2024.11..11

Answer Key for Written Examination
3rd Grade Yabusame Skills License

/100 points (Pass with 70 points)

NAME _____

1. Safety Knowledge

Q) Choose the most suitable word/words from the list below to fill the blanks (1) to (5) in the sentences.

【2 points each /10 points】

Yabusame is an activity which includes inherent (① risks) in various aspects. It is important to pay attention, and follow safety rules to help prevent major and minor accidents. Unfortunately, there are some accidents that happen despite safety precautions. At the same time, it is also true that there may be an accident that was waiting to happen. Small acts of carelessness and (② overconfidence) will lead to a miserable result in a moment. We can not go back in time once an accident has occurred, even if we regret our actions and think "We should have been a little more careful" or "We did not know it was dangerous." To prevent such accidents, it is important to make an environment where both instructors and participants prioritize (③ safety) in every activity at every level.

Yabusame is an activity which uses Yumi (bows) and Ya (arrows). Remember that bows and arrows are weapons and can seriously (④ injure others). This is why is it vital to follow good safety protocol when (⑤ practicing archery even on the ground .) During archery practices, everyone on the range (place where bows and arrows are being shot) needs to be aware of their surroundings, and follow safety procedures. This includes instructors, archers, people retrieving arrows and spectators. Follow safety protocols such as waiting until the instructor says it is safe to retrieve arrows, before Yatori (going to collect arrows after shooting). Everyone must obey these rules.

・overconfidence ・injure others ・risks ・practicing archery even on the ground ・safety

2. Regulations of the Yabusame Federation

Aims and Objectives of Japan Yabusame Federation

1 Promotion of further development of Yabusame as a competitive sport by establishing and defining competition rules clearly.
2 Inheritance of our 1,000- year tradition of "Umayumi Yabusame (shooting arrows successively from a running horse)" by returning to its original style.
3 Accurate preservation of the above-mentioned Japanese tradition. To achieve this purpose, it is very essential to use our traditional equipment, such as Japanese bows (Wayumi), Japanese saddles (Wagura), Japanese stirrups (Waabumi), and Japanese snaffles (Wakutsuwa).

Q) Explain the meaning of "tradition" in the underlined sentence above, "Accurate preservation of the above-mentioned Japanese tradition." 【4 points each /4 points】

The form, style, and attitude passed down since ancient times.

3. Role of Yabusame as a Competition

Q) Choose the most suitable word/words from the list below to fill the blanks (1) to (5) in the sentences.

【2 points each /10 points】

The intention and ideas behind Yabusame as a competition are as follows:

- (① Expansion of horse-riding population)
- (② New utilization of horses)
- Promotion of Yabusame competition rooted in the community as a horse-based tourism

With the theme of "(③ more beautifully)," "more accurately," and "safer," the competition is designed to compete over (④ masterful and gorgeous) techniques by learning from ancient martial arts and responding to the atmosphere of the new era. Yabusame has been established as a wide spread sport with safe rules and fair competition open for people of (⑤ all ages and genders) to enjoy.

・masterful and gorgeous ・more beautifully ・expansion of horse-riding population ・all ages and genders ・new utilization of horses

4. Yabusame Horses

Q) Choose the most suitable word/words from the list below to fill the blanks (1) to (4).
【2 points each /8 points】

Four (4) important characteristics of an ideal Yabusame horse are as follows:

(1 a horse which does not lower its head while running)
(2 a horse with beautiful running form)
(3 a horse which looks straight ahead and runs well)
(4 a horse which is not spooked and frightened)

The above idea of an ideal Yabusame horse comes from "Yabusame Ihou," a book which was compiled in the Muromachi Era. According to this book, "A good running horse kicks the ground with its hind legs powerfully and with good balance. In addition, its hind legs move very close to its forelimbs. As a result of such movements, its forelimbs extend farther."

・a horse which does not lower its head while running ・a horse with good memory ・a horse with beautiful running form ・a horse which looks straight ahead and runs well ・a horse which is not spooked and frightened

5. Horse Riding Aids

Q1) Choose the most suitable word/words from the list below to fill the blanks (1) to (5) in the sentences.
【2 points each /10 points】

In Japanese riding aids such as (① Ou/ move forward) (② Tomeru/ stop) and (③Hoko-Tenkan/ change of direction) are given to horses through reins. In addition to the rein aids, (④ voice aid) and (⑤ whip) are also used.

・legs ・voice aid ・whip ・Ou/ move forward ・Tomeru/ stop ・Hoko-Tenkan/ Change of direction

Q2) What is the Japanese term for using rein aids to control and communicate with the horse?
【4 points each /4 points】

Shakuri Tazuna

Q3) Fill in the blanks (1) and (2) with suitable word/words to complete the sentences below which describe the way to stop a horse. 【2 points each /4 points】

After passing the 3rd target, take the reins (① with both hands) immediately and slow down the horse gradually to stop. Start toward the 1st target in a position of (② Tachisukashi) and keep this position until the horse stops completely.

6. Archery Techniques

Q1) Choose the most suitable word/words from the list below to fill the blanks (1) to (4) in the sentences.

【2 points each /8 points】

There are two different types of archery techniques described in many ancient Battle Scrolls. The first is (① Kisha) which is a technique of shooting arrows from horseback. The other one is "Busha" which is a technique of shooting arrows while standing on the ground. The most important purpose for both archery techniques is to bring out (② the maximum penetration force) of the bow. This basic pattern of movement is called (③ Kata.) It is particularly important to understand (③) correctly and deeply when you learn and acquire archery techniques. The acquisition of these skills leads you to safer "Kisha" without becoming (④ off-balance on horseback).

・the maximum penetration force ・Kata ・Kisha ・off-balance on horseback ・Busha ・Shamen no Kamae

Q2) Arrange the words given below in the right order to explain the process of shooting one arrow by "Shomen Uchiokoshi".

【3 points each /18 points】

・Kai ・Uchiokoshi ・Kamae ・Hanare ・Daisan ・Tsugae

Tsugae → Kamae → Uchiokoshi → Daisan → Kai → Hanare

7. Name of Equipment and Accessories

Q1) Write down the names of equipment (1) to (4) shown in the illustration below.

【2 points each /8 points】



1) Munagai (martingale)

2) Omogai (bridle)

3) Shirigai (crupper)

4) Abumi/ Waabumi/ Shitanagaabumi (stirrups)

Q2) "Sangai" is a general term for the 3 (three) pieces of tack (1) to (3) in the above illustration. What is the purpose of Sangai? 【4 points each /4 points】

To attach and secure the Wagura (saddle) and other tack to the horse.

8. Riding Posture for Japanese Equestrian Archery described in "KASAGAKEKI"

Q1) Fill in the blanks with the most suitable word/words to complete the sentences below which explain how to do "Tachisukashi".

【2 points each /8 points】

1. Lift your hips and push your butt back over (① Shizuwa/ the cantle) to make your hips hover ever so

slightly above the saddle.

2. Press your feet down on the stirrups and place them (②__around the shoulder of the horse/ shoudounoshishi_).
3. Make your belly face downward and stabilize the riding posture.
4. Make sure that your sward handle is placed at the right position; the sward handle should slightly touch to (③_Maewa/ the saddle tree front_).
5. (④_Straighten___) your upper body.

Q2) Explain the reason why the horse riders of Yabusame must do “Tachisukashi”.

【4 points each　　/4 points】

With this riding posture, a rider can control the movement of his/her body in any direction. At the same time, he/she can stabilize his/her balance and can keep a constant position regardless of upward and downward motion of the horse.