



2025 New England Youth Contest

NEMHS | Youth of the Year | July 20th, 2025
54 Fair Street Northampton, MA: Indoor Arena

YOUTH CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Sunday, July 20th, 2025

Registration 8:00 AM

Exam: 8:30 AM

Speeches: 10:00 AM

Patterns: 12:00 PM

Judging: 2:00PM (Reasons to follow)



Each of the four categories is worth 250 points. It is not necessary to compete in all four divisions. The high point winner in each division will culminate into the Walk-Trot Youth of the Year (12 & under not cantering in competition), a junior youth of the year (13 & Under) and a Senior Youth of the Year (14-21). Categories: winner trophy and ribbons through eight places in each division. Divisional High Point awards: Champion and Reserve trophies with ribbons through eight places, The Senior winner receives a \$1,000.00 scholarship to compete in the AMHA Youth of the Year Finals. A senior youth may only win one qualifying contest in a calendar year but may compete for category awards.

Name: _____

Address: _____

EMAIL: _____

Phone: _____

Division: ___w/t ___Jr. ___Sr.

Will you be doing all 4 parts: _____ if no, state in which parts you are competing:

Entry fee \$35- Please mail or email entry forms to:

Nicole Bobbi

41 Hidden Lake Rd. Higganum, CT. 06441

Nicole.bobbii@gmail.com // (203)600-8669

More information will be sent upon receipt of entry. Information will also be posted on nemha.com under the youth tab. Please contact Nicole with any questions!

Schedule:

Sunday July 20th, 2025

Registration 8:00 AM

Exam: 8:30 AM

Speeches: 10:00 AM

Patterns: 12:00 PM

Judging: 2:00 (Reasons to follow)

NOTES:

- ❖ We will meet in the indoor arena at 8 AM for registration. The entire contest will take place in the indoor arena.
- ❖ You will be provided with a contestant number which will become your “name” for the competition. Please use only your number.
- ❖ Please bring a clipboard, notepaper, and a writing utensil

AWARDS PRESENTATION:

- ❖ We are excited to announce that this year’s awards presentation will be held on Sunday July 20th, 2025, at the New England Morgan Horse Show Youth Contest BBQ! It will be located at Latitude’s next to the ring. (Time TBD)
- ❖ The Presentation of the winners will be before the Monday night session in the main arena (7:00pm).

Judging:

1. You will be judging three classes worth a total of 50 points each.
2. You will give oral reasons worth 100 points.
3. Your total score is up to 250 points.
4. The classes will consist of four entries, numbered 1-4 and you will judge from center ring.
5. The reasons class will have an extra two minutes to enable participants to take notes.
6. The reasons class will be announced.
7. You will have 20 minutes after the last class to prepare you oral reasons.
8. Walk Trotters may be asked questions or present oral reasons.
9. See the judging card example provided.
10. Seniors should include cuts in their reasons presentation. See description to the right. Seniors should give their reasons from memory.

DESCRIPTION OF CUTS

1 point - Horses are extremely similar; no obvious reason why one should be placed over the other; or, both horses have numerous faults and none supersedes the others; placing is strictly a matter of personal preference; placing varies among official judges.


2 points - Horses are very close, but one horse has one or two qualitative or quantitative advantages; the majority of official judges would not switch the pair, but half of the contestants could logically switch the pair.

3 points - Horses are of unequal quality, but there is a logical placing in favor of one horse; either one horse has several faults or several advantages; all official judges would agree on the placing; no more than one third of contestants would be expected to switch the pair.

4 points - Horses are not of similar quality; one horse has several decided advantages based on many points; all experts would quickly see the placing; no guesswork or personal preference required to make placing; no more than 10 percent of contestants would be expected to switch the pair.

5 points - Large number of extreme differences between the horses; placing is obvious to everyone on first, quick observation; careful study not required for the placing; pair consists of an inferior horse vs. a consistent winner; only very inexperienced, uninformed contestants would switch the pair.

