

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR ELECTRICIAN'S EXAMINATIONS



PAUL ROSENBERG



AUDEL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR ELECTRICIAN'S EXAMINATIONS

All New Fifteenth Edition

Paul Rosenberg



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INTRODUCTION

TIPS ON TAKING TESTS

It is the author's experience that, for most electricians, knowing how to take a test is almost as important as knowing the technical information, as far as obtaining a passing grade is concerned. A great number of electricians fear tests more than they fear 480 volts.

Really, there is no good reason why this should be so. After all, if hundreds of thousands of men and women can pass these tests, anyone interested who gives a real effort and pays particular attention to some basic rules can succeed. Some basic rules for taking tests are these:

- 1. Know the material being covered.
- **2.** Know the format of the test.
- **3.** Be physically and mentally prepared on the exam day.
- 4. RELAX!
- **5.** Work the test in the smartest way you can.

The first point, knowing the material being covered, is a mandatory prerequisite. Most test failures come from violating this rule. No, it isn't always easy to learn all the material to be tested. It requires hours—sometimes many hours—of studying, when you'd rather be doing other things. It means that you have to make your brain work harder than it wants to, going over the material again and again. Sorry, but unless you have an exceptional aptitude for learning there are no shortcuts for hard, intense study. A good study guide (like this book) is about as much help as you can get.

The second rule for taking tests is that you need to *know the format* of the test. Some of the things you need to know are the following:

How many questions are on the test?

How many questions are open-book?

How many are closed-book?

Do all questions count for the same number of points?

Is there a penalty for wrong answers?

How much time is allowed for each section of the test?

Who wrote the test?

How will the test be graded?

By knowing the answers to these questions, you can plan your efforts intelligently. For example, if certain questions will count for more points than others, you should be ready to spend more time and effort on those questions. By knowing the time limits, you can calculate how much time you have for each question, and so on. Get answers to all of these questions and consider all of these facts as you prepare for the exam.

Now, as for *being physically and mentally prepared*: I think most readers are familiar with the way athletes prepare for an event. They make sure they eat the right kinds of food, so that they have enough energy. They get plenty of sleep, and they come to the event planning to win. The same thing should be done in preparation for a test.

The most important factor is what we already mentioned: planning to win. Psychologists have found that the results one achieves are directly related to what one expects to receive. If you believe that you will do well, you are quite likely to do well. (Of course, you can kill the whole deal by not studying, then faking your belief in yourself.) If you expect to do poorly, you probably will, regardless of how much studying you've done.

Remember, it does not matter what you wish for; what matters is what you expect. I'll pass on to you one of my favorite quotes along these lines, from Robert J. Ringer: "The results you produce in life are inversely proportional to the degree to which you are intimidated."

If you want to improve your confidence (expectations) in your test-taking abilities, picture yourself as having aced the test; refuse to imagine yourself failing. You'll also have to spend as much time studying as is necessary to believe in yourself.

On the day of a test, you want to walk in well rested (but not still groggy), having been well fed (but not full), and with a subdued confidence. Generally, heavy studying the night before the test is not a good idea. Do a light review and leisurely go over difficult parts of the information if you like, but the night before is not the time to get intense. You should have been intense two weeks ago. The night before the test is a time to eat well and go to bed early. Try not to eat within two or three hours of the test, as it tends to bog you down. It has been said that the level of mental efficiency is greatest on an empty stomach.

Confidence is built on a good knowledge of the material to be covered and the ability to pass with style.

Once you enter the test location, *relaxing* is very important. If you choke up during the test, you are automatically taking 5 points off of your score, and possibly more. You should have the same attitude as runners who show up for races they know they will win. They are ready to run their fastest, but they are not nervous, because they know that their fastest is good enough.

Before taking the test, clear your mind; don't get involved in trivial conversations. Then, when it is time to answer the questions, dig into the test with your full strength.

During the test, answer all of the easy questions first. Do all of the questions that you know the answers to; pass up the hard questions for now, and do the ones you know for sure. Then, once you have answered these questions, don't go over them again; just move on to the next group of questions. Next, do the questions that require some work, but do not do the most difficult questions; save them for last. It is silly to waste half your time on one difficult question. Do the 47 easier questions, and then come back to the 3 especially difficult ones.

