Masters Oral
10/07/2018
Carlo

Started with the introduction, how the oral was to be conducted and the concise answers required at Masters Level. No prompting would be given but questions / clarifications could be asked if the directed question was not clearly understood. There was also a trainee examiner present.

We kicked off with a brief history of my work experience, type of vessels and area of operation. This presumably got me talking to calm my nervousness and for Carlo to get an idea of my previous capacities and area of operation.

The following questions aren’t in any particular order just as I remember most of them.

Carlo would give no real indication of when I had fully answered a question, so when I was sure I had answered to the best of my knowledge I would inform him and he would move on.

You are joining a 150m Bulky

- Crew Certificates - what do you need do on joining?
- How do you know manning is compliant? (manning certificate, crew certificates and company crew joining checklist)
- How do you conduct a handover?
- Where does it state you have to do a handover (Company ISM)
- Philippines crew joining – what does he need to present?
- Does he need his original CoC with his CoE?
- Medical certificate – how often do crew have to renew them?
- Why do you need a medical certificate? (STCW / MLC / MO 76)
- Fitness for duty – how do you know a crew is fit for duty? (Medical certificate, D & A testing, Work rest hours, Monitor performance, ask them)
- What convention covers this?
- What Marine order covers this?
- How are conventions adopted into Australian law?
- What acts are covered by Marine Orders?
- Name Australian acts that you know of?
- What certificates would this vessel need to carry? (stopped me at around 20)
- What is the validity of the certificates you mentioned?
- What are the inspection periods?
- What is the difference between, Initial, Annual, Periodic Intermediate & Renewal?
- What certificates have attachments?
- Port state wants to check your compliance with Marpol Annex 1 – how do you achieve this?
- What’s on the IOPP Form A?
- What’s listed on the Safety Equipment Form E?
- What entries are required to be entered into the Official Log Book?
• What entries, and what is covered in the garbage log book?
• What's in the Garbage Management Plan and who is usually designated to manage it?
• What is AIS and how does it work? (read GMDSS manual)
• You are preparing for a LL survey, what do you need to inspect?
• What's on the LL condition of assignment?
• How many ways can you inspect that a cargo hatches seals? (Hose test, chalk test, light test, ultrasonic test)
• Drills required and time frames?
• What's tested on steering prior to departure and during 3 monthly drill? (read SOLAS)
• Why do you conduct drills?
• Shipper has DG waiting to be loaded at the last minute that you weren't made aware of. – What do you do? (Not to load DG. 24hr notice to AMSA). Multi Modal, check DoC that you can load the DG listed on the ML, then after being cleared to load, IMDG code segregation, post DG's list of cargo carried in common area, Drill to be conducted incorporating DG Classes)
• What's on the DG document of compliance?
• What do you do if a container inspection plate has fallen off? (contact agent / shipper / AMSA / note of protest / MO 44)
• What is on a container inspection plate?
• How do you prepare to load bulk cargo?
• What's on a shipper's declaration?
• Explain TML?
• Moisture content certificate validity? (7 days)
• Explain Angle of Repose?
• Do you need to be concerned with them? If so explain?
• Explain stress's a ship will be subject to while loading then proceeding to sea?
• How do you monitor stresses?
• How do you know your load computer is accurate?
• How do you test it?
• Where does it state that you're required to have one? (MO 35, SOLAS Ch 12)
• What certificate covers it?
• Where can you get information regarding bulk and unit cargo loading?
• Who does the master talk to regarding loading and what has to be discussed and are there any reporting requirements?
• What do the officers need to know and do while loading?
• What are loadline zones?
• What are seasonal zones?
• What does the loadline convention state about the determination of seasonal loadlines? (1 x force 8 / 10 x force 8)
• You are loading in a tropical zone and discharging in a summer zone. Where can you load to?
• What part of a loadline do you load to?
• ISM certificate – how does the company & vessel get issued with one? (He wanted the whole process. Read ISM code).
- What does the company have to have included in ISM Doc?
- How does the master implement ISM aboard and his role?
- How do you know you are compliant with OHSMI act?
- Explain masters overriding authority?
- Where does it state that the master has the power of overriding authority?
- Give me an example of how it would be used?
- What's included in inductions?
- What does duty of care mean?
- How do you manage contractors working onboard your vessel?
- What signage is required to be displayed in the vessel's bridge? (Muster list, Work schedule, Emergency steering instructions, IMO signage, Marpol requirements, GMDSS emergency procedures, Ship security level, 24hr Dr Emergency contact details, Company 24hr emergency contact, DPO & security contacts, MLC dispute procedure, company policies, Pilot card).
- You are going to anchor your vessel. Explain the process in detail, including OH&S requirements for deck crew?
- What's required of an officer while at anchor?
- How often would you fix the vessels position while at anchor and by what means?
- How often do you position fix as per master's standing orders? (depends on vessel speed and proximity to land, dangers, visibility. Vessel should not run into danger between successive fixes, etc)
- How does the bridge operate with a Pilot onboard?
- Explain how you would set up an ECDIS with regard to safety depth and contour depth? (Safety contour shallower than the safety depth).
- Why set up with the contour shallower than the safety depth?
- How do you determine the safety depth? (UKC required, draft, squat, port requirements, sea state, tide, trim, hog & sag)
- How does squat affect the vessel? (explained Bernouille's principle & how it effects the vessel steerage, trim, cavitation, wake, power, turning & stopping distance)
- How do you calculate squat? (Bc x (Speed squared / 50. for shallow))
- How do you know your primary means of navigation is ECDIS?
- What do officers have to have as far as certification for ECDIS?
- How do you know what publications you are required to carry?
- Explain what else is on your safety equipment supplement form E?
- What's the relationship between Class and Flag?
- Can you sail with radar that's not operational?
- What do you do regarding the non functioning radar?
- Who do you contact?
- What's a condition of class?
- Explain the difference between Mayday, Pan Pan and Securitae and give an example of when you would use each?
- How do you receive safety information in Australia? (Nav area 10, Safety Net, EGC area's (A-H), MSI, MF/HF Radio)
- What about when you're not in nav area 10? (NBDP configured to required Nav area)
- You encounter weather above force 8 that wasn't forecasted. What are your actions? (Report it via Sat C, 18/19 & log it in OLB).
What do you do onboard? (Heavy weather checklist, inform company, Stability, cargo securing, adjust speed / course / route / monitor crew fatigue).