6 points - Horse not even comparable; differences reflective of a champion quality horse or performance vs. a horse or

	Circle your placing.	
	A	1234
	B	1243
	C	1324
	D	1342
	E	1423
	F	1432
	G	2134
	H	2143
	I	2314
	J	2341
	K	2413
	L	2431
	M	3124
	N	3142
	O	3214
	P	3241
	Q	3412
	R	3421
	S	4123
T	4132	
U	4213	
V	4231	
W	4312	
X	4321	

Example REASONS

"I placed this class of Morgan mares 3-1-2-4.

"In the case of my top pair, 3 and 1, I placed 3 over 1 because she is a more balanced, shorter-coupled mare.

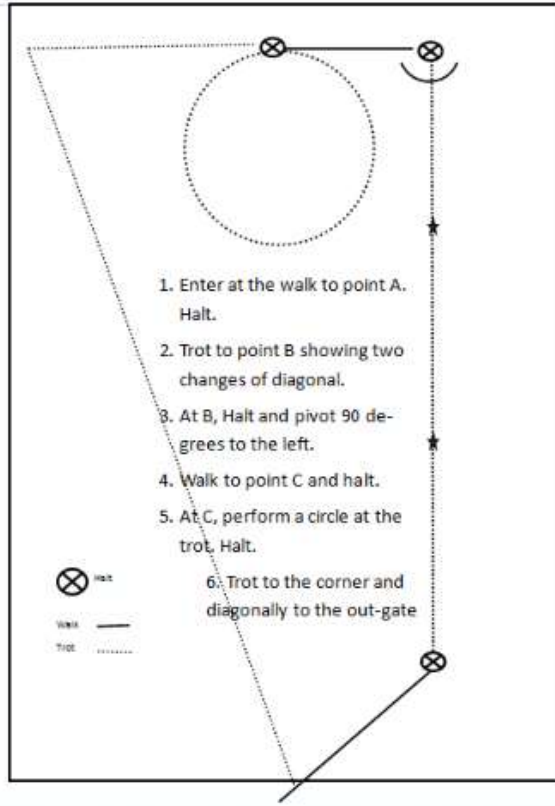
"She is more attractive about her front, has more well-defined withers, and is more stylish about the croup. She is cleaner in her knees and hocks, and moves with a freer, truer stride. However, I will grant that 1 is a more athletic mare. I fault 1 because she lacks the style and quality of the top mare, is longer in her back, and shorter in her pasterns.

"Referring to my middle pair, 1 and 2, I placed 1 over 2 because she is longer necked and has more substance. She is deeper in her heart and shows more definition of muscle through her chest. She stands more correct on her front legs as viewed from the side. She has stronger and more sloping pasterns and is a more balanced mover. I do admit that 2 does have more spring of rib. I fault 2 because she is slightly sickle hocked and lacks the correct motion of the mare I placed above her.

"Regarding my last pair, 2 and 4, I placed 2 over 4 because she has a more ideal head with a smaller, foxier ear. She shows more definition at her withers, is shorter and stronger in her back, and is more nearly level in her croup. She stands on harder, flatter bone and shows more definition of joints. She has shorter cannon bones as well. I admit that 4 goes closer at her hocks and stands on heavier bone, but I fault her because she is mutton-withered, has a coarse underline, and is low in her back. "For these reasons, I placed this class of Morgan mares 3-1-2-4.

Reasons Score Chart	Possible Points	Your Points
Organization. Reasons should be well organized and systematic including a comparison of horses in three pairs; the top pair, the middle pair and the bottom pair. Reasons should not consist of a simple description of each animal. The focus should be on why one animal in a pair was placed over the other animal in that pair.	20	
Relevancy. Reasons should reflect the actual differences in the horse pairs and should consist primarily of those points of comparison that were significant in the placing of the pair.	20	
Accuracy. Truth is the primary consideration in scoring reasons. Redundancy in terminology describing similar points of discussion between separate pairs of horses should be avoided.	20	
Terminology. Emphasis should be placed on use of terms commonly used to discuss horses. Emphasis should be placed on comparative rather than descriptive terminology.	20	
Presentation. Oral reasons should be presented in a poised, confident, convincing manner, but they should never convey arrogance. Loud, boisterous, arrogant delivery is not desirable and should be penalized. Likewise, shy, timid, unconvincing presentations should not receive the highest scores. Reasons should be presented in a relaxed, conversational manner. The presentation should not contain lengthy pauses and must be delivered within 2 minutes. Reasons should be grammatically correct with proper pronunciation and enunciation of words and syllables.	20	