Work the test in the smartest possible way. Pay attention to time requirements, books allowed during open-book tests, and so on. For your electrical exam, you should definitely put tabs on your codebook. Bring an electronic calculator with you and some scratch paper (as long as you are allowed to). Rather than buying a set of codebook tabs, I recommend that you create your own. Tab the index and the sections of the code that you use most frequently. I generally put tabs on the following:

Tables 250.66 and 250.122 (sizes of ground wires)

Table 310.15(B) (wire ampacities)

Appendix C (conduit fill tables)

Article 230 (services)

Table 300.5 (burial depths)

Tables 370.6 (number of wires in boxes)

Article 430 (motors)

Article 450 (transformers)

Article 490 (over 600 volts)

Article 500 (hazardous location wiring)

Article 590 (temporary installations)

Article 700 (emergency systems)

INTRODUCTION

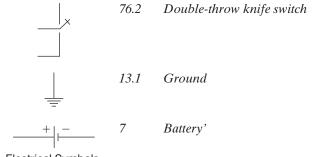
Remember: If hundreds of thousands of other people have passed these tests, you can, too — if you prepare.

MELECTRICAL SYMBOLS

To avoid confusion, American Standards Association (ASA) policy requires that the same symbol not be included in more than one standard. If the same symbol were to be used in two or more standards and one of these standards was revised, changing the meaning of the symbol, considerable confusion could arise over which symbol was correct, the revised or the unrevised.

The symbols in this category include, but are not limited to, those in the following list. The reference numbers are the American Standard Y32.2 item numbers.

MOT	46.3	Electric motor
GEN	46.2	Electric generator
3 6	86.1	Power transformer
	82.1	Pothead (cable termination)
WH	48	Electric watthour meter
СВ	12.2	Circuit element, e.g., circuit breaker
	11.1	Circuit breaker
	36	Fusible element
	76.3	Single-throw knife switch
		(continued)



\\/all

Electrical Symbols.

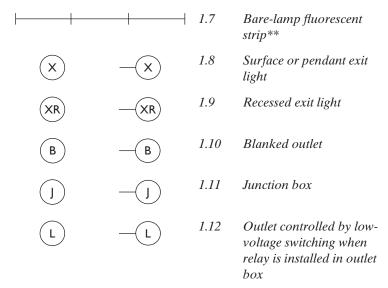
List of Symbols

1.0 Lighting Outlets

Coiling

Ceiling	Wall		
		1.1	Surface or pendant incandescent, mercury vapor, or similar lamp fixture
R	$\overline{\mathbb{R}}$	1.2	Recessed incandescent, mercury vapor, or similar lamp fixture
0		1.3	Surface or pendant individual fluorescent fixture
	0R	1.4	Recessed individual fluorescent fixture
0		1.5	Surface or pendant continuous-row fluorescent fixture
0R		1.6	Recessed continuous-row fluorescent fixture*
			(continued)

^{*}In the case of combination continuous-row fluorescent and incandescent spotlights, use combinations of the above Standard symbols.



Lighting Outlets.

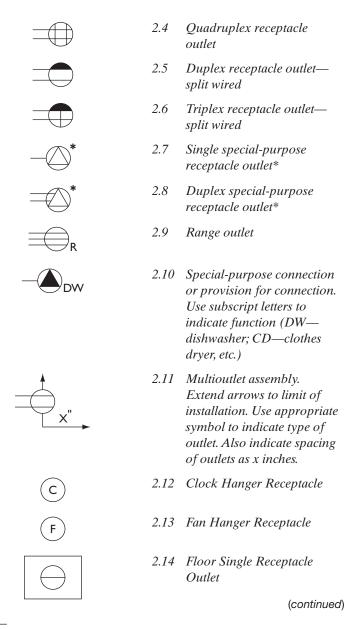
2.0 Receptacle Outlets

Unless noted to the contrary, it should be assumed that every receptacle will be grounded and will have a separate grounding contact.

