



# California Certified Nurse Assistant

Practice test

April 6, 2026

Time limit: 120 minutes

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## Official exam page

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## Online timed practice

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Answer key for this session (PDF):

[californiacerts.com/resources/pdfs/ca-certified-nurse-assistant/ca-certified-nurse-assistant-practice-solution.pdf](https://californiacerts.com/resources/pdfs/ca-certified-nurse-assistant/ca-certified-nurse-assistant-practice-solution.pdf)

1. A client with dementia is wandering the halls and looking for their deceased spouse. The most appropriate response by the nurse aide is to:
  - A. Ignore the client until they stop wandering.
  - B. Ask the client to tell you about their spouse.
  - C. Remind the client that their spouse is dead.
  - D. Tell the client to go back to their room.
2. What is the most important reason for reporting a resident's weight accurately?
  - A. To determine how much food they should get
  - B. So they can be assigned the correct wheelchair size
  - C. It is required for their ID band
  - D. Weight changes can indicate serious medical conditions
3. What is an example of non-verbal communication?
  - A. Writing a letter to a family member
  - B. Reading the menu to a client
  - C. Facial expressions and body language
  - D. Speaking loudly to a client
4. When transferring a resident from a bed to a wheelchair, the wheelchair should be placed:
  - A. At the foot of the bed.
  - B. On the resident's strong side.
  - C. Directly in front of the resident.
  - D. On the resident's weak side.
5. Which is a normal blood pressure reading for a healthy adult?
  - A. 110/70 mmHg
  - B. 160/100 mmHg
  - C. 140/90 mmHg
  - D. 80/50 mmHg

6. When assisting a client with right-sided weakness to dress, the nurse aide should:
- Have the client dress themselves to promote independence.
  - Dress both sides at the same time.
  - Dress the weak side first.
  - Dress the strong side first.
7. Using adaptive equipment for eating helps a resident to:
- Maintain independence and dignity.
  - Eat less food.
  - Eat faster.
  - Need more CNA assistance.
8. What is the priority when performing standard precautions?
- Using sterile equipment for daily care.
  - Washing hands before and after client contact.
  - Wearing a mask at all times.
  - Wearing gloves when feeding a client.
9. The nurse aide finds a client lying on the floor. What is the initial action the nurse aide should take?
- Offer the client a glass of water.
  - Quickly run to the nurse's station to report the incident.
  - Stay with the client and call for help.
  - Help the client up into a chair.
10. When assisting a client with right-sided weakness to dress, the nurse aide should:
- Dress the weak side first.
  - Dress the strong side first.
  - Have the client dress themselves to promote independence.
  - Dress both sides at the same time.
11. A client requests to have a religious statue at their bedside. What should the Nurse Aide do?
- Hide the statue so it doesn't offend other clients
  - Ask the client to change their religious beliefs
  - Tell the client that statues are not allowed in the facility
  - Respect the client's request and allow the statue
12. What is the most important action for a Nurse Aide to take to prevent the spread of infection?
- Washing hands before and after client contact
  - Using hand sanitizer once a day
  - Wearing gloves at all times
  - Keeping the client's room warm
13. When weighing a resident on a standing scale, what should the CNA do first before the resident steps on?
- Balance the scale to zero
  - Place a towel on the scale
  - Ask the resident their weight
  - Remove the resident's shoes
14. When taking a client's radial pulse, the nurse aide should measure the pulse:
- At the inner aspect of the elbow.
  - At the neck.
  - On the thumb side of the wrist.
  - On the pinky side of the wrist.
15. Which of the following statements best encourages a client to maintain their independence?
- "I will set out your clothes, and you can dress yourself as much as you can."
  - "You shouldn't try to dress yourself; it takes too long."
  - "Let me dress you so we can get to breakfast faster."
  - "I will do everything for you so you can rest."
16. When measuring blood pressure, what is the name of the pulse you listen for with the stethoscope?
- Apical
  - Brachial
  - Radial
  - Carotid
17. Which of the following is the normal range for an adult's resting heart rate?
- 40 to 60 beats per minute
  - 60 to 100 beats per minute
  - 120 to 160 beats per minute
  - 100 to 120 beats per minute
18. What is considered a normal oral temperature range for an adult?
- 99.6°F to 101.6°F
  - 97.6°F to 99.6°F
  - 96.0°F to 97.6°F
  - 98.6°F to 100.6°F

