

*Foothills Amateur Radio Society*

# *General License Class*

## *Session 5, Part 2*

# Final Words

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Foothills Amateur Radio Society

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# GETTING READY



## Philosophies of Studying for the Test

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- **Philosophy 1: Learn and understand everything**
  - Study: Class, Book, think



- **Philosophy 2: Memorize the question pool**
  - Practice the Test!!!



## Test Questions

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- **35 questions total on the test**
  - out of a 481 question pool
  - You must answer at least 26 correctly (74%)
  - **You can get 9 wrong (26%) and still PASS!**



## Test Questions

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- **How important is any single topic?**
  - You can punt on every calculation question you can still get 4 more wrong and PASS!
    - **Answer: NOT VERY**
- You can analyze for other characteristics and decide how critical the topic is to your passing the test (frequencies, circuits, etc.)
  - How many sections contain that characteristic? – that many questions *may* be on the test



## Test Questions vs. Question Pool

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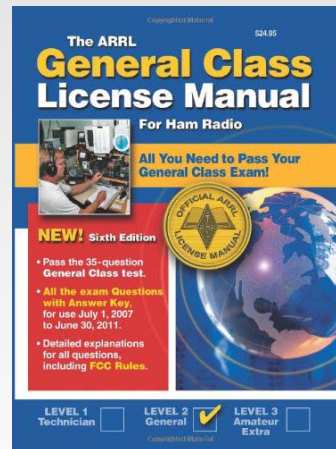
<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i># Test Questions</i>	<i># Pool Questions</i>	<i>Pool Question Density</i>
1	Introduction			
2	Procedures & Practices	6	72	8%
3	Rules & Regulations	5	65	8%
4	Components & Circuits	8	124	6%
5	Radio Signals & Equipment	7	90	8%
6	Antennas	4	59	7%
7	Propagation	3	47	6%
8	Electrical & RF Safety	2	29	7%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>7%</b>



## The Text

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- **The ARRL General Class License Manual**



- **Almost too late to read it in preference to taking practice tests**



## Free, Anonymous Practice Test Websites

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- <http://www.qrz.com/ham/>
  - Corrected answers as you go along
- <http://www.aa9pw.com/radio/>
  - Answer all, then get corrected answers
- <http://www.eham.net/exams/>
  - Answer all, then get corrected answers
- <http://www.w8mhb.com/exam/>
  - Answer all, then get corrected answers (also has “peeks”)
- <http://www.hamtestonline.com/>
  - Use “Try It”
  - Study Mode



## Practice Tests

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- **Practice, Practice, Practice**
- **Time to step it up**
- **Make sure you are being exposed to all of the question pool**

*... but don't over do it!*



# THE TEST



## The Test and Test Questions

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- **RELAX!!**
- **No need to worry.**
- **You'll do fine.**



## What to Bring to the Test?

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- Your FRN, CSCE, or SSN
- Two forms of identification, at least one with your picture

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING THEM!!!**



## **Test Taking Hints and Tips (Reminder)**

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- **First Quick Pass: answer all questions you're sure you know the answer to**
  - Move on to the next question if you have any trouble; you can come back later
- **Second Pass: work on the questions you haven't answered yet**
  - Of the 4 answers, 2 are usually obviously wrong
  - If you can't figure out which of the remaining 2 is right, pick one and move on – you have a 50-50 chance of getting it right!



## Test Taking Hints and Tips

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- **Third Pass: check your work**
  - Look for mistakes
  - Make sure every question has an answer
- **Turn it in – you're done!!**
  
- *Don't over-think it!*



## But What If I Don't Pass?

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- This is not for you. You don't really care, you're going to pass!
- This is just for *your friend* who didn't study and didn't take the practice exams...



## License Exams Coming Up after Next Week

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- **After the Last Class...**
- **Test Sessions:**
  - **Silicon Valley VE Group (ARRL VEC)**
    - <http://www.arrl.org/> then hit “exams” button upper left
    - Saturdays June 5, 19 @ 8-10:30 am (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of month)
    - Saratoga Fire Station 14380 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga, CA 95070
  - **Sunnyvale VEC**
    - <http://www.amateur-radio.org/>
    - Saturday June 12th, July 10th in Sunnyvale @ 10:30 am
    - Saturday June 19th, July 17th in Redwood City @10:30 am
- **If you *do* need to take it again, *DO NOT WAIT!!***



## New Question Pool Coming!

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- **New Question Pool takes effect July 1, 2011**
- **Remember, you don't really care, you're going to pass it before then!**



## After You Pass

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- **Get on the Air on HF!**
- **Learn more...**
- **Get Involved**
  - **Join a Club**
  - **Come to Events**
    - **Am Tech Day**
    - **Field Day June 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>**



## Shameless FARS Plug

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- **Sponsored by Foothills Amateur Radio Society**
  - <http://www.fars.k6ya.org/>
- **Support the club that brings you:**
  - License exam courses
  - Amateur Radio Technology Day
- **Join now!**
  - Special deal: \$5 off for rest of the year!
  - (It's OK to belong to more than one club)



**Finally...**

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**You don't need it, but ...**

**GOOD LUCK!**



**...from your General Class License Course instructors  
and from FARS**



End

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- **Questions?**



*Amateur Radio Technology Day  
is held  
on a Saturday Monthly  
at Stanford Linear Accelerator National Lab  
Sponsored by FARS.*

*Check out the FARS website at <http://www.fars.k6ya.org/>*



## Any Organizational / Class Issues

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### Contact:

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