NRA Personal Protection Outside The Home
Instructor Exam Answer Key

Questions are based on the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course Outline & Lesson Plans (30030) and the NRA Guide to the Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home (30000).

Multiple Choice – circle the correct answer.

1. Which of the following is true regarding the carrying of a concealed handgun for self-defense?
   a. a firearm is a tool of last resort that is used only when there is an imminent threat to life or limb.
   b. a firearm should be carried only by responsible persons capable of mature judgment.
   c. any person who has religious or moral objections to using deadly force should not incorporate a firearm into their personal protection plan.
   d. all of the above (Lesson I, F.1-F.4)

2. The single most crucial factor in prevailing in a life-threatening encounter is:
   a. the determination to persevere and win, and never give up. (NRA Guide to PPOTH, p. 36)
   b. the ability to control your emotions and keep from panicking.
   c. the ability to focus on the sights and make every shot count.
   d. all of the above

3. The basic module of the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home course can be presented in:
   a. fourteen hours.
   b. nine hours. (Lesson Plan Introduction, Course Length and Time Requirements)
   c. five hours.
   d. none of the above

4. The Lesson Plan of the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course presupposes that the students possess the knowledge, skills and attitude taught in:
   a. the NRA Basics of Personal Protection In The Home Course. (Lesson Plan Introduction, Who Can Take the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Courses?)
   b. the NRA First Steps Course.
   c. the NRA Basic Rifle Course.
   d. the NRA Refuse To Be A Victim Program.

5. The Personal Protection Outside The Home Handgun Skills Development Exercises are designed to:
   a. enhance the basic handgun skills learned in the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course.
   b. allow the NRA instructor to mentor students in improving their firearms handling skills.
   c. allow the NRA instructor to mentor students in improving their shooting skills.
   d. all of the above (Lesson Plan Introduction, NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Handgun Skills Development Exercises)
6. Psychological reactions that may take place during a threatening encounter include:
   a. freeze, submit, posture, flight or fight. *(NRA Guide to PPOTH, pp. 49-51)*
   b. panic, flee, faint.
   c. perceptual shut-down, shallow breathing, mental detachment.
   d. plead, beg, threaten, scream, give up.
   e. none of the above.

7. The four levels of mental awareness are:
   a. unaware, aware, alert and alarm. *(Lesson I, K.1.)*
   b. sleeping, watching, running and fighting.
   c. unaware, aware, alert and action.
   d. none of the above.

8. What are some of the special safety considerations that persons carrying concealed handguns should be concerned with?
   a. think ahead to avoid carrying your firearm into areas in which concealed carry is not allowed, and plan your activities accordingly.
   b. make sure your holster, fanny pack or holster purse allows proper gun retention.
   c. make sure you have the proper carry mode for your gun.
   d. all of the above *(Lesson I, I.)*

9. The major considerations for selecting a concealed carry holster are:
   a. concealment, access, retention and comfort. *(Lesson IV, B.; NRA Guide to PPOTH p. 87)*
   b. size, smoothness, material and safety strap.
   c. thickness, length, height and width.
   d. none of the above

10. Prior to conducting any live-fire exercise, the instructor must brief the students on:
    a. range layout and limits.
    b. range safety rules.
    c. range commands.
    d. emergency procedures.
    e. all of the above *(Lesson V, B.2.-B.6.)*

11. Which of the following is true regarding the live-fire portions of the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course?
    a. a one-to-one student-to-instructor ratio is preferable on the firing line.
    b. students must complete the exercises with a handgun chambered in at least .38 Special or 9 mm Para.
    c. the only carry devices the student may draw from are hip holsters, and holster purses.
    d. both a. and c. *(Lesson Plan Introduction, Student-To-Instructor Ratio, Handguns, Holsters)*

12. Which of the following rules apply to students using specific types of handguns?
    a. students using 1911-style pistols are expressly forbidden to carry and draw their handguns in the “cocked and locked” mode.
    b. students using double-action revolvers may shoot in either the single-action or double-action mode.
c. students using two-shot derringers must load only one round in the gun.  
d. students may use single-action revolvers if they wish. (Lesson Plan Introduction, Handguns)  
e. None of the above.

13. In terms of the concealed carry devices required for Lesson IV, Carry Modes and Handgun Concealment, the instructor will need to have:
   a. only a single hip holster, holster purse, and fanny pack.  
b. hip holsters for left- and right-handed persons, at least two types of holster purses, a fanny pack, and a belly band.  
c. shoulder, ankle, crossdraw, small-of-the-back and strong-side hip holsters, plus a fanny pack, holster purse, gun belt, and magazine or speedloader pouches. (Lesson IV, Required Materials)  
d. carry size lockable gun safe.

14. When using dry fire practice to master a shooting or gun handling skill:
   a. the dry-fire practice must take place in a designated area with a safe backstop. (NRA Guide to PPOTH, p. 339)  
b. both eye and ear protection must be worn.  
c. ammunition is permitted in the same general area as long as it is not in the gun.  
d. all of the above.

