



**English Performer  
Hunter Seat-Level III  
Riding Test & Oral Interview**

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|---|--|
| Jump Option<br>____ Passed<br>____ Retest | No Jump Option<br>____ Passed<br>____ Retest |
|---|--|

Horse's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Coat color \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Obvious markings \_\_\_\_\_

Rider's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Rater's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Rater's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Maneuvers will be called at random. The 4-H member must score 8 points out of 10 for each section of the test, including the oral interview questions.

**10 points: Advanced.** If applied to specific maneuvers, they were consistently executed correctly and fluidly. If applied to an overall impression, it was correct/present during all parts of the test. Questions: accurate and detailed response. Additional facts or explanation may be offered by rider.

**9 points: Proficient.** If applied to specific maneuvers, they were executed correctly most of the time and generally fluidly with minor flaws. If applied to an overall impression, it was present correctly and consistently throughout the test with minor lapses. Questions: accurate, detailed response with minor errors or omissions.

**8 points: Proficient/Basic.** If applied to specific maneuvers, they were executed correctly but may be better on one side than the other, or execution was inconsistent. It's clear that the rider can apply the aids correctly. If applied to an overall impression, the basics are present, but elements may have been briefly incorrect or absent during the test. Rider may have needed prompting (*not teaching!*) from the rater. Questions: response is generally correct but lacks detail. Some minor errors/omissions.

**0 - 7 points: Not yet proficient.** One or more of these is true to a greater or lesser degree:

- Rider is unable to produce the maneuver in one or both directions.
- Aids are applied but ineffective at producing the desired maneuver.
- Horse repeatedly balks or misbehaves.
- Rider asks rater how to execute a maneuver or definition of terms in oral questions.
- In a general impression or question response: one or more major flaws or omissions.

**Oral Interview Questions: (Must answer all five with 8 points or better.)**

| Questions, Answer source: Current United States Equestrian Federation Rulebook @ <a href="http://www.usef.org">www.usef.org</a>   | Points |
|---|--------|
| 1. How long is a typical hunter horse's stride on an outdoor hunt course? How many strides would be appropriate for two fences set 48' apart?   |        |
| 2. Explain the differences between these two fences: a vertical and an oxer. Explain a "courtesy circle", when it is used and when it is not legal.   |        |
| 3. Explain aids for achieving leg yields.   |        |
| 4. What are the legal bits for a hunter seat rider? In competition, what happens to a rider that is using an "unconventional" bit? What kinds of martingales are legal for over fences classes? Are they legal in flat classes? What are legal types of cavessons for hunter seat riders? |        |
| 5. Define three natural aids and explain when used.   |        |



Rater: Forms should be filled out the day of the test and submitted to the member's extension office within a week.

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|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Basic handling</b><br>A. Display confidence, safety, and knowledge while working around the horse.                             |                                 |                         |
| B. Fitting and turnout of the horse should be show ring quality. Explain how to braid a hunter.                                   |                                 |                         |
| <b>Riding</b><br>A. Half turn on the haunches at the walk, in both directions.  |                                 |                         |
| B. Leg yielding to the right and left, at the walk and sitting trot.  |                                 |                         |
| C. Demonstrate a canter to a hand gallop, using a 2- point position, then returning to a canter in both directions.               |                                 |                         |
| D. Show a balanced halt from walk, trot and canter on the straightaway.   |                                 |                         |
| E. Using a 3-loop serpentine, show changes of diagonal at the trot; flying changes of lead at the canter.                         |                                 |                         |
| F. Demonstrate lengthening of the walk, trot (posting) and canter. Show transitions to and from working gaits in both directions. |                                 |                         |
| G. Jump in both directions, a combination of two fences, 2 feet 3 inches in height, set for 3 strides.                            |                                 |                         |
| H. Rein back 4 steps in a straight line.  |                                 |                         |