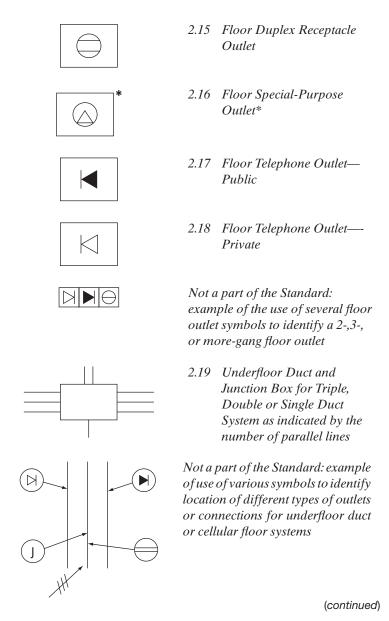
Use the uppercase subscript letters described under Section 2 item a-2 of this Standard when weatherproof, explosion-proof, or some other specific type of device will be required.

2.1	Single receptacle outlet
2.2	Duplex receptacle outlet
2.3	Triplex receptacle outlet

^{**}In the case of a continuous-row bare-lamp fluorescent strip above an area-wide diffusion means, show each fixture run, using the Standard symbol; indicate area of diffusing means and type of light shading and/or drawing notation.



^{*}Use numeral or letter, either within the symbol or as a subscript alongside the symbol keyed to explanation in the drawing list of symbols, to indicate type of receptacle or usage.



^{*}Use numeral or letter, either within the symbol or as a subscript alongside the symbol keyed to explanation in the drawing list of symbols, to indicate type of receptacle or usage.

2.20 Cellular Floor Header Duct

Receptacle Outlets.

3.0 Switch Outlets

S	3.1	Single-pole switch
S ₂	3.2	Double-pole switch
S ₃	3.3	Three-way switch
S ₄	3.4	Four-way switch
S_K	3.5	Key-operated switch
S _P	3.6	Switch and pilot lamp
S_L	3.7	Switch for low-voltage switching system
S _{LM}	3.8	Master switch for low-voltage switching system
s	3.9	Switch and single receptacle
s	3.10	Switch and double receptacle
S _D	3.11	Door switch
S_{T}	3.12	Time switch
		(continued)

S_{CR} 3.13 Circuit-breaker switch

S_{MC} 3.14 Momentary contact switch or pushbutton for other than signaling system

Switch Outlets.

Signaling System Outlets

4.0 Institutional, Commercial, and Industrial Occupancies

These symbols are recommended by the American Standards Association but are not used universally. The reader should remember not to assume that these symbols will be used on any certain plan and should always check the symbol list on the plans to verify whether these symbols are actually used.

Basic Examples of Symbol Individual Item Identification (Not a part of the Standard)

4.1 I. Nurse Call System Devices (and type)

Nurses' Annunciator (can add a number after it as $+\bigcirc$ 24 to indicate number of lamps)

Call station, single, cord, pilot light

Call station, double cord, microphone speaker

Corridor dome light, 1 lamp

Transformer

Any other item on same system—use numbers as required.

(continued)

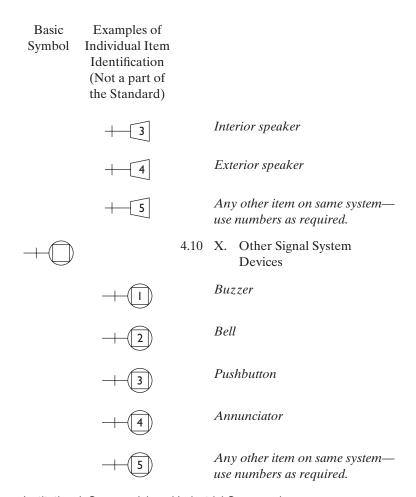
Basic Examples of Symbol Individual Item Identification (Not a part of the Standard) Paging System Devices 4.2 II. (any type) Keyboard Flush annunciator 2-face annunciator Any other item on same system use numbers as required. 4.3 III. Fire Alarm System Devices (any type) including Smoke and Sprinkler Alarm Devices Control panel Station 10" Gong Pre-signal chime Any other item on same system use numbers as required. Staff Register System 4.4 IV. Devices (any type) Phone operators' register

Basic Examples of Symbol Individual Item Identification (Not a part of the Standard) Entrance register—flush Staff room register Transformer Any other item on same system— use numbers as required. 4.5 V. Electric Clock System Devices (any type) Master clock 12" Secondary—flush 12" Double dial—wall-mounted 18" Skeleton dial Any other item on same system— use numbers as required. 4.6



