

Using The Exam Generator Program

The screenshot shows the 'FCC Test Generator' application window. It features several input fields and buttons for configuring an exam. At the top left, the 'Test Type' is set to 'Regular' with a radio button. To its right, the 'SQLite db file name' is 'fcc_exam_data.db' with a 'Select' button. Below these, the 'Subelement Description' is 'Amateur radio practices and station set-up - [2 Exam Questions - 2 Groups]' in a text box, and the 'Subelement' is 'T4' in a dropdown menu. Further down, the 'Exam Element' is '2' in a spinner box, and the 'Output Type' is 'Electronic Exam' with a radio button. The 'Number Of Questions' is '35' in a text box, with an 'ALL' checkbox. There are 'Run' and 'Exit' buttons. At the bottom right, the 'Distribution' is set to 'Normal' with a radio button. A status bar at the bottom indicates 'completed fetching element 2 descriptions' and the version 'Test Gen. V2.0'.

Database File

Start the program. Before you can do anything, you have to load the exam database file into the program. Notice in the upper right area a “Select” button. Click on it and then navigate in the usual manner to wherever you have dropped a copy of the questions database file. Click the “OK” button on the file finder when you’ve located the file. The program will remember where you found it so you don’t have to do this over and over again.

Select the exam element parameters

Look over all the options on the form. First decide which exam you want to run. Element 2 is the Technician class license, 3 is the General class license, and 4 is the Amateur Extra license. On the upper left, select “Regular” or “Single Subelement”. The regular test will randomly select from the entire pool. The subelement type will restrict questions to a particular subelement you choose.

If you decide to concentrate on a single subelement there are two controls in the middle of the form. The dropdown to the right is for choosing and the text box will then display the subject of the subelement.

The “Number of Questions” control is literally for that. You may choose a smaller than normal number or anywhere up to “all”. The initial number displayed is the current requirement value. That is 35 questions for Elements 2 and 3, and 50 for Element 4.

Now select the output type: paper or electronic. Usually it’ll be electronic but you may want to try it on paper which is how the actual exam is done. Follow that up with “Random” or “Normal” for question and answer layout. You can get hung up on question 7 has the answer at D instead of the actual answer. The FCC does not promise to keep the answers in the order shown in the pool so eventually you’ll want to go “Random”.

Create the Exam

Click the “Run” button. If you chose “Paper” you’ll get the usual printer popup menu. If you choose “Electronic” the exam form will pop up with the first question loaded.

The Electronic Exam

The screenshot shows a window titled "FCC Practice Exam". At the top, there are three input fields: "Total Questions:" with the value "35", "Correct Answers:" with the value "00", and "Incorrect Answers:" with the value "1". Below these fields is a question box containing the text: "What is meant by the term -check,- in reference to a formal traffic message? - T2C11". Below the question box are four multiple-choice options, each with a letter and a checkbox:

- A. ☐ The value of a money order attached to the message
- B. ☒ The number of words or word equivalents in the text portion of the message
- C. ☐ A list of stations that have relayed the message
- D. ☐ A box on the message form that indicates that the message was received and/or relayed

Below the options is a "Question Number" section. It features a left arrow button, a text box containing the number "2", and a right arrow button. Below the right arrow button is a "Done" button.

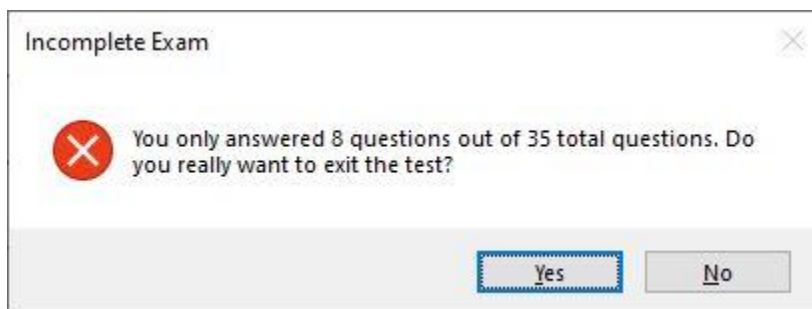
This what the electronic exam looks like.

Across the top are several obvious progress tracking indicators. Below that is a typical question and the answers, properly called the answer and the distractors. You can see what happens if you answer the question incorrectly. The test will tell you right away and also tell you what is the correct answer so your reinforcement is immediate, increasing learning speed.