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL MORGAN HORSE SHOW
 YOUTH OF THE YEAR CONTEST
WALK TROT HORSEMASTERSHIP PATTERN

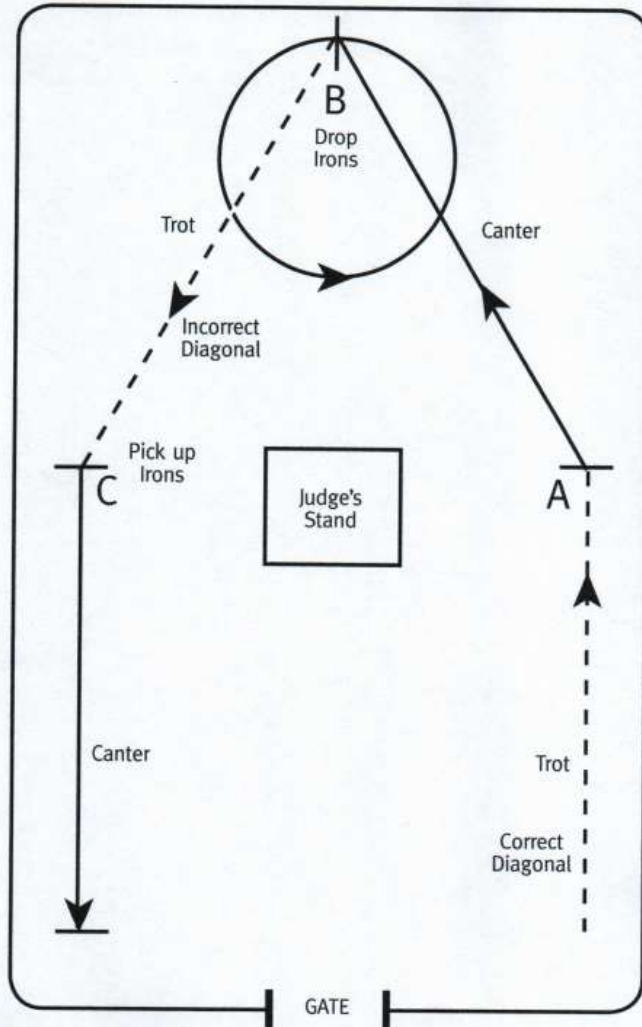


Contestant #: _____

1. _____ (25 pts)
2. _____ (50 pts)
3. _____ (30 pts)
4. _____ (20 pts)
5. _____ (50 pts)

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL MORGAN HORSE SHOW

JUNIOR HORSEMASTERSHIP PATTERN



Trot to the midpoint of the rail to your right on the correct diagonal (A). Halt.

Turn to the left, facing the middle of the end of the arena.

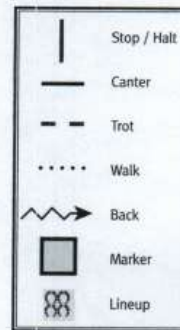
Canter on your incorrect lead to B. Halt.

Canter a circle to the left on the correct lead.

Turn to the left, facing the midpoint of the opposite side of the arena (C). Drop your irons. Trot a straight line on your incorrect diagonal to that point. Halt.

Pick up your irons. Canter on the correct lead to the end of the straight-away. Halt.