4.6 VI. Public Telephone System Devices

Basic Symbol	Examples of Individual Item Identification (Not a part of the Standard)		
	2		Desk phone
	+-<3		Any other item on same system—use numbers as required.
+		4.7	VII. Private Telephone System Devices (any type)
	- - 		Switchboard
	2		Wall phone
	3		Any other item on same system—use numbers as required.
+		4.8	VIII. Watchman System Devices (any type)
	+-(1)		Central station
	- 2		Key station
	3		Any other item on same system—use numbers as required.
+-		4.9	IX. Sound System
	+-[1]		Amplifier
	+ 2		Microphone



Institutional, Commercial, and Industrial Occupancies.

Signaling System Outlets

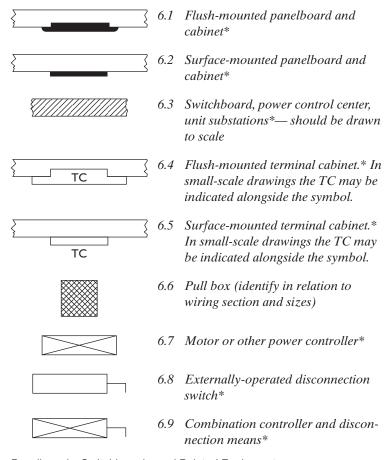
5.0 Residential Occupancies

When a descriptive symbol list is not employed, use the following signaling system symbols to identify standardized, residential-type, signal-system items on residential drawings. Use the basic symbols with a descriptive symbol list when other signal-system items are to be identified.

•	5.1	Pushbutton
	5.2	Buzzer
	5.3	Bell
	5.4	Combination bell-buzzer
СН	5.5	Chime
\Diamond	5.6	Annunciator
D	5.7	Electric door opener
M	5.8	Maid's signal plug
	5.9	Interconnection box
ВТ	5.10	Bell-ringing transformer
	5.11	Outside telephone
\triangleright	5.12	Interconnecting telephone
R	5.13	Radio outlet
TV	5.14	Television outlet

Residential Occupancies.

6.0 Panelboards, Switchboards, and Related Equipment



Panelboards, Switchboards, and Related Equipment.

7.0 Bus Ducts and Wireways

TTTT	7.1	Trolley duct*
B B B	7.2	Busway (service, feeder, or plug-in)*
		(continued)

^{*}Identify by notation or schedule.

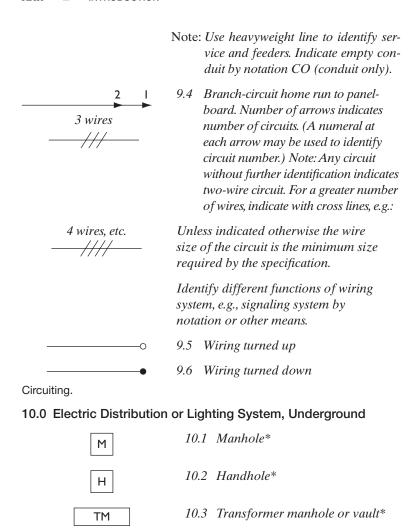
C C C	7.3	Cable trough ladder or channel*		
w w w	7.4	Wireway*		
Bus Ducts and Wireways.				
8.0 Remote Control Station	ons f	or Motors or Other Equipment*		
	8.1	Pushbutton station		
F	8.2	Float switch—mechanical		
L	8.3	Limit switch—-mechanical		
Р	8.4	Pneumatic switch—mechanical		
<u>\</u>	8.5	Electric eye—beam source		
\searrow	8.6	Electric eye—relay		
—(T)	8.7	Thermostat		
Remote Control Stations for Motor or Other Equipment				

9.0 Circuiting

Wiring method identification by notation on drawing or in specification.

 9.1	Wiring concealed in ceiling or wall
 9.2	Wiring concealed in floor
 9.3	Wiring exposed
	(continued)

^{*}Identify by notation or schedule.



