

APPEAL FORM

Questions for this promotional examination were taken solely from the source material listed in the Source Material List. Information contained in any other material will not be considered in determining the correct answer to any question.

Houston Fire Department

HFD Investigator 1/7/2015

You may only appeal ONE question per form.

For Question # 81 I would like the Test Review Committee to take the following action (please check one or explain in the space provided):

- Make A the only correct answer.
- Make B the only correct answer.
- Make C the only correct answer.
- Consider the following as correct answers (circle the answers you feel are correct):
 A B C
- Give all applicants credit
- Remove the question from the exam.
- Other (please explain below):

Explanation: Please provide a detailed explanation of your appeal / rebuttal. **DO NOT WRITE THE TEST QUESTION ON THIS FORM.** Print/ Write legibly.

Construction book page 146 5th bullet - Fire Resistance CAN be considered a life safety feature

Perfect example of a life safety feature is a horizontal egress listed on page 103 of the building construction book. It is a fire rated / fire resistance wall for when egress distances are too excessive. Its purpose is to ensure life safety

Both B and C are right answers, per the book on page 146

1693470
Random Test Number

1/16/15
DATE

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Approved Denied

Committee Chairman Signature: _____

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Houston Fire Department

HFD Investigator 1/7/2015

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For Question # 91 I would like the Test Review Committee to take the following action (please check one or explain in the space provided):

Make A the only correct answer. Other (please explain below):

~~Make B the only correct answer.~~

Make C the only correct answer.

Consider the following as correct answers (circle the answers you feel are correct):

A

B

C

Give all applicants credit

Remove the question from the exam.

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Building Construction pg. 146

Answer C. should be also considered right

the book states that fire resistance, by itself is not specifically directed at ensuring life safety.

But it also goes on to say that fire resistance can be considered a life safety feature.

22053620

Random Test Number

1/23/15

DATE

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Approved

Denied

Committee Chairman Signature _____

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 Make B the only correct answer.
 Make C the only correct answer.
 Consider the following as correct answers
(circle the answers you feel are correct):
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ALTHOUGH THE TEXT STATES THAT, "FIRE RESISTANCE, BY ITSELF, IS NOT SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED AT ENSURING LIFE SAFETY", THE TEXT GOES ON TO STATE, ~~THIS~~, "NEVERTHELESS, TO THE EXTENT A BUILDING AND INDIVIDUAL FIRE-RATED COMPONENTS CONTINUE TO STAND UNDER FIRE ATTACK AND ALLOW OCCUPANTS TO EVACUATE AND FIREFIGHTERS TO BRING THE FIRE UNDER CONTROL, FIRE RESISTANCE CAN BE CONSIDERED A LIFE SAFETY FEATURE."

707 1820

Random Test Number

1/27/2015
DATE

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Approved Denied

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- Make C the only correct answer.
- Other (please explain below):

Consider the following as correct answers (circle the answers you feel are correct):

A

B

C

- Give all applicants credit
- Remove the question from the exam.

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The source material states:

"... fire resistance can be considered a life safety feature."

6551624
Random Test Number

1/14/15
DATE

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Approved Denied

Committee Chairman Signature _____



Figure 6-2 The Equitable Building fire in 1912.

Courtesy of Irving Underhill, Library of Congress.

Materials and assemblies may be classified based on their fire resistance, or, more accurately, based on their fire endurance—standards for these capabilities are prepared by different organizations. Committees from each organization periodically review and update the standards. The three following standards, while prepared by separate organizations, are very similar in content and structure:

- NFPA 251, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials* (National Fire Protection Association). This final edition of standard was issued in 2006; the NFPA has decided not to update the standard because, from a technical standpoint, it has fallen behind UL 263 and ASTM E-84, and there is desire to eliminate duplication of standards.
- UL 263, *Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials* (Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.).

- ASTM E-119, *Methods of Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials* (American Society for Testing and Materials).

What Does Fire Resistance Mean?

It is important to understand what sort of protection fire resistance is supposed to provide:

- Fire resistance of columns is concerned with resisting collapse.
- Fire resistance of floors is concerned with resistance of passage of fire and collapse.
- Fire resistance of walls is concerned with passage of fire and collapse.
- Fire resistance of fire doors is concerned with passage of fire.

It is equally important to understand what sort of protection fire resistance is *not* supposed to provide:

- Fire resistance, by itself, is *not* specifically directed at ensuring life safety. Many lives have been lost in fire-resistive buildings. Nevertheless, to the extent a building and individual fire-rated components continue to stand under fire attack and allow occupants to evacuate and fire fighters to bring the fire under control, fire resistance can be considered a life safety feature.
- Fire resistance is *not* specifically intended to provide smoke control. For example, metal-clad wood fire doors generate carbon monoxide (CO) as they burn. Furthermore, while some earlier fire resistance systems provided smoke containment, it is not part of the three previously mentioned fire resistance standards.
- Fire resistance is *not* concerned with the dollar loss due to fire. There have been huge financial losses in fire-resistive buildings.

Fire Resistance Testing

Essentially, the provisions of the test standards—NFPA 251, UL 263, and ASTM E-119—require a reproducible test fire, a consistent method for conducting tests and classifying results, and specific instruction on the selection and preparation of test

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1800
2000
2200
2400
2600
2800
3000