

How to pass examinations in Maritime Studies

To pass exams you have to be like a successful football or hockey team. You will need:

Ability, Tenacity, Consistency, Good preparation and Luck!!

The following tips should help you to obtain extra marks that could turn that 36% into a 42% + pass or an 81% into an Honours 85% + award – Good luck.

Before your examination

1. Select 'bankers' for each subject. Certain topics come up very often. You will have certain topics fully understood. Bank on these appearing on the exam paper.
2. Do not swat 100% of your course notes. Omit about 10% and concentrate on the 90%. In that 10% will be some topics you will never be able to understand fully.
3. Work through passed exam papers in order to gauge the standard and the time factor to complete the required solution. Complete and hand in every set Coursework assignment.
4. Write all formulae discussed in each subject on pages at the rear of your notes.
5. In your notes circle each formula in a red outline or use a highlight pen. In this way they will stand out from the rest of your notes. Remember formulae are like spanners. Some you will use more than others but all can be used to solve a problem.
6. Underline in red important key phrases or words. Examiners will be looking for these in your answers. Oblige them and obtain the marks.
7. Revise each subject in carefully planned sequence so as not to be rusty on a set of notes that you have not read for some time whilst you have been sitting other exams.
8. Be aggressive in your mental approach to do your best. If you have prepared well there will be less nervous approach and like the football team you will gain your goal.

In your examination

1. Use big sketches. Small sketches tend to irritate Examiners.
2. Use coloured pencils. Drawings look better with a bit of colour.
3. Use a 150 mm rule to make better sketches and a more professional drawing.
4. Have big writing to make it easier to read. Make it neat. Use a pen rather than a biro. Reading a piece of work written in biro is harder to read especially if the quality of the biro is not very good.
5. Use plenty of paragraphs. It makes it easier to read.
6. Write down any data you wish to remember. To write it makes it easier and longer to retain in your memory.
7. Be careful in your answers that you do not suggest things or situations that would endanger the ship or the onboard personnel.
8. Reread your answers near the end of the exam. Omitting the word *not* does make such a difference.
9. Reread your question as you finish each answer. For example, do not miss part (c) of an answer and throw away marks you could have obtained.
10. Treat the exam as an advertisement of your ability rather than an obstacle to be overcome. If you think you will fail, then you probably will fail.