19. A core responsibility of the nurse aide as a member of the healthcare team is to:
- A. Delegate tasks to other nurse aides.
  - B. Diagnose client conditions.
  - C. Follow the care plan designed by the nurse.
  - D. Prescribe medications for clients.
20. The most effective way to determine if a client understands instructions is to:
- A. Ask the client to repeat the instructions back to you.
  - B. Assume they understand if they nod their head.
  - C. Give written instructions and leave the room.
  - D. Ask the client "Do you understand?".
21. If a resident refuses to wear a clothing protector at mealtime, the CNA should:
- A. Scold them.
  - B. Respect their choice.
  - C. Refuse to feed them.
  - D. Put it on them anyway.
22. Which side should a CNA stand on when assisting a resident who has a weak right side to transfer from a bed to a wheelchair?
- A. In front of the resident, slightly to the left
  - B. On the resident's weak side
  - C. On the resident's strong side
  - D. Behind the resident
23. If a Nurse Aide suspects that a client is being abused by a family member, what is the initial action the Nurse Aide must take?
- A. Report the suspicion immediately to the supervising nurse
  - B. Wait to see if the abuse happens again before reporting
  - C. Confront the family member about the suspected abuse
  - D. Ask the client if they are being abused before taking action
24. The top number of a blood pressure reading represents what?
- A. Pulse pressure
  - B. Systolic pressure
  - C. Mean arterial pressure
  - D. Diastolic pressure
25. To promote dignity and respect when providing care, the nurse aide should:
- A. Allow the client to make choices about their care whenever possible.
  - B. Perform tasks for the client to save time.
  - C. Call the client by a nickname such as "sweetie" or "honey".
  - D. Discuss the client's medical condition in the hallway.
26. If a resident refuses a bath, the CNA should:
- A. Force them to take a bath.
  - B. Give them a bed bath while they sleep.
  - C. Respect their refusal and report it to the nurse.
  - D. Tell them they will smell bad.
27. When feeding a resident who has had a stroke, the CNA should place the food:
- A. On the unaffected side of the mouth.
  - B. On the affected side of the mouth.
  - C. In the center of the mouth.
  - D. Under the tongue.
28. What is the most important reason for providing oral care to an unconscious resident?
- A. To wake them up.
  - B. To keep their teeth white.
  - C. To prevent aspiration and mouth infections.
  - D. To prepare them for visitors.
29. To promote independence, a CNA should:
- A. Allow the resident to do as much as possible for themselves.
  - B. Ignore the resident's attempts to help.
  - C. Force the resident to do things they cannot do.
  - D. Do everything for the resident to save time.
30. When communicating with a client who is hard of hearing, the nurse aide should:
- A. Speak very loudly.
  - B. Face the client and speak clearly.
  - C. Turn away from the client to reduce background noise.
  - D. Speak as quickly as possible.
31. Before taking an oral temperature, how long should a CNA wait if the resident has just consumed a hot or cold drink?
- A. 30 to 45 minutes
  - B. 1 hour
  - C. 5 to 10 minutes
  - D. 10 to 20 minutes

