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Introduction: Hi, my name is DCC Randy M. Barkman. I have been in the Navy Reserve since Feb 18, 1987, 1987. I'm currently drilling in Ebensburg, Pa. I wanted to increase my chances of making the Chief, and one of the things I learned was how to improve my exam score. I changed my approach completely on how I studied and prepared an exam and selection board. I received the honour that the selection board chose as chief in July 2003. I found success with the changes I made in my study habits, and I realized that what I had learned could help others and their approach to taking an exam. One of my current goals is to do what I can to help fellow shipmates achieve their Navy development goals. By the way, no matter which exam you take, the E-4 via E-7, whether we are in the same unit or the same reserve center, or if you are active duty, in reserves, shore tax, or ship tax: We are all shipmates. We all take the awesome responsibility and honor of serving our country's largest Navy in the world, and no matter where you are in the world, I truly want to see you succeed. My hope is that the information and notes in this site will help you improve your exam scores and achieve your development goals. There is a significant amount of information contained on these pages, please feel free to use this resource either online or to print study notes for your personal use. You will find links to all the comments I have compiled from BMR, MR 3&2, MR 1st, and MR CPO on both the top and bottom of this page. Cost: I'm just trying to help shipmates and I don't have any money from this site or any of the other sites I've published. This is a free website hosted by a tripod. I have absolutely no control over adds and pop-ups on the site, as is how Tripod makes its money to secure this free space for me. I use a free host so I can keep it free for you! I never ask you to donate money to keep the site going because everything here is done voluntarily. I don't sell books to get commissions or any informative CDs are filled with stuff you might have gotten elsewhere for free. There is no financial cost of using any materials on this site for your personal use, no rip offs, and no trading endeavors. If you find notes on this site and lessons on my other site useful, all I ask is that you tell two shipmates about them so others can benefit as well! Reviews: If you want to contact me or if you have reviews (which is always appreciated) or even the idea of something you would like to see attached to the site, please sign my guest book at the bottom of this page! Bibliography: On this site you will find some good tutorials, hints, and good info about PMK, as well as links to other sites (see more important information about this The first thing you will have to do is make sure you have the right to take the exam. Then you will need to get a copy of your Bibliography. Getting your bibliography is the most important advice I can give you. You can print a copy of your Bibliography at the Navy Advancement website. Your BIB will tell you what to study for both your assessment and pmk references. BCB is available six months before the exams. Be sure to get yours as soon as possible when they come out to give yourself enough study time! Military Requirements: This website was designed to help those performing the Navy Wide Development Exam. This website refers to information about military requirements. Military claims issues are now referred to as Professional Military Knowledge (Pmk) issues. I provide links to sites that will help you with your future research, which would be very helpful. PMK Questions: About 90% of your PMK issues come from military requirements courses, i.e. BMR, as well as military requirements for 3&2, 1, and Chief. What an exam writer will do is go through these courses and read questions that they believe you should be knowledgeable about. I can't tell you what questions will be in your exam. What I did did was go through every chapter and made notes about what I could learn if I was taking my exam, or what questions I'd choose to put on an exam if I was a writer. Remember, the higher you previously, the more PMK questions will be in your exam: E-4:50 E-5:65 E-6:85 E-7: 100 lots of people don't do very well in PMK issues. This is where you can make up a lot of points. Also note that each Pmk issue is exactly the same for each bet. If you are a DC3, IT3 or BM3 taking the E-5 exam, all your PMK questions will be the same. Ordering Courses: The next thing you might want to do is order military courses that are listed in your BIB. This can be done on the navy courses website. You also want to visit these sites if you can't get a copy of BMR or military requirements at your rate before your test because you will be able to learn and review the chapters you need online. You will also be able to print out your selected chapters directly from these Navy Advancement locations. I highly recommend doing this if you don't have a copy of your course book, as long as the notes here on my site are in depth, there will be times I will refer you to chapters or a few pages for review. *Note: Only up to four courses can be ordered at a time. You only have one year to complete the courses. In Rating Studying: For your in-rating studying you can try the North Star Study Guide. They have been providing services to the fleet since 1978. Their study guide costs about \$44.00. You can visit their website or order manuals www.northstarstudyguides.com Other Bib When you get your Bibliography, you'll see a list of course chapters to explore your PMK issues. Sometimes you can also propose training materials that don't come from military requirements courses that apply to this site. To help you access this material when it appears on your Bib, I have listed these links below: Navy Uniform Rules 15565 Navy Directives Joint Pub 3-07.2, Common Tactics, Methods, and Procedures for Counterterrorism, Appendix B&J (PDF file) Navy Doctrine on Counterterrorism/Force Protection Study Tips: Here are the next three most important things to do to: 1. Study! 2. Study! 3. Study! If you have a board member who performs the same exam as you do, learn together. If your shipmate has a different rating, but you're both going to the E-5 you can still look into your PMK issues together. Leave time for studying. Take notes. Pay attention to charts and graphs in courses. Make flashcards (it really helped me). You can make your own flashcards for just about every place you go. By using your Bib, studying your courses, you will improve your score. I improved my last FMS by 20.96. That's a lot of points! And it doesn't count award points or PNA points. Is there anything else that you can do? Sure. Each point is a number of points. So make sure that any prize you've earned is your service record and that it's on your work page the day you take your exam. Those who take E-4, E-5, exams can earn up to 10 points in prizes and E-6 can earn up to 12 points. (Note: not every tape/medal you have worth the points. Contact your personal office). Make sure your eval marks are correct. On your exam day check your worksheet and if there is anything wrong to tell your proctor. Also make sure all earned PNA points are in your worksheet as well. You can earn up to 30 PNA points. The exam will have 200 questions and you will have three hours in which to complete it. Use all the time you need. If you studied well, the exam would be pretty easy. If you use these methods, researching would be very helpful. The development exam is very competitive and it should get you ahead. Evaluations are very important when it comes to your development. To learn more valuable information about how assessments play a role in your development and how to improve your assessment, please visit my other website Assessments Made Easy . I believe you will find this step-by-step instruction very easy to use and a great reference! Future Bosses: If you are an E-6 and are going to take a development exam chief, I have another website called Who Wants to Be Navy Chief. When you go up to the chief, it's the only time in your Navy career when you'll both take and take an exam and go before selection Making Chief can be very competitive, and not everyone who makes a Navy career will be going to be Main. This site contains step-by-step information on how to increase your chances of making the chief. Even if you won't be eligible to take the exam for a few years, there is information on my Chief's site that can help you start increasing your chances now. Overmanned Rating: What should you do if you are overmaned for rating? If you have overmaned the rating and have no room to contribute, then run away, run away and never come back! In other words, if you are suitable, cross. That's what I did, and I went from E-3 to E-6 in 4 years. It's a decision only you can make, of course. Contact your career counselor for more information and advice. There is also more information about overmanned ratings, and ratings currently needed by reservists at www.navalreserve.com There is one last thing you need to know and you won't get this from another website: Believe Yourself Set your goals. Set them high, but attainable. Then to achieve your goals. If you had time to apply for this site and read this page, then you have shown me that you have the desire and determination it takes to succeed. I wish you good luck, To accomplish your goals, to realize your dreams To achieve success, nothing ... unless you can inspire others to do the same. ---DCC Barkman