10.5 Underground direct burial cable. Indicate type, size, and number of conductors by notation or schedule.

10.4 Transformer pad*

(continued)

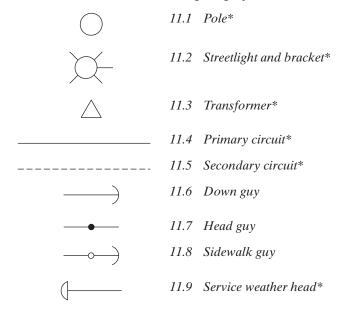
TP

^{*}Identify by notation or schedule.

10.6	Underground duct line. Indicate type, size, and number of ducts by cross-section identification of each run by notation or schedule. Indicate type, size, and number of conductors by notation or schedule.
10.7	Streetlight standard feed from underground circuit*

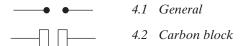
Electric Distribution or Lighting System, Underground.

11.0 Electric Distribution or Lighting System, Aerial



Electrical Distribution or Lighting System Aerial.

4 Arrester, Lighting Arrester (Electric surge, etc.) Gap



^{*}Identify by notation or schedule.

Block, telephone protector

The sides of the rectangle are to be approximately in the ratio of 1 to 2, and the space between rectangles shall be approximately equal to the width of a rectangle.

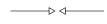


4.3 Electrolytic or aluminum cell

This symbol is not composed of arrowheads.



4.4 Horn gap



4.5 Protective gap

These triangles shall not be filled.



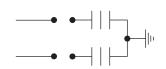
4.6 Sphere gap



4.7 Valve or film element



4.8 Multigap, general



4.9 Application: gap plus valve plus ground, 2-pole4.9
Application: gap plus valve plus ground, 2-pole

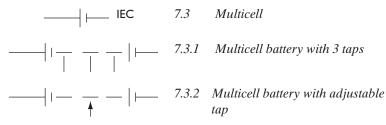
Arrester, Lighting Arrester (Electric surge etc.) Gap.

7 Battery

The long line is always positive, but polarity may be indicated in addition. Example:



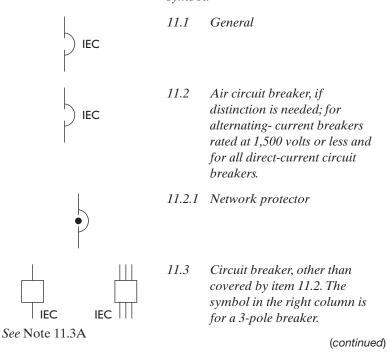
- 7.1 Generalized direct-current source
- 7.2 One cell



Battery.

11 Circuit Breakers

If it is desired to show the condition causing the breaker to trip, the relay-protective-function symbols in item 66.6 may be used alongside the break symbol.



Note 11.3A—On a power diagram, the symbol may be used without other identification. On a composite drawing where confusion with the general circuit element symbol (item 12) may result, add the identifying letters CB inside or adjacent to the square.

000

See Note 11.3A		11.5.1	diagram, a 3-pole single-throw circuit breaker (with terminals shown) may be drawn as shown.
	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	11.4	Applications
		11.4.1	3-pole circuit breaker with thermal overload device in all 3 poles
		11.4.2	3-pole circuit breaker with magnetic overload device in all 3 poles
*		11.4.3	3-pole circuit breaker, drawout type
Circuit Breakers.			

11.3.1 On a connection or wiring

Note 11.3A—On a power diagram, the symbol may be used without other identification. On a composite drawing where confusion with the general circuit element symbol (item 12) may result, add the identifying letters CB inside or adjacent to the square.

13 Circuit Return



- 13.1 Ground
- (A) A direct conducting connection to the earth or body of water that is a part thereof
- (B) A conducting connection to a structure that serves a function similar to that of an earth ground (that is, a structure such as a frame of an air, space, or land vehicle that is not conductively connected to earth)



13.2 Chassis or frame connection
A conducting connection to a chassis
or frame of a unit. The chassis
or frame may be at a substantial
potential with respect to the earth
or structure in which this chassis or
frame is mounted.



13.3 Common connections

Conducting connections made to one another. All like-designated points are connected. *The asterisk is not a part of the symbol. Identifying valves, letters, numbers, or marks shall replace the asterisk.

15 Coil, Magnetic Blowout*



Coil, Magnetic Blowout.

^{*}The broken line (— - —) indicates where line connection to a symbol is made and is not a part of the symbol.

