

SB v Keep
09:15 18th June 2015
Liverpool

Me and Bacon stayed at the nunnery the night before and did a trial run to the coastguard office. Then went for a burger. Went to bed 10:30 woke at 07:00. Drove down arrived at the door 10 mins before.

Keep took me straight in after waiting for 5 mins. Asked me what I did before this course and a little about the ships then threw a curveball at me straight away. I can't remember the questions exactly but they were like the following;

So in the shipping industry we have laws. Why do we follow them and who says we should have these laws? *Told him about IMO being part of the UN, Member states. X amount sign up, new law is proposed and signed by a certain amount then it has to come into force.*

There was a new convention that came into force, what is it? MLC he wanted. Didn't press me on anything else.

So COSWP has health and safety, what convention does that fall under? He wanted to hear ISM Code which I said. He didn't want any more.

Is it mentioned in any other convention? Solas chapter 9

How did SOLAS come about? Titanic

What do you think the very first convention was about? LSA

What does the captain look for when determining a good anchorage?

How do you know the depth of water? Chart in meters

What is that figure regarding the height? Low spring water

When would you get spring tides? *Full moon. And? I had to think for a while until I answered New Moon?*

What does a new moon look like? This took me ages to answer. He even drew the sun and the earth and made me draw where the full and new moon was before I could answer. You can't see a new moon because it is directly in front of the sun between us.

What other tides? Neaps

And where is the moon then?

So you have a clear sky at night and a full moon, how can you use this for navigation?

Azimuth for compass error

How do you do a compass error?

So you have a gyro compass, any other? Magnetic

What effects the magnetic compass? Deviation and variation

What are they?

On a chart you see 2° variation, what is this an angle of. This took a while and he basically led me to the answer which is the difference between true north and magnetic north.

Capacity of a lifeboat?

Showed me my picture I took of the emergency fire control room. How would you use this stuff in the event of a fire in the engine room? *Sound the alarm, isolate the fuel...*

Interruption. How? Open the case or break the glass and turn the valve. Anything else? He

wanted me to say turn off the fans and close the dampners then asked me how I close the dampners. Then I talked about the fixed CO2 system.

How many pumps?

Why is the emergency fire pump isolated?

What LSA is on your ship?

He said there are still deaths involving enclosed spaces? How would you prepare to enter an enclosed space?

Load lines – what would you see?

Thickness of a loadline? 25mm

What is the deck line?

What is your vessels flag state?

What is your vessels port state?

What would you see on the hull of the ship other than the loadline? Name, port of registry, imo number and the draft marks.

What are mandatory for any size vessel to carry for navigation? X-band radar, corrected charts and publications. He stops me...

How do you correct a chart? Weekly N/M

Who makes these publications and charts? Admiralty

And where in the country are they? Somerset

Where about? Taunton

Radar. True vectors. On a radar plotting sheet he drew an object which he said was an oil rig and the vector was pointing at me. Said I wasn't making way, what could this be? Started talking about scintillation. He said it wasn't that. I said I was drifting towards it. He asked what mode the radar was in for this to be so. Sea Stabilised.

So you have paper chart, any others? ENC on ECDIS

So you have a brand new ship with a top of the range ECDIS. What can you overlay? RADAR, AIS

How does AIS work? VHF, line of sight. LRIT 1000 miles away via satellite. Gives you static and dynamic data.

What does IALA stand for?

Shows me an east cardinal mark and asks for the light and actions if I'm heading north.

Then a port hand lateral mark region B preferred channel to starboard?

Where is region B?

You are heading north off South Korea how would you approach this buoy?

Then I had a single green light on the smarties board steady bearing 2 pts port side in a TSS, Actions

Same in open sea now? Action and why for both

Single red stbd side 2 pts, open sea, action?

Power driven vessel 100m long what lights?

How much higher is the mast light to the foremast? 4.5m

Arc of visibility?

What is rule 5?

What would you do to avoid collision? Rule 8. I was super scrappy on this. I think he felt sorry for me and prompted me a bit.

R/V, Tell me the definition?

He then gave me a scenario but I can't remember what it was. It was straight forward and just wanted to know why.

Asked me a tricky question... R/V heading 000° vessel approaching 180°. Actions? Made me think, Asked me what the other vessel could do. Made me tell him it was an overtaking vessel. Then he just said 'yes, it's a conundrum isn't it?' Then moved on.

I think he asked me some other straight forward questions then out of the blue he just said. 'right that's all, you've passed'. Just came out of nowhere! Great feeling

Keep was very pleasant and helped me with short prompts to find the answers. There were a lot of pauses and I drank all my water!

Thanks to all my study mates and all the lecturers for all they have done and for being very approachable. It's been a touch 3 years but worth it. Best thing is I don't have to study for a while now!