



Ontario Security Guard Licence

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Practice Questions

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1. What is the primary role of a security guard in Ontario?

- A. To enforce the Criminal Code like a police officer
- B. To observe, deter, report and respond in order to protect people and property
- C. To investigate crimes and lay charges
- D. To issue fines for provincial offences

2. Which Ontario law governs the licensing of security guards?

- A. The Trespass to Property Act
- B. The Private Security and Investigative Services Act, 2005 (PSISA)
- C. The Occupational Health and Safety Act
- D. The Police Services Act

3. Which law gives a private citizen (including a security guard) the power to make an arrest?

- A. The Trespass to Property Act only
- B. Section 494 of the Criminal Code of Canada
- C. The PSISA Code of Conduct
- D. The Highway Traffic Act

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4. Criminal offences in Canada are generally divided into which categories?

- A. Felonies and misdemeanours
- B. Summary conviction, indictable, and hybrid offences
- C. Major and minor tickets
- D. Federal and municipal only



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5. Any force used by a security guard must be:

- A. As much as the guard feels like using
- B. Reasonable and necessary in the circumstances
- C. Always the maximum possible
- D. Used only after the incident is over

6. How should entries in a guard's notebook be made?

- A. In pencil so they can be changed later
- B. Accurately, legibly, in ink, in chronological order, and as soon as practical
- C. From memory days later
- D. Only as personal opinions

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7. A well-written security report should be:

- A. Long and full of opinions
- B. Clear, concise, complete, accurate and objective
- C. Written in slang
- D. Vague to avoid blame

8. What are the two basic types of patrol?

- A. Fast and slow
- B. Fixed (static) post and mobile/foot patrol
- C. Day and night only
- D. Armed and unarmed

9. What is the first priority in almost any emergency?

- A. Protecting property above all
- B. Personal safety and assessing the scene before acting
- C. Finishing paperwork
- D. Finding someone to blame

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10. What is the very first thing to do when approaching a medical emergency scene?

- A. Start chest compressions immediately
- B. Check that the scene is safe for you and others
- C. Move the patient
- D. Take a photo

11. Which Ontario law sets out workplace health and safety duties?

- A. The Trespass to Property Act
- B. The Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA)
- C. The Criminal Code
- D. The PSISA

12. Active listening means:

- A. Interrupting often to give advice
- B. Paying full attention, not interrupting, and confirming you understand
- C. Pretending to listen while on your phone
- D. Talking more than the other person

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13. In terms of terrorism, a security guard's main role is to:

- A. Conduct counter-terrorism raids
- B. Observe, recognize and report suspicious activity to the proper authorities
- C. Interrogate suspects
- D. Ignore it as a police-only matter

14. Acting with honesty and integrity is required of a guard by:

- A. No rules at all
- B. The PSISA Code of Conduct
- C. Only the guard's personal choice
- D. The Highway Traffic Act

15. Which of the following fuels are associated with a Class B fire?

- A. Wood, paper, cloth
- B. Gasoline, oil, grease
- C. Metal, paper, cloth
- D. Wood, paper, electrical equipment



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16. A security guard is often described as the 'eyes and ears' of their client. What does this mean?

- A. The guard makes all legal decisions for the client
- B. The guard mainly observes, monitors and reports conditions and incidents
- C. The guard must physically stop every offender
- D. The guard replaces the need for police

17. Which ministry is responsible for administering security guard licensing in Ontario?

- A. The Ministry of Labour
- B. The Ministry of the Solicitor General
- C. The Ministry of Transportation
- D. The federal Department of Justice

18. Under section 494 of the Criminal Code, any person may arrest without warrant someone they find:

- A. Standing near a building late at night
- B. Committing an indictable offence
- C. Whom they merely dislike
- D. Who refuses to give their name

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19. What is the difference between criminal law and provincial law in Canada?

- A. They are identical
- B. Criminal law is federal (e.g., the Criminal Code), while provincial law covers matters like trespass and liquor within a province
- C. Provincial law is more serious than criminal law
- D. Only provincial law applies to guards

20. Section 25 of the Criminal Code generally protects a person who:

- A. Uses any amount of force they want
- B. Is authorized or required by law to do something and uses only as much force as necessary
- C. Refuses to act in an emergency
- D. Is off duty at home



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21. If you make a mistake in your notebook, you should:

- A. Erase it completely
- B. Draw a single line through it and initial the correction
- C. Use white-out
- D. Tear out the page

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22. A security report should focus on:

- A. The guard's personal opinions
- B. Facts—what was seen, heard and done
- C. Rumours and assumptions
- D. Jokes to keep it interesting

23. Patrol routes and timing should be:

- A. Exactly the same every time
- B. Varied and unpredictable
- C. Announced to everyone in advance
- D. Skipped when quiet

24. The fire-response acronym RACE stands for:

- A. Run, Alarm, Close, Exit
- B. Rescue, Alarm, Confine, Extinguish/Evacuate
- C. React, Assess, Call, End
- D. Rush, Alert, Cover, Escape

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25. In a primary survey, the 'ABCs' a first aider checks are:

- A. Arms, Back, Chest
- B. Airway, Breathing, Circulation
- C. Alert, Bandage, Call
- D. Assess, Begin, Continue



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26. Under the OHSA, workers have three basic rights. They are the right to:

- A. Quit, complain, and sue
- B. Know about hazards, participate in health and safety, and refuse unsafe work
- C. Free coffee, breaks, and parking
- D. Set their own wages

27. Non-verbal communication includes:

- A. Only the words spoken
- B. Body language, posture, facial expressions and tone of voice
- C. Written reports only
- D. Radio codes only

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28. Which of the following could be a sign of suspicious activity worth reporting?

