

P402 - Surveying and Sampling Strategies for Asbestos in Buildings

Written Examination Guidance

It is important that candidates prepare thoroughly for all exams, as poor exam technique can result in lost Marks.

The following advice is applicable to all candidates and should be contained in the examination briefing:

- ✓ Read questions carefully before answering, and only then answer the question.
- ✓ Look for key words in the exam question, such as 'How...', 'Why...' etc.
- ✓ Look for indicators of how many answers to write (for example, 'List TWO options that...' tells you to write two answers only).
- ✓ This is a short-answer examination – candidates may write short sentences or list points in their answers.
- ✓ The number of Marks available for each answer is shown. This will help to assist in determining how much to write. For example, a question worth one or two Marks will require just one or two sentences or bullet points, however one worth 10 Marks will require a more comprehensive answer.
- ✓ Avoid getting bogged down unnecessarily in earlier questions. Give priority to questions that can be readily answered before tackling more challenging ones.
- ✓ Exam papers are structured to follow the sections of the syllabus, so candidates can easily find all questions relating to each sub-section.
- ✓ It is recommended that candidates take a couple of minutes to skim through the exam paper before they start answering the questions. They can then answer the questions they find easiest first, which will help them to accumulate Marks and hopefully give them confidence to tackle more challenging questions.
- ✓ Many questions are short answer questions based on diagrams, real-life scenarios, or photographs. They test whether the candidate can apply what they've learnt during the course and the practical sessions.

Sample Examination Questions

The questions are worth a variety of Marks, from 1 Mark up to 10 Marks. Questions are based on real-life scenarios and include the use of photographs, diagrams and tables. Each question is based on a specific syllabus item, examples of which are shown below:

Question 1 What containment and decontamination procedure should be put in place to assist beneath an asbestos sample point? **(4 Marks)**

ANSWER:

Polythene sheet placed under task **(2 Marks)** clean up using wet wipes or shadow vacuuming **(1 Mark)** bagged and disposed of as contaminated waste **(1 Mark)**

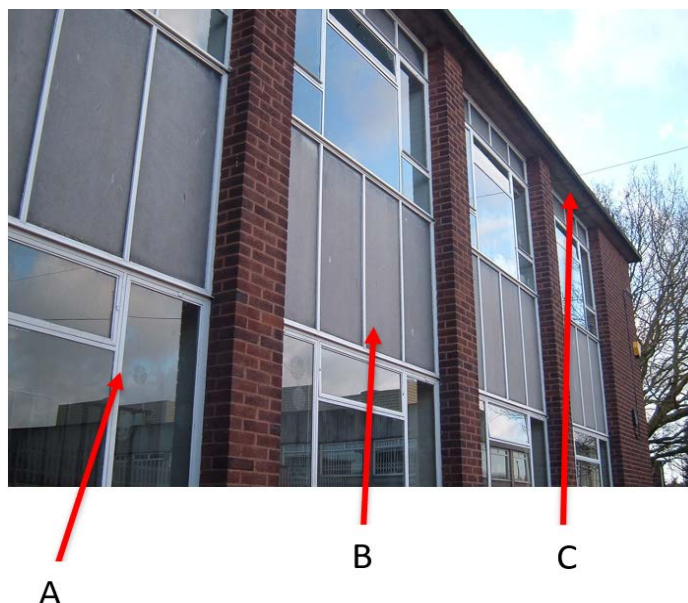
Question 2 Which of the following areas would NOT usually be inspected during an Asbestos Management Survey? **(4 Marks)**

- Under floor coverings
- Ceiling voids
- Lift shafts
- Under-crofts / basements
- Stud wall cavities
- Inside ventilation ducting

ANSWER:

- Under floor coverings **(0 Marks)**
- Ceiling voids **(0 Marks)**
- Lift shafts **(0 Marks)**
- Under-crofts / basements **(0 Marks)**
- Stud wall cavities **(2 Marks)**
- Inside ventilation ducting **(2 Marks)**

Question 3 In the picture below, taken of the outside of a school, what asbestos containing materials are indicated by the arrows and what asbestos type would they contain? **(4 Marks)**



ANSWERS (Max 6 Marks):

A – Window putty (1 Mark), chrysotile (1 Mark)

B – Cement window panel/Spandrel panel (1 Mark), chrysotile and amosite (1 Mark)

C – AIB Soffit (1 Mark), amosite (1 Mark)

Question 4 Following the completion of a refurbishment survey, one of the rooms is accidentally omitted from the report issued to the client. What are the potential consequences of this failure? (6 Marks)

ANSWER (Max 6 Marks):

- Present asbestos may not have been reported (2 Marks)
- When refurbishment works commence this could be disturbed (2 Marks)
- Therefore, potential for exposure to occur (2 Marks)

Question 5 Which material is most likely to cause the highest release of asbestos fibre, unsealed asbestos coatings or intact asbestos insulating board? Explain your answer. (4 Marks)

ANSWER (Max 4 Marks):

- Unsealed asbestos coatings (2 Marks)
- Highest fibre content (1 Mark)
- Held in a loose matrix (1 Mark)