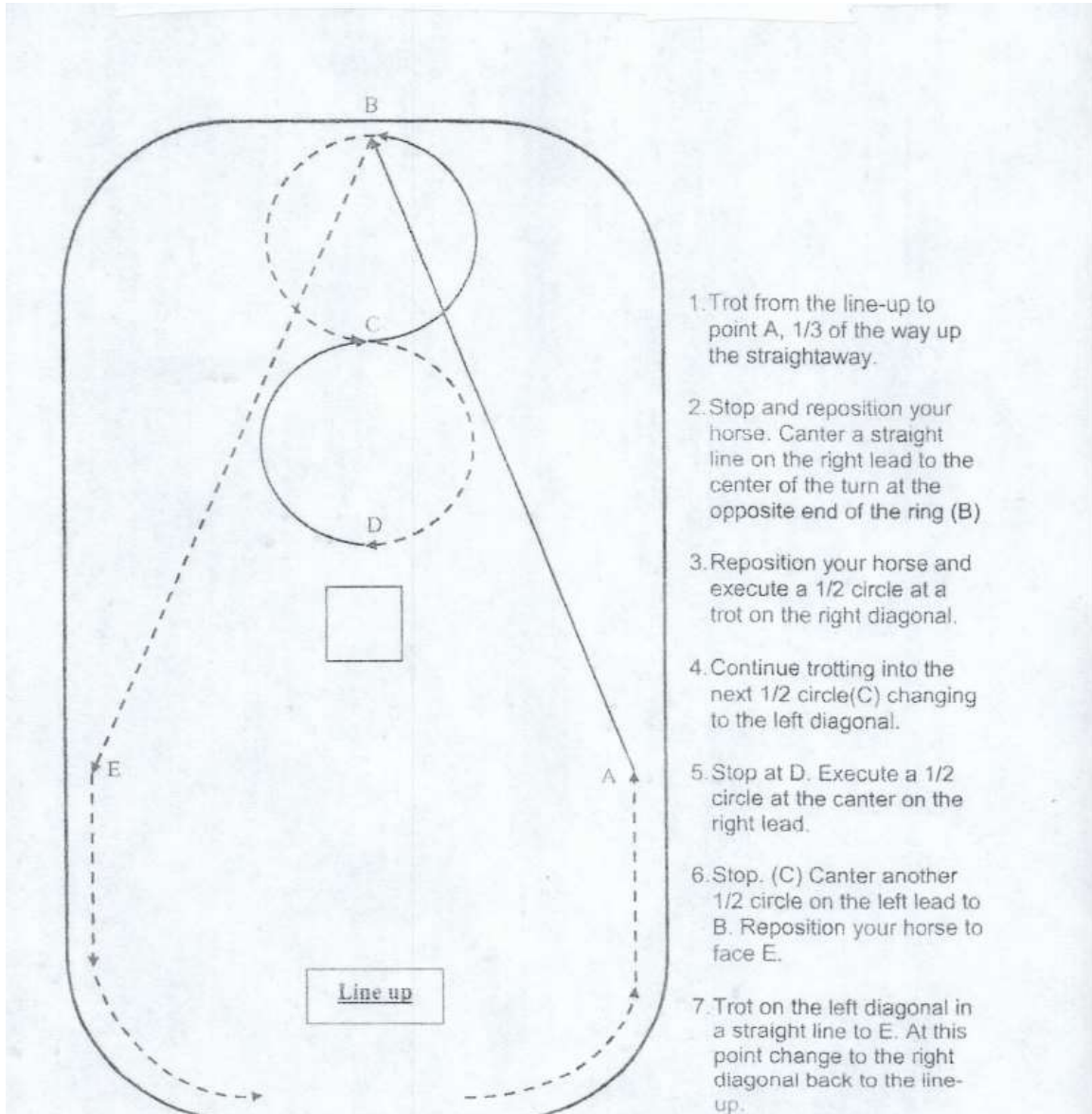
Exit at the trot.



If used at a Regional or National Show, pattern may not be run from the lineup.