23 Contact, Electrical

For buildups or forms using electrical contacts, see applications under CONNECTOR (item 19), RELAY (item 66), and SWITCH (item 76). See DRAFTING PRACTICES (item 0.4.6).

		•	23.1.1	Fixed contact for jack, key, relay, etc.
0		-	23.1.2	Fixed contact for switch
			23.1.3	Fixed contact for momentary switch See SWITCH (item 76.8 and 76.10).
			23.1.4	Sleeve
→			23.2.1.	Adjustable or sliding contact for resistor, inductor, etc.
0	\checkmark		23.2.2	Locking
0			23.2.3	Segment; bridging contact
\Diamond			23.2.4	Nonlocking See SWITCH (items 76.12.3 and 76.12.4).
0			23.2.5	Vibrator reed
0			23.2.6	Vibrator split reed
	—	_	23.2.7	Rotating contact (slip ring) and brush
A. Contac	ct, Electrica	al.		

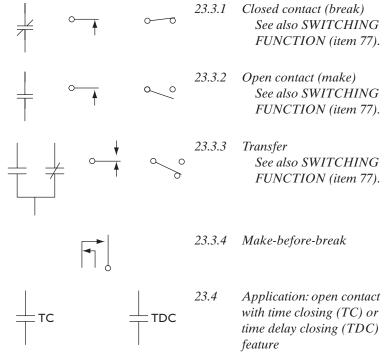
It is standard procedure to show a contact by a symbol that indicates the circuit condition produced when the actuating device is in the nonoperated, or deenergized, position. It may be necessary to add a clarifying note explaining the proper point at which the contact functions—the point where the actuating device (mechanical, electrical, etc.) opens or closes due to changes in pressure, level,

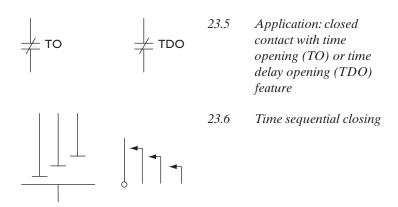
flow, voltage, current, etc. When it is necessary to show contacts in the operated, or energized, condition—and where confusion would otherwise result—a clarifying note shall be added to the drawing. Contacts for circuit breakers, auxiliary switches, etc., may be designated as shown below:

- (a) Closed when device is in energized or operated position.
- **(b)** Closed when device is in deenergized or nonoperated position.
- (aa) Closed when operating mechanism of main device is in energized or operated position.
- **(bb)** Closed when operating mechanism of main device is in deener-gized or nonoperated position.

[See American Standard C37.2-1962 for details.]

In the parallel-line contact, symbols showing the length of the parallel lines shall be approximately 1¼ times the width of the gap (except for item 23.6).





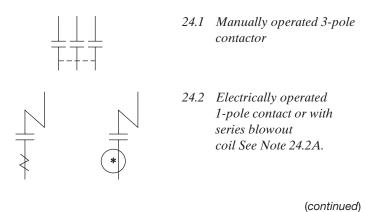
B. Contact, Electrical.

24 Contactor

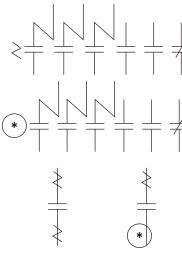
See also RELAY (item 66).

Contactor symbols are derived from fundamental contact, coil, and mechanical connection symbols and should be employed to show contactors on complete diagrams. A complete diagram of the actual contactor device is constructed by combining the abovementioned fundamental symbols for mechanical connections, control circuits, etc.

Mechanical interlocking should be indicated by notes.



Note 24.2A—The asterisk is not a part of the symbol. Always replace the asterisk by a device designation.



24.3 Electrically operated
3-pole contactor with
series blowout coils;
2 open and 1 closed
auxiliary contacts (shown
smaller than the main
contacts)

24.4 Electrically operated 1-pole contactor with shunt blowout coil

Contactor.

46 Machine, Rotating

46.1 Basic

GEN

46.2 Generator (general)

MOT

46.3 Motor (general)

46.4 Motor, multispeed

USE BASIC MOTOR SYMBOL AND NOTE SPEEDS



46.5 Rotating armature with commutator and brushes*

^{*}The broken line (---) indicates where line connection to a symbol is made and is not a part of the symbol.