feet

64. How does the 'Funneling Effect' (or Venturi Effect) alter the wind?

a) It makes the wind blow in circles

b) It cools the wind down to freezing temperatures

c) It completely stops the wind from moving

d) When wind is forced through a narrow space, like a mountain pass or between tall buildings, its velocity increases significantly

65. Is it permitted to fly a drone from a moving vehicle in the EASA Open category?

a) No, it is strictly prohibited

b) Yes, but only if the vehicle is moving slower than 30 km/h

c) Yes, if the pilot is in the passenger seat

d) Only if flying over water in a moving boat

66. 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)

67. In an aviation weather forecast (TAF), what does the abbreviation 'TEMPO' indicate?

a) A permanent and complete change in the weather conditions

b) A gradual change occurring over several hours

c) Temporary fluctuations in the forecasted weather, lasting for less than one hour at a time

d) The exact temperature at the airport

68. How does performing a steep banked turn affect the stall speed of a fixed-wing UAV compared to level flight?

a) The stall speed remains exactly the same

b) The stall speed increases because the wings must produce more lift to counteract the higher load factor

c) The stall speed decreases, making the drone more stable

d) Stall speed only applies to multirotor drones

69. What is 'QNH' in altimetry?

a) The atmospheric pressure measured at the exact altitude of the drone

b) The local atmospheric pressure reduced to mean sea level; setting this on an altimeter makes it read altitude above sea level (AMSL)

c) The standard pressure of 1013.25 hPa

d) The altitude above ground level (AGL)

70. In the context of risk management, what is a 'Contingency Procedure'?

a) A plan for buying a new drone

b) A predefined action taken to handle an abnormal situation (like a low battery warning) and prevent it from escalating into a critical emergency

c) The procedure for turning on the remote controller

d) A method to bypass airspace restrictions

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Response Scheme

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

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

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Response form

Use this form to mark your answers

01:	02:	03:	04:
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