32. When providing perineal care for a female resident, the CNA should always wipe:
- In a circular motion.
  - From side to side.
  - From back to front.
  - From front to back.
33. A resident drinks 4 ounces of juice and 6 ounces of water. What is their total intake in milliliters?
- 300 mL
  - 150 mL
  - 240 mL
  - 100 mL
34. How frequently should a bedbound resident be repositioned to prevent pressure ulcers?
- Once per shift
  - Every hour
  - Every 4 hours
  - At least every 2 hours
35. When a client is receiving oxygen therapy, the nurse aide MUST ensure that:
- The client is not allowed to eat while oxygen is flowing.
  - The oxygen flow rate is adjusted based on the client's request.
  - The oxygen tubing is placed tightly around the client's neck.
  - There are no open flames or smoking in the room.
36. If a client refuses to participate in an activity they usually enjoy, the nurse aide should:
- Tell the client they will be punished if they don't join.
  - Force the client to participate.
  - Report the change in behavior to the charge nurse.
  - Ask another client to convince them.
37. How often should the Nurse Aide reposition a client who is bedridden to prevent pressure ulcers?
- At least every two hours
  - Once a shift
  - Every four hours
  - Only when the client asks
38. When providing mouth care to an unconscious client, what is the best position to place the client in?
- Lateral (side-lying)
  - Supine (flat on back)
  - Prone (on their stomach)
  - Fowler's (sitting up)
39. When assisting a client with right-sided weakness to dress, which arm should the Nurse Aide put through the sleeve first?
- Whichever arm the client prefers
  - Both arms at the same time
  - The right arm
  - The left arm
40. What is the normal range for adult respirations?
- 25 to 35 breaths per minute
  - 20 to 28 breaths per minute
  - 8 to 12 breaths per minute
  - 12 to 20 breaths per minute
41. When communicating with a client who is hard of hearing, the nurse aide should:
- Turn away from the client to reduce background noise.
  - Speak as quickly as possible.
  - Face the client and speak clearly.
  - Speak very loudly.
42. When a resident is trying to dress themselves but is struggling, what is the best approach?
- Tell them to hurry up.
  - Take over and dress them immediately.
  - Leave the room and let them figure it out.
  - Offer gentle encouragement and minimal assistance as needed.
43. A Nurse Aide is preparing to bathe a client. Which action best demonstrates respect for the client's privacy?
- Leaving the client uncovered during the entire bath
  - Asking the client's roommate to turn around
  - Closing the door and pulling the privacy curtain before starting
  - Bathing the client quickly while the door is open
44. When dressing a resident with a weak right arm, the CNA should:
- Put the shirt on the strong left arm first.
  - Put the shirt on both arms at the same time.
  - Put the shirt on the weak right arm first.
  - Ask the resident to dress themselves.

45. When should you count a resident's respirations?
- A. While taking their blood pressure
  - B. While they are talking
  - C. Immediately after taking their pulse, while keeping your fingers on their wrist
  - D. Immediately after telling them you are counting their breathing
46. When taking a patient's radial pulse, where should the CNA place their fingers?
- A. On the side of the neck.
  - B. On the thumb side of the wrist.
  - C. On the top of the foot.
  - D. On the inside of the elbow.
47. Which of the following violates a resident's right to privacy?
- A. Keeping the resident's medical records confidential.
  - B. Closing the privacy curtain during care.
  - C. Knocking on the door before entering.
  - D. Leaving the resident's door open while giving a bed bath.
48. A client is expressing anger and frustration about being in a nursing facility. The nurse aide should:
- A. Argue with the client to show them they are wrong.
  - B. Leave the room immediately without saying anything.
  - C. Listen quietly and acknowledge the client's feelings.
  - D. Tell the client they should be grateful for the care they receive.
49. A resident says, "I am so sad since my spouse died." The best response by the CNA is:
- A. "At least they are in a better place."
  - B. "Let's go watch television and forget about it."
  - C. "I'm here to listen if you want to talk about it."
  - D. "You will feel better soon."
50. When using a transfer belt (gait belt), where should it be placed on the resident?
- A. Around the hips
  - B. Over the clothing, around the waist
  - C. Under the clothing, around the waist
  - D. Under the armpits
51. If a client with dementia becomes agitated and starts yelling, what is the best initial response by the Nurse Aide?
- A. Tell the client firmly to stop yelling immediately
  - B. Stay calm and speak in a soothing, gentle tone
  - C. Yell back so the client can hear you
  - D. Leave the room and close the door
52. When a nurse aide observes another staff member abusing a client, the nurse aide's FIRST responsibility is to:
- A. Wait and see if it happens again before reporting.
  - B. Discuss the incident with other nurse aides.
  - C. Talk to the staff member about their behavior.
  - D. Protect the client and report the incident immediately.
53. When a client is receiving oxygen therapy, the nurse aide MUST ensure that:
- A. The oxygen flow rate is adjusted based on the client's request.
  - B. The oxygen tubing is placed tightly around the client's neck.
  - C. There are no open flames or smoking in the room.
  - D. The client is not allowed to eat while oxygen is flowing.
54. When assisting a client with a bedpan, the nurse aide should ensure that the:
- A. Client is left completely flat on their back.
  - B. Client uses the bedpan for at least 30 minutes.
  - C. Bedpan is placed on top of the covers.
  - D. Head of the bed is elevated, if allowed.
55. How often should a bedbound resident be repositioned?
- A. Every 4 hours.
  - B. Once a shift.
  - C. At least every 2 hours.
  - D. Only when they ask.
56. When providing mouth care to an unconscious client, the nurse aide must ensure the client is positioned:
- A. Flat on their back.
  - B. On their side with the head turned to the side.
  - C. In a high Fowler's position.
  - D. In a prone position.
57. Which of the following is the proper temperature for a bed bath?
- A. 115°F to 120°F
  - B. 120°F to 125°F
  - C. 90°F to 95°F
  - D. 105°F to 110°F