15. Which of the following is a strategy to enhance personal safety outside the home?
   a. be aware of your environment and potential threats in it.  
b. plan your activities to maximize your safety and minimize your risk.  
c. avoid dangerous people, places and situations.  
d. look for escape routes.  
e. all of the above (NRA Guide to PPOTH, pp. 39-48)

16. Matters relating to firearms laws are to be taught by:
   a. an NRA Certified Instructor.  
b. an NRA Certified Instructor and an attorney or judge.  
c. an NRA Certified Instructor, police official, attorney or judge.  
d. An attorney licensed to practice law within the state this course is given and who is familiar with this area of the law or an individual currently certified to instruct this area of the law by the state in which this course is presented. (Lesson Plan Introduction, Lesson III: Legal Aspects of Concealed Carry and Self-Defense)

**TRUE/FALSE – Circle the correct answer.**

17. **T** Point shooting is used in a close-range defensive encounter, when there is not enough time to achieve perfect sight alignment before shooting. (NRA Guide to PPOTH, p. 241)

18. **T** Cover is defined as anything that will protect all or part of the body when an individual is behind it. (NRA Guide to PPOTH, p. 191)

19. **T** Dry firing is a useful training technique for practicing every phase of the firing process. (NRA Guide to PPOTH, p. 339)
20. F The NRA requires that participants in the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course successfully complete a course examination of 90% in order to receive a completion certificate. *(Lesson Plan Introduction, NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Test and Answer Key)*

21. F Instinctive shooting and shooting from a prone position are taught in the basic nine-hour NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course. *(Lesson Plan Introduction, Course Length and Time Requirements; Lesson VII, B. & K.)*

22. T The basic nine-hour NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course consists of Lessons I-VI and Lessons VIII and IX. *(Lesson Plan Introduction, Course Length and Time Requirements)*

23. T Use of the kneeling position facilitates hiding behind cover. *(Lesson VII, F.)*

24. F Any holster used for concealed carry in the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course must have a safety or retention strap. *(Lesson Plan Introduction, Holsters)*

25. T During Lesson I, the instructor will read the paragraph on the Gun Owner’s Responsibilities to the students. *(Lesson I, D.)*


27. T The technique of engaging two targets is covered in lesson VI. *(Lesson VI, C.)*

28. T Appendix 2 is the Pre-Course Evaluation for the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course. *(Lesson Plan, Appendix 2)*

29. F If you must shoot an attacker to defend your life, you should always leave the scene as soon as possible and go to a police station to report the incident. *(NRA Guide to PPOTH, p. 74)*

30. T When presenting a concealed handgun and turning 90 degrees to the left or right, the first step is to identify the attacker. *(Lesson VII, J.)*

31. F Any available targets may be used for the live-fire exercises in the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course. *(Lesson Plan Introduction, Targets)*

32. T The instructor should review the 3 common ammunition malfunctions with the students during the range safety briefing. *(Lesson V, B.3.)*

33. T “Dehorning” a handgun refers to the removal of sharp edges and corners so that the gun does not tear, abrade or catch on clothing. *(NRA Guide to PPOTH, p. 107)*

34. F When engaging multiple targets, the attacker with a gun is always engaged first. *(NRA Guide to PPOTH, p. 256)*

35. T When selecting a handgun for concealment, the most critical dimension is handgun width. *(NRA Guide to PPOTH, p. 105)*

36. F LIVE ammunition is allowed in the classroom if you have a concealed carry permit. *(Lesson Plan Introduction, No Live Ammunition in the Classroom)*
37. F  To have students simulate shooting under low-light conditions, have them fire with their eyes squinted. *(NRA Guide to PPOTH, p. 277)*

38. T  A firearm should be used to defend oneself only as a last resort. *(Lesson I, F. 1.)*

39. F  The five physiological reactions to a defensive shooting are elation, revulsion, remorse, self-doubt, and acceptance. *(Lesson II, H. 1.)*

40. F  Completion of one of the NRA Basic Pistol Courses (Basic Pistol or FIRST Steps Pistol) meets the prerequisite requirement to attend NRA’s Personal Protection Outside The Home Course. *(Lesson Plan Introduction, Who Can Take the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course?)*

**Short Answer - write the correct answers in the space provided.**

41 – 43. List the first three of the steps for presenting a concealed handgun, as they are listed in the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course Lesson Plan, Lesson V, Exercise 4: Access, Grip, Pull (Lesson V, D)

44. When handling a handgun, the first thing you should do is: point the gun in a safe direction.

45 – 47. Write the National Rifle Association’s three rules for safe gun handling: ALWAYS keep the gun pointed in a safe direction; ALWAYS keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot; ALWAYS keep the gun unloaded until ready to use (Lesson I)

48 – 49. List two of the NRA’s five elements of a good shooting position: consistency, balance, support, natural point of aim, comfort (NRA Guide to PPOTH, p. 159)

50. What is the course goal of the NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside The Home Course? To develop in students the knowledge, skills, and attitude essential for avoiding dangerous confrontations and for the safe, effective and responsible use of a concealed handgun for self-defense outside the home *(Lesson Plan Introduction, Course Outline)*