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL MORGAN HORSE SHOW

SENIOR HORSEMASTERSHIP PATTERN



1. Trot from the line-up to point A, 1/3 of the way up the straightaway.
2. Stop and reposition your horse. Canter a straight line on the right lead to the center of the turn at the opposite end of the ring (B)
3. Reposition your horse and execute a 1/2 circle at a trot on the right diagonal.
4. Continue trotting into the next 1/2 circle (C) changing to the left diagonal.
5. Stop at D. Execute a 1/2 circle at the canter on the right lead.
6. Stop. (C) Canter another 1/2 circle on the left lead to B. Reposition your horse to face E.
7. Trot on the left diagonal in a straight line to E. At this point change to the right diagonal back to the line-up.

Speech Topics: 2025

SENIOR DIVISION

Morgans are a special horse and likewise growing up in the Morgan community is a special experience. Tell us who you are today because of Morgan's. How do you plan to "play it forward" and ensure generations following you are able to change their lives because of Morgans?

JUNIOR DIVISION

As a valued youth member of the American Morgan Horse Association, you have been asked by the AMHA Youth headquarters to come up with a "kit" or beginner's guide to the Morgan Horse. Explain (and or show) what the kit would include and why you have chosen these items. The items should be able to fit in a box, not much bigger than an adult shoe/boot box. Remember, the box has to be shipped to new members, therefore the box can't be too big or heavy.

WALK-TROT DIVISION

What would you like to try doing with your Morgan that you have never tried before? Why?

Notes:

- ❖ These are very open-ended topics, be as creative as you like!
- ❖ Speeches should be written or typed and submitted to the judges prior to beginning.
- ❖ A speech should be given without reading a script, but it is not prohibited. Notes may be used, but those prepared to speak without written aids may be given more consideration.
- ❖ See the sample scoresheet provided.
- ❖ Speeches should be 3-5 minutes in length. Do not go over 5 minutes.
- ❖ Visual Aids are encouraged.



American Morgan Horse Association Youth Youth of the Year Contest Score Sheet

SPEECH JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET

TOPIC _____ CONTESTANT # _____

1. GENERAL APPEARANCE - (50 POINTS)

COMMENTS

A. Voice?

B. Poise?

C. Posture?

D. Manner of Speech?

Points _____

2. PRESENTATION OF SUBJECT - (75 POINTS)

COMMENTS

A. Organization of Material?

B. Proper Grammar?

C. Vocabulary?

Points _____

3. SUBJECT MATTER - (100 POINTS)

COMMENTS

A. Background Information

B. Originality of Ideas?

C. Constructive Thoughts?

Points _____

Judge's Signature _____

Total Speech Points _____

4. INTERVIEW - (25 POINTS)

COMMENTS

Points _____

Interviewer's Signature _____

TOTAL POINTS (250) _____

SPEECH GUIDELINES FOR YOUTH OF THE YEAR CONTESTANTS

- Time penalties will be given if your presentation is over five minutes:
 - 1 through 30 seconds over time limit = 5 point penalty
 - 31 through 60 seconds over time limit = additional 5 point penalty
 - After six minutes you will be cut off.
- Give only your NUMBER to the judges, not your name.
- Before beginning give a written or typed copy of your speech to the judges.

EXAM:

THE WRITTEN EXAM PHASE

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Nutrition | 6. Showing & Show Procedures |
| 2. Breeding & Genetics | 7. Diseases & Unsoundness |
| 3. Physiology & Endocrinology | 8. Tack & Equipment |
| 4. Anatomy & Conformation | 9. Morgan History & the Morgan Breed |
| 5. History & Evolution | 10. Parasites |

Seniors can be expected to have knowledge equivalent to the expectations published in the **Sherman** level of the AMHAY Horse mastership Program, however, **challenges above** this benchmark will be included.

Juniors will be competent in the knowledge required by the **Bulrush and Woodbury** levels of the AMHAY Horse mastership Program.

Walk Trotters will be tested on the **Bulrush** level of the AMHAY Horse mastership program.