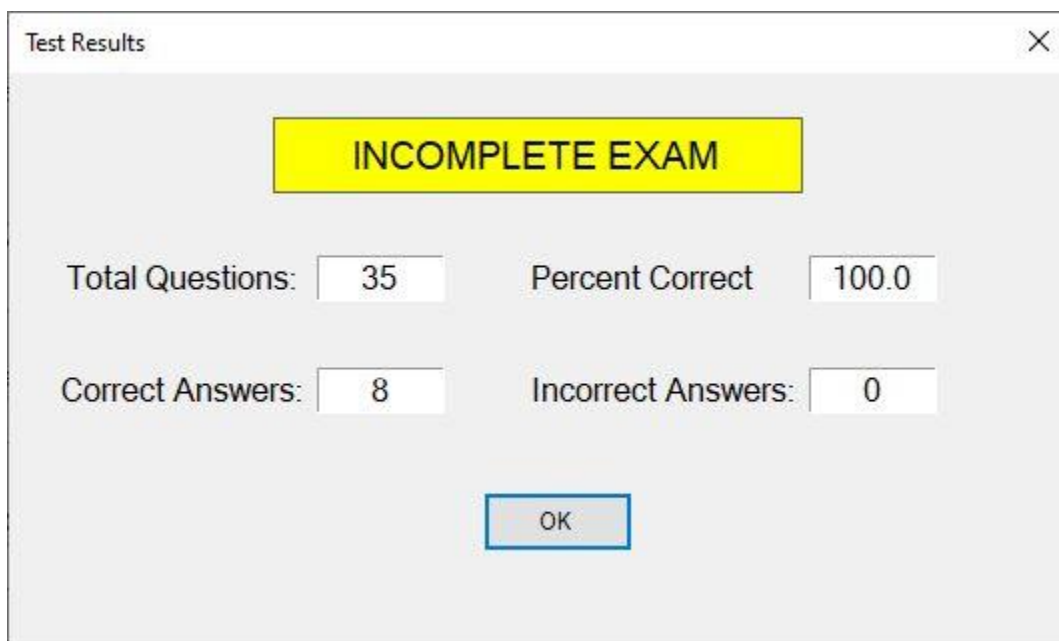
At the bottom are the navigation controls. They are just as they seem: next question, previous question, question number, and finally the 'score me button' labeled "Done".

Quitting Early

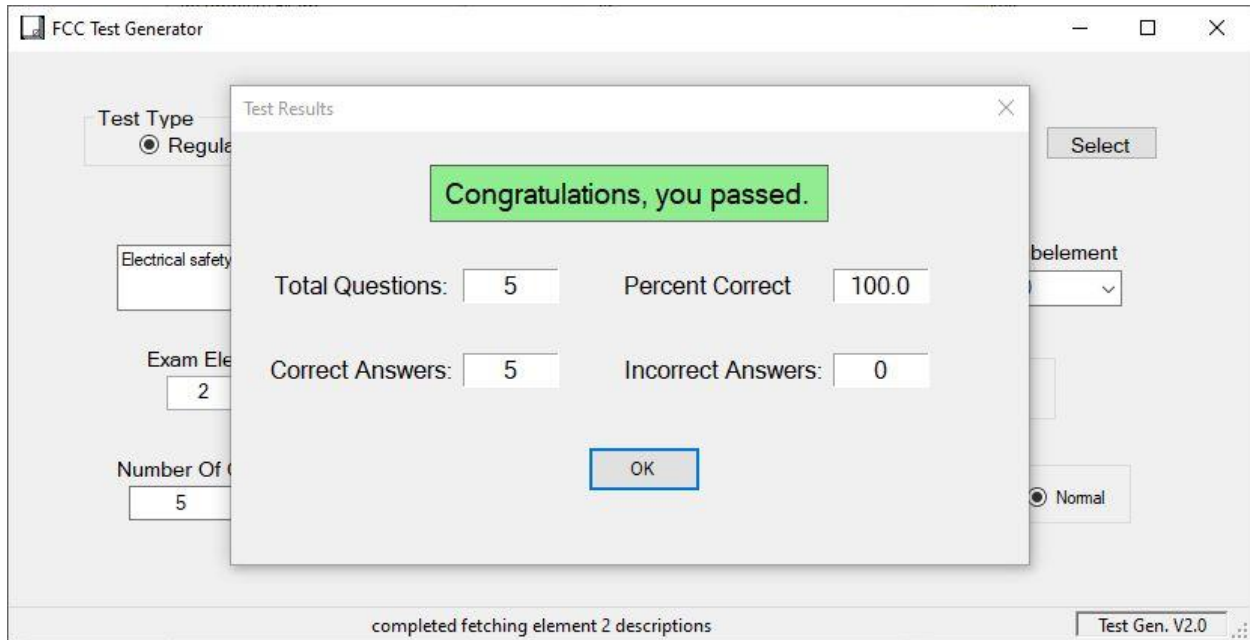
You may bail out of the program at any time. If you quit early, you'll get this popup:



If you actually answered any of the questions you will get the score like this:



If you answer all the questions and pass you'll get this popup (I ran a short test to speed up grabbing the screen):



Roundup

That's all there is to it. Enjoy the software. If you have any suggestions or find any bugs let me know via the project on github. In case you got this from another source like Source Forge here's the github URL: <https://github.com/stpaulchuck/FCC-Practice-Exam-Generator> .

73's Charles "Chuck" Fisher – ADOQK

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