- A. A customer asking for directions
- B. Someone repeatedly photographing security cameras and entry points with no clear reason
- C. A delivery driver dropping off a parcel at the dock
- D. An employee using their access card

29. A guard is offered cash by a visitor to 'look the other way.' The guard should:

- A. Accept it quietly
- B. Refuse the bribe and report the offer
- C. Negotiate a higher amount
- D. Accept it but only once

30. Which of the following equipment would a security guard who is on vehicle patrol most likely use to communicate with a dispatcher?

- A. Facsimile Machine
- B. Alarm System
- C. Two-way radio
- D. Cell phone



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Answer Key & Explanations

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1. B — To observe, deter, report and respond in order to protect people and property

A guard's core function is to deter, observe, report and respond. Guards are not police and do not have special enforcement powers.

2. B — The Private Security and Investigative Services Act, 2005 (PSISA)

The PSISA is the provincial statute that regulates and licenses security guards and private investigators in Ontario.

3. B — Section 494 of the Criminal Code of Canada

Section 494 of the Criminal Code sets out the citizen's arrest powers that guards rely on; they have no greater arrest power than any citizen.

4. B — Summary conviction, indictable, and hybrid offences

Canadian criminal offences are classified as summary conviction (less serious), indictable (more serious), or hybrid.

5. B — Reasonable and necessary in the circumstances

The law permits only force that is reasonable and necessary; excessive force is unlawful.

6. B — Accurately, legibly, in ink, in chronological order, and as soon as practical

Reliable notes are written in ink, kept in order, and made as soon as possible after events, so they can support evidence later.

7. B — Clear, concise, complete, accurate and objective

Reports must communicate the facts clearly and completely without bias or unnecessary wording.

8. B — Fixed (static) post and mobile/foot patrol

Guards either hold a fixed post or conduct mobile/foot patrols of an area.

9. B — Personal safety and assessing the scene before acting

Guards must ensure their own and others' safety and size up the scene before taking action.

10. B — Check that the scene is safe for you and others

Scene safety comes first; you cannot help if you become a casualty too.

11. B — The Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA)

The OHSA governs health and safety rights and duties in Ontario workplaces, including for guards.

12. B — Paying full attention, not interrupting, and confirming you understand

Active listening builds rapport and reduces conflict by showing genuine attention and understanding.

13. B — Observe, recognize and report suspicious activity to the proper authorities

Guards are a first line of awareness—watching for and reporting suspicious activity, not conducting operations.



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14. B — The PSISA Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct under the PSISA requires guards to act honestly, with integrity, and without abusing their authority.

15. B — Gasoline, oil, grease

16. B — The guard mainly observes, monitors and reports conditions and incidents

Observing and accurately reporting what happens is one of a guard's most important duties.

17. B — The Ministry of the Solicitor General

Licensing under the PSISA is administered by the Ministry of the Solicitor General (formerly the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services).

18. B — Committing an indictable offence

A citizen may arrest a person found committing an indictable offence. Mere suspicion or unpopular behaviour is not enough.

19. B — Criminal law is federal (e.g., the Criminal Code), while provincial law covers matters like trespass and liquor within a province

The Criminal Code is federal; provinces enact laws such as the Trespass to Property Act and Liquor Licence Act within provincial jurisdiction.

20. B — Is authorized or required by law to do something and uses only as much force as necessary

Section 25 protects those acting on lawful authority, but only when they use no more force than necessary and act on reasonable grounds.

21. B — Draw a single line through it and initial the correction

A single line and initials keep the original visible and preserve the integrity of the notes; erasing looks like tampering.

22. B — Facts—what was seen, heard and done

Reports record facts. Opinions and guesses undermine credibility and usefulness.

23. B — Varied and unpredictable

Varying patrols prevents would-be offenders from predicting and exploiting a guard's pattern.

24. B — Rescue, Alarm, Confine, Extinguish/Evacuate

RACE—Rescue anyone in danger, Alarm, Confine the fire (close doors), and Extinguish if small or Evacuate.

25. B — Airway, Breathing, Circulation

Airway, Breathing and Circulation are the life-threatening priorities assessed first.

26. B — Know about hazards, participate in health and safety, and refuse unsafe work

The right to know, the right to participate, and the right to refuse unsafe work are the three fundamental worker rights.

27. B — Body language, posture, facial expressions and tone of voice

Much of communication is non-verbal; guards should be aware of their own body language and others'.

28. B — Someone repeatedly photographing security cameras and entry points with no clear reason

Unusual surveillance of security measures (cameras, exits) can indicate hostile reconnaissance and should



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be reported.

29. B — Refuse the bribe and report the offer

Accepting bribes or gratuities to ignore duties is misconduct; the offer should be refused and reported.

30. C — Two-way radio



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