Fire in Engine room. What's your response? (Muster, CE and 1st Engineer controlling. C/M assisting, crew duties as per muster list, Emergency checklist, BA teams, boundary cool, electrical isolation, vents, bridge actions, first aid equipment etc. Don't forget OLB and 18/19/Class DPA, Port state, Flag, P&I note of protest)

Releasing Co2. How do you go about it? (CE in control and all personnel were accounted for and visual / audible alarms would sound prior to release)

You see a red flare. Explain your actions?

What's in IAMSAR 3?

What's in a Material handling register?

What are the inspection periods?

What documents does a Master have to sign onboard?

What role does AMSA play?

What is a marine notice?

What is notice to mariners?

How do you passage plan?

What publications / references does the 2nd mate need for passage planning?

What does the master need to take into account when reviewing the passage plan? (Special areas, Particularly sensitive areas, Marpol requirements, garbage management, security, Bio security, loadline zones, charterers requirements etc)

Buoyage, A & B differences?

Cardinal marks, what side would you pass?

Coll regs. Tug towing on your Port side. You are still 150m bulky. Your actions?

Displayed nearly all the flip cards and had to describe each with my actions.

The Last flip card was a single white light, then it was over, Carlo stood up and come over to congratulate me.

He noted the time taken was 58min and said there was nothing more he could ask and then showed me the checklist with every box ticked.

All questions were very fair and nothing put to trip me up.

Thanks to the college Lecturers, Jeff, Frank, Jonathan, Ian & Staff for their assistance throughout and Chris the Librarian who loves nothing more than busying him- self, fetching publications for you while using the Library.

Good luck!