Resource List:

- A. The Complete Morgan Horse by Jeanne Mellin
- B. The Morgan Horse Judging Standards
- C. The AMHA Registration Rules
- D. AMHA Youth Horse mastership Program
- E. USEF Rule Book
- F. The Horse by J. Warren Evans, Anthony Borton, Harold Hintz, and L. Dale Van Vleck
- G. The Illustrated Veterinary Encyclopedia for Horsemen by Equine Research, Editor Don M. Wagoner
- H. The Morgan Horse magazine
- I. AMHA Website (www.morganhorse.com)

How about some practice? Can you answer any of the questions below? After you have tried to answer all the questions go back and find the answers from the references listed above, this is the best way to learn!

1. The height of the horse is measured in hands. A hand is equal to _____ inches.
2. The mother of a horse: _____
3. An untrained or inexperienced horse: _____
4. A male horse that has been castrated and cannot breed: _____
5. A singing master and schoolteacher in Vermont: _____
6. The form sent to AMHA when a horse is sold is called a: _____
7. A name that is registered with the AMHA and can be used in front of the horse's name:

8. Name people refer to a “jaquima” noseband as: _____
9. An injury or imperfection that does not interfere with the serviceability of the horse is a _____.
10. Foaled in 1833, this horse was noted for its beauty and speed at the trot. He was the most popular horse of his time and sired over 1,200 foals. His name was:

11. This famous Morgan was named, “Champion of the World” in 1867 when he beat the reigning champion trotter, Dexter, in front of 40,000 people. His name was

12. Mating of animals more closely related than the average of the population from which they came is _____.
13. A _____ is a horse with a mixture of white hairs throughout its coat.
14. The first milk produced by the mare. _____
15. Test used to diagnose Equine Infectious Anemia. _____
16. A speedy, but collected, gallop is called a _____.
17. A series of right & left circles in a riding pattern: _____.
18. _____ published the first volume of the Morgan Horse Register.
19. Morgans range from _____ hands, with some individuals over or under.
20. In Classic Pleasure, the length of the toe must not exceed _____.
21. The number of handlers allowed in an in-hand class is _____.
22. The test required before any foal may be registered is _____.
23. A horse’s complete name, including letters, punctuation, and blanks, shall not exceed _____ characters.
24. The word that describes the ideal or standard of perfection for the breed:

25. The horny growth behind the fetlock is called the: _____.
26. The tool used to restrain a horse by applying pressure to this lip is called a _____.
27. A horse that is caught in his stall between his withers and the stall wall is said to be _____.
28. A horse with good conformation should have withers the same height as the _____.
29. Name the English bridle with two bits: _____
30. How wide must a curb chain be to be legal: _____
31. This is used in many species to provide a rough guide of the nutritional adequacy of a diet and the level of food intake of an animal. _____
32. This nutrient is a carrier of substances that nourish, taking nutrients to the cells, and also transports waste from the cells to the organs of excretion. _____
33. This nutrient is the oils and related compounds in the grain and roughage and naturally make up about 2—4% of the ration. _____
34. This nutrient is described as the building blocks of tissue and are composed of units called

- amino acids. _____
35. Which determines the sex of a foal, sire, or dam? _____
36. Number of chromosome pairs in the horse _____
37. A horse with a mixture of white and dark hairs of any color is known as:

38. What is another name for the knee bones? _____
39. Number of pairs of ribs in the average horse _____
40. Two bones that compose the gaskin _____
41. Founded in 1909, the Morgan Horse Club (as it was then called) was formed to support the Morgan breed. It evolved with the breed, and in 1971 underwent reorganization and was renamed: _____
42. This Morgan was ridden by Confederate General Stonewall Jackson in his Civil War campaigns. _____
43. This Morgan was the mount of General Joshua Chamberlain when he won the fight of Little Round Top during the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863. _____
44. The percentage of today's Saddlebreds carry Morgan blood _____
45. Year of the first annual Grand National Morgan Horse Show was held in Detroit, Michigan.

