



Strategies For Passing the GROL Examination

A General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL) is required to adjust, maintain, or internally repair FCC licensed radiotelephone transmitters in the aviation,

... maritime, and international fixed public radio services. It is also required to operate the following:

- Any maritime land radio station or compulsorily equipped ship
- Radiotelephone station operating with more than 1500 watts of peak envelope power,
- Voluntarily equipped ship and aeronautical (including aircraft) stations with more than 1000 watts of peak envelope power.

Holding an FCC GROL is an important step in an electronics/communications career. Positions requiring the GROL include::

- Radio Systems Specialist
- Microwave Technician
- Telecom Bench Technician
- Aviation Radio Technician
- RF Engineer
- 2-Way Radio Technician
- Satellite Systems Engineer
- Avionics Technician
- TV Broadcast Maintenance
- Communications Specialist
- Field Technician
- Radio Operator

Why Take the GROL Exam?

Graduation from a recognized course of electronics training accompanied by a general radiotelephone operators license are power credentials for an entry level technician to present to a prospective employer.

What's Covered in the Exam?

Topics covered in the GROL examination include:

- Operating procedures,
- Radio wave propagation,
- Radio practice,
- Electrical principles,
- Circuit components,
- Practical circuits, signals and emissions,
- Antennas and feed lines.

Preparation Strategy:

The GROL exam is a closed book examination. Closed book examinations are the most challenging style because there are no "lifelines" available after the examination begins. Closed book examinations are conquerable. Careful preparation and a definite strategy will overcome not having text materials to which you can refer during the examination. So what next?

"Graduation from a recognized course of electronics training, accompanied by a General Radiotelephone Operators License (GROL), provide two power credentials for an entry level technician to present to a prospective employer."

1. Know your material It is important that you know radio operating procedures and have sufficient training in electronics.

The GROL examination covers TWO ELEMENTS; Element 1 and Element 3.

Element 1 - Basic radio law and operating practice with which every maritime radio operator should be familiar. See the Code of Federal Regulations Title 47 Part 80 – end.

Element 3 - Electronic fundamentals and techniques required to adjust, repair, and maintain radio transmitters and receivers. Subjects covered include operating procedures, radio wave propagation, radio practice, electrical principles, circuit components, practical circuits, signals and emissions, and antennas and feed lines.

3. Work with the material Cramming is a surefire way to bomb out. The best approach is to work with the subject material.

- § Work problems and sample tests. Using the concepts and formulas presented in study guides and applying them to sample questions reinforces your knowledge.
- § Making flash cards or copying text can conquer questions on rules and regulations.

Continued next page . . .

§ The *NARTE Shaker Test* is an excellent study aid if run under the same conditions as the actual exam.

Once you have done all your studying and feel confident enough that you know most of the material, it's time to go in there and tackle that exam. Just remember:

3. On the day of the exam

§ **Be well rested.** Research has shown that a good nights sleep before exams will allow you to receive better marks than having spent the entire night awake cramming.

§ **Show up early.** Don't rush—allowing time to arrive at the examination site with a period for last minute review will reduce anxiety and stress and enhance your confidence.

4. Taking the exam

§ **Pace Yourself.** Read through all the questions carefully and pace yourself. Divide the number of questions by the time available to determine how many questions per hour you should have completed.

§ **Don't Dwell.** If you're having trouble with one of the questions, **leave it and move on** to the next one. You can then come back to this difficult question towards the end.

§ **Go with your first answer.** Since you do not have any reference materials, go with your first response. Only change an answer if you have found a different way to confirm it.

Good luck on your FCC Exam! Ω

This announcement sheet introduces each "Shaker" test package provided by NARTE as a study aid for FCC exams.



NARTE



SHAKER TEST

ARE YOU REALLY READY FOR YOUR FCC EXAM?

The *NARTE Shaker Test* will help you work out the kinks! Take your chances ahead of time and be prepared for your FCC Exam.

This *NARTE Shaker Test* is made up of actual FCC exam questions.

FCC Element 1: Examinee must correctly answer 18 out of the 24 questions.

FCC Element 3: Examinee must correctly answer 57 out of the 76 questions.

The passing score is 75% for each element.

When you take the *NARTE Shaker Test* you may want to establish the same conditions you would in the actual examination i.e.

- No notes or books
- A quiet setting
- Complete both Elements within 4 hours.



The answer key is provided at the end of this packet.

Tips for your exam day:

- Remember your photo ID.
- Print your exam number on your Scantron sheet (eliminates grading delays).
- Use a No. 2 pencil.
- Calculators with NO memory are permissible.

For more tips, read "Strategies for Passing the GROL Exam" on the following page.

Good luck on your exam!