

## **FLORAL STUDY GUIDE**

This sheet is only a **partial list** of some of the things which may be included on the multiple choice test. It was **not** intended to be all inclusive. It is designed as a general guide for beginning design students.

### FLOWER CARE AND HANDLING

1. Always remove approximately 1/3 of the lower leaves of cut flowers and foliage to reduce the amount of bacteria in flower buckets.
2. Floralife is a brand name of a commercial floral preservative.
3. When processing fresh flowers, you should always recut the stems on an angle before placing them in water.
4. Carnation grades:
  - a. standard – least expensive
  - b. fancy
  - c. select
5. One factor that affects the price of wholesale roses is stem length.
6. The optimal temperature for storing cut tropical flowers is 50 degrees.
7. The optimal temperature range for storing cut flowers, except tropicals, is 38- 42 degrees.
8. Gardenias are always sold commercially in a box containing three blooms.
9. DCD is a commercial cleaner used by florists to clean and sanitize flower buckets and other surfaces.
10. The majority of cut orchids are imported. Thailand is the primary source.
11. Crowning Glory and Hawaiian Mist are two brand names of anti-transpirants used in floral design.
12. Sugar is the primary ingredient in flower food.
13. Roses are usually (but not always) sold in a 25 stem bunch.
14. Standard roses have one head per stem, sweetheart roses have one head per stem but are smaller than standard roses, and spray roses are multiple small rose heads on a single stem.
15. Standard carnations are sold in a 25 stem bunch, mini-carnations are sold in a 10 stem bunch.
16. Dendrobium orchids are sold in a 10 stem bunch and always shipped in water tubes.
17. Birds of Paradise and Ginger are sold in 5 stem bunches.
18. Many foliage and accent (filler) flowers are sold in a “grower bunch” which does not have a specific number of stems.
19. Stephanotis is a commonly used wedding flower which is sold in a box containing 25 blooms.
20. Fresh flowers and foliages are considered to be a perishable item.
21. Quick Dip is a chemical used to instantly hydrate fresh flowers. It is frequently used during flower processing to re-hydrate stems that have been dry packed.

## MECHANICS

22. Floral foam should not be forced to absorb water. This will create dry patches in the brick.
23. Floral foam comes in instant and standard formulations.
24. Styrofoam may be used for dried and silk arranging as well as specialty fresh pieces for funerals.
25. Common ribbon sizes are #3, #9 and #40. The higher the number, the wider the ribbon.
26. Wire is measured in gauges. The higher the number, the thinner the wire.
27. Two methods of securing floral foam into a container are by gluing and by taping. When using pan glue, make sure the foam is dry when gluing. Never place soaked foam into a hot glue pan.
28. Wood picks are useful in floral design because they absorb water when inserted into wet foam.
29. Waterproof, or Davey, tape is used primarily to secure floral foam to containers, clear tape is used to grid glass vases.

## DESIGN

30. The four flower shapes are:
  - a. line – delphinium, liatris, gladiolus, snapdragon
  - b. filler – baby's breath, statice, wax flower
  - c. form – bird of paradise, ginger, anthurium
  - d. mass – rose, carnation, daisy, football mum.
31. Color:
  - a. Monochromatic – colors that are in the same group i.e. red, pink, and maroon. Color plus the addition of black, white or gray.
  - b. Analogous – colors that are side by side on the color wheel. Ex. Green, green-blue, blue
  - c. Complimentary – colors that are opposite on the color wheel. Ex. Red and green or blue and orange.
  - d. Primary colors – red, blue, and yellow. From these, all colors can be made.
  - e. Shade – a color with black added to it. Ex. Red, maroon
  - f. Tint – a color with white added. Ex. Red, pink
  - g. Hue – a color with the addition of gray. Ex. Pink, dusty rose
  - h. Blending equal portions of two Primary colors together makes Secondary colors. Ex. Blue + yellow = green, red + yellow = orange
32. Ikebana is the Japanese art of floral arranging.
33. The focal area is the area of interest in a floral arrangement.
34. "Accent" flower is another term for "filler" flower.
35. Corsages and boutonnieres are also known as "body flowers" or "flowers to wear".
36. Dendrobium and cymbidium orchids are two orchid varieties used to create body flowers.
37. Two reasons why flower stems should be cut on an angle are; stems are easier to insert when cut on an angle instead of blunt cut, and the stem is able to absorb more water when it has a greater opening.
38. Hand tied bouquets are generally constructed by spiraling the floral stems.

39. Crosses, hearts, and wreaths are all forms used in tribute or sympathy designs.
40. A Unity Candle is commonly used in a wedding ceremony.
41. A cage holder is frequently used to create a standing spray design for a funeral.
42. Standing sprays, wreaths, casket sprays and dish gardens are all items frequently sent by florists to funeral homes for sympathy work.
43. Script may be attached to a ribbon and included in a sympathy design, it is generally in family pieces.
44. "Silk, or artificial flowers, are referred to as "permanent botanicals".

## INDUSTRY INFORMATION

45. The three current major floral wire services are:
  - a. FTD
  - b. Teleflora
  - c. 1-800 Flowers
46. Florists frequently purchase flowers, foliages and supplies from floral wholesalers.
47. Floral supplies like wire and tape are called "hard goods".
48. A floral magazine such as "Florist review" is a trade publication.
49. The Illinois State Florist Association is a trade association.
50. A freelance floral designer is a designer who works as needed. They frequently add to the staff of a shop during peak periods like Christmas and Valentine's Day.