58. Which measurement is used to document a resident's fluid output?
- A. Milliliters
  - B. Ounces
  - C. Pints
  - D. Cups
59. Which method is considered the most accurate for measuring body temperature?
- A. Oral
  - B. Rectal
  - C. Tympanic
  - D. Axillary
60. If a resident's pulse is irregular, how long should the CNA count the beats?
- A. 45 seconds
  - B. 1 full minute
  - C. 30 seconds and multiply by 2
  - D. 2 full minutes
61. If a Nurse Aide is asked to perform a task they have not been trained to do, what is the best course of action?
- A. Attempt the task anyway to be helpful
  - B. Perform the task only if the client insists
  - C. Refuse to perform the task and explain why to the supervising nurse
  - D. Ask another Nurse Aide to show them how to do it quickly
62. A resident's mail should be:
- A. Opened by the CNA to check for bad news.
  - B. Delivered to them unopened.
  - C. Thrown away if it looks like junk mail.
  - D. Given to the nurse to read first.
63. Which of the following is an important step when serving a meal tray to a blind client?
- A. Describe the location of the food using the face of a clock.
  - B. Feed the client to avoid spills.
  - C. Mix all the food together so it is easier to eat.
  - D. Place the tray in front of the client and leave the room.
64. Restraints can only be used:
- A. If the CNA is too busy to watch the resident.
  - B. With a doctor's order.
  - C. If the resident is being loud.
  - D. As a form of punishment.
65. If a nurse aide is asked to perform a task they have not been trained to do, they MUST:
- A. Refuse the task and explain to the nurse why.
  - B. Try their best to complete the task.
  - C. Ask another nurse aide to teach them quickly.
  - D. Ignore the request and perform other duties.
66. What is the first step a CNA should take when finding a resident unconscious on the floor?
- A. Start CPR
  - B. Check for responsiveness and call for help
  - C. Lift the resident back into bed
  - D. Go to the nurse's station to report it
67. When reporting client information to the nurse, the nurse aide should provide:
- A. Objective facts and specific observations.
  - B. Rumors heard from other staff members.
  - C. Information only at the end of the shift.
  - D. Their personal opinion about the client's condition.
68. The Resident's Bill of Rights includes the right to:
- A. Disobey all facility rules.
  - B. Receive daily massages.
  - C. Make independent choices.
  - D. Have a private room for free.
69. The nurse aide finds a client lying on the floor. What is the initial action the nurse aide should take?
- A. Quickly run to the nurse's station to report the incident.
  - B. Help the client up into a chair.
  - C. Offer the client a glass of water.
  - D. Stay with the client and call for help.
70. When converting ounces to milliliters (mL), how many mL are in 1 fluid ounce?
- A. 50 mL
  - B. 15 mL
  - C. 100 mL
  - D. 30 mL

