

Gordy,

Per your request, here is an outline of how I prepared for the MCI exam.

- 1) Worked with MCIs Lee Davison, Joe Libeu, Brad Lohman, John Vanderhoff, Dusty Sprague, and yourself. Over time, I spent about 100 hours with these gentlemen. The breadth of experience they provided allowed me to observe and discuss multiple ways of teaching, completing tasks 1-19, and thinking about casting principles and mechanics.
- 2) Took 5 full pre-tests and 2 or 3 partial pre-tests with 4 different Masters and/or BOGs. These were complete 4 - 6 hour sessions. By the time I took the actual exam, I was pretty immune to pressure or surprise questions.
- 3) Made flash cards on each of the MCI Study Guide questions. As I researched various