46. This is a common unsoundness resulting from wear, injury, or abuse. On each side of the heel extending above the hoof are elastic cartilages just under the skin that serve as part of the shock-absorbing mechanism. They are commonly termed lateral cartilage. When they ossify (turn to bone) they are called this: _____
47. Not very common but are serious unsoundness. These bony deposits usually appear just above the coronary band (hoof head) on a hind foot, although front feet also may be affected. The long and short pastern bones may fuse together, causing severe pain and lameness. _____
48. This is an inflammation of navicular bone and bursa. The condition causes lingering lameness and should be diagnosed and treated by a veterinarian. _____
49. During the Miocene epoch, what 2 sets of bones fused to enable the horse to run faster?

50. Name the evolutionary stage of the horse that produced the first one-toed horse.

51. The very first horses evolved on the North American continent over _____ million years ago.
52. Another name for Eohippus _____
53. True or False-in carriage driving a driver must carry a whip in hand _____
54. When driving two unmatched horses as a team, which side is the smaller horse placed _____
55. Marker at which a dressage horse and rider enter the ring _____
56. Name the jump which first has a wall and then a pond with water. _____

57. On which side of the neck should the bright of the reins be placed for saddle seat equitation?

58. Another name for lockjaw, characterized by muscle rigidity _____

59. Disease caused by Streptococcus equi infection _____

60. Test used to diagnose EIA _____

61. Name for inflammation of the bone _____

62. The most common and most destructive of all internal parasites in the equine _____

63. These parasites are common in young horses and are usually not found in horses more than five years old. Immunity normally develops following exposure to these large roundworms during adolescence. _____

64. Larvae of all three types enter the mouth and embed themselves in the mucous lining of the gums. After about a month, they migrate to the stomach and become attached, leaving the stomach lining inflamed and ulcerated. After 8 to 10 months of development, the larvae pass out in the manure. Once outside, it hatches into an adult fly, and the cycle begins again.

65. What are the two principal methods of self-protection

66. utilized by horses? _____

67. What is the primary consideration of any horse facility? _____

68. What are the four natural aids? _____

69. Name for a bit with a very shallow port _____

70. This martingale does not affect the head position of a horse. _____

71. Who introduced the ladies' sidesaddle into the horse world? _____

72. Part of harness to which the overcheck is attached. _____

73. Type of kimberwicke bit with slots for rein placement. _____

74. This is the proper name for the lash on a whip. _____

75. True or False: Only informal attire is allowed in Classic seat equitation classes.

76. True or False: Whips are prohibited in the AMHA Dressage seat medal class.

77. Horses should have annual immunizations for: _____

a. Ringworm b. Tetanus c. EIA d. Colic

78. When a horse lays his ears flat back against his neck, he is: _____

a. Lazy b. Sleepy c. Angry d. Interested in something behind him

79. Morgans may be shown with boots in this class: _____

a. Hunter over Fences b. Parade c. Stock Horse d. English Pleasure

80. Which of the following are examples of grain: _____

a. Corn & Timothy b. Corn & Oats c. Oats & Timothy d. Alfalfa & Timothy

81. Which of the following are examples of natural aids: _____

a. Seat & Crop b. Spurs & Crop c. Seat & Legs d. Spurs & Legs

82. Which is a mild bit that acts on the horse's bars and lips? A direct pull on the reins exerts

direct pull on the horse's mouth. _____

a. Western curb b. Hackamore c. English Curb d. Snaffle

83. A horse that has gone off his feed is restless, and kicks his belly probably has: _____

a. Thrush b. Colic c. Strangles d. Navicular

84. Most Morgan classes call for Morgans to be judged _____

a. 50% Type, 50% Conformation b. 60% Performance, 40% Type

c. 40% Performance, 60% Type d. 30% Type, 70% Conformation

85. General Sheridan's famous horse was: _____

a. Comanche b. Copper Bottom c. Rienzi d. Black Hawk

86. The running martingale is attached from the girth to the: _____

a. Noseband b. Reins c. Billets d. Throatlatch

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