



NATIONAL NAIL TECHNOLOGY
WRITTEN PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

CANDIDATE INFORMATION BULLETIN (CIB)

Please visit your examination provider's website OR www.nictesting.org for the most current bulletin prior to testing.

The National Nail Technology Written Practical Examination is the licensure examination for Nail Technicians, which is developed by the National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC). This bulletin contains **IMPORTANT INFORMATION** regarding the examination, including content outline covered by the Written Practical examination, sample questions and answers, and references. The time allowed for the Nail Technology Written Practical Examination is 120 minutes.

For each NIC National Written Practical Examination, there are TWO (2) parts to every Candidate Information Bulletin (CIB) stored as separate documents:

- **Examination Content** and **Important Instructions** – This provides information about the scope of content covered in the Written Practical examination and information and guidelines related to administration of the Written Practical examination.
- **References** – This provides a list of references used to develop and support the content covered in the examination. The references are always the same for the Theory, Written Practical, and Practical examinations.

BE CERTAIN TO DOWNLOAD AND/OR PRINT AND REVIEW BOTH DOCUMENTS THAT MAKE UP THE NIC EXAMINATION CIB.

PLEASE REVIEW ALL INFORMATION CAREFULLY!

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- Do not leave the examination area without permission. Permission must be obtained to leave the examination area for any reason, including restroom usage or at the completion of the examination. Picture ID is required for re-entry into the examination.
- With the exception of verbal instructions, the proctors and examination administration personnel are not allowed to communicate with candidates.
- If you have an emergency situation please notify the proctor.
- The following provides examples of materials and actions that are prohibited during the examination administration:
 - Possession of cellular phones, watches (of any kind), pagers, tablets, computers, projectors, cameras, or any other electronic or recording devices, printed materials, or handwritten notes.
 - Communicating to other candidates or any examiner.
 - Exhibiting disruptive behavior.
 - *The above referenced items or actions are not an exhaustive list. Failure to comply with any of these conditions or exhibiting ANY behavior that suggests an effort to cheat will result in your immediate dismissal from the examination and your actions reported to the proper authorities.*

NAIL TECHNOLOGY WRITTEN PRACTICAL EXAMINATION CONTENT OUTLINE

The following outlines the scope of content covered by the NIC National Nail Technology Written Practical Examination. The percentages represent the percentage of items from each domain. The examination is comprised of 60 items, of which 50 items are weighted and contribute to the candidate's final score.

1. Scientific Concepts (40%)

A: Infection Control and Safety Practices

1. Recognize and utilize infection control principles
 - a. Process of infection control (e.g., dispensing products, disposal of materials)
 1. Differentiate between single- and multi-use tools
 2. Recognize when cross-contamination occurs
2. Apply blood exposure procedures
3. Identify adverse reactions to products or services
4. Identify ways to prevent work injuries (e.g., ventilation, ergonomics)

B: Anatomy and Physiology

1. Identify functions, parts, and structure of the:
 - a. nails
 - b. skin
2. Recognize disorders and diseases of the:
 - a. nails
 - b. skin
3. Recognize signs and symptoms of disorders, diseases, and conditions of the:
 - a. nails
 - b. skin

2. Nail Technology Procedures (60%)

A: Nail Technology Procedures - Client Consultation and Documentation

1. Identify elements of a client consultation and documentation
2. Evaluate condition of client's nails and skin
3. Recognize conditions that would prohibit service (contraindications)
4. Determine services or products

B: Nail Technology Procedures - Nail Service Tools

1. Identify purpose and function of:
 - a. Nail equipment (e.g., electric file, pedicure basin)
 - b. Nail implements (e.g., nail clippers, cuticle pusher)
 - c. Nail supplies and materials (e.g., cotton, buffer)
 - d. Nail products (e.g., polish, lotion)
2. Follow practices for safe use of tools

C: Nail Technology Procedures - Nail Service Preparation

D: Nail Technology Procedures - Manicure and Pedicure Services

1. Perform procedures for basic manicure and or pedicure service
2. Recognize purpose and procedure for add-on services

- a. Paraffin
- b. Masks and essential oils
- c. Gel polish
- d. Thermal (e.g., stone, towel)

E: Nail Technology Procedures - Perform Application/Maintenance and Removal for Nail Enhancement Services

- 1. Nail tip
- 2. Acrylics
- 3. Light-cured gels
- 4. Powder dip

F: Nail Technology Procedures - Perform Post-Service Procedures

NAIL TECHNOLOGY SAMPLE QUESTIONS

The following sample questions are similar to those on the NIC Nail Technology Written Practical Examination. Correct answers (keys) are listed following the sample questions.

1. During a gel polish manicure, the client says they are having an allergic reaction, although they had not disclosed any allergies on the client consultation form. What should the practitioner do?
 - (A) Discard the product
 - (B) Diagnose the cause
 - (C) Discontinue use of the product
 - (D) Cleanse the nails with alcohol

2. What is the **FIRST** step in performing a manicure?
 - (A) Shape the nails
 - (B) Soften the cuticles
 - (C) Clean under free edge
 - (D) Remove old polish

3. A client appears with a yellow-green spot under an artificial nail. What is the cause of this problem?
 - (A) Tinea
 - (B) Corrugations
 - (C) Carcinogen
 - (D) Bacteria

4. Please select all images of multi-use items.



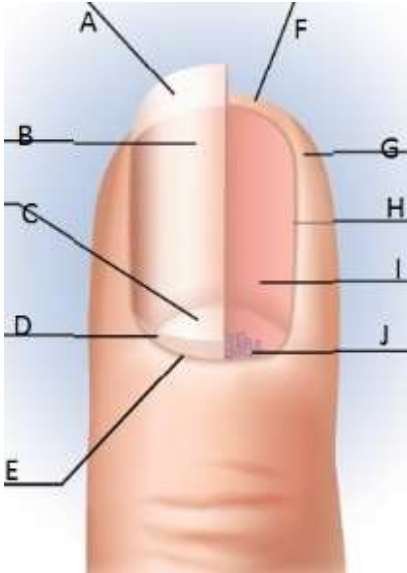


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5. Select the lunula in the image provided.



- (A) A
- (B) B
- (C) C
- (D) D
- (E) E
- (F) F
- (G) G
- (H) H
- (I) I
- (J) J

KEY:

- 1: C
- 2: D
- 3: D
- 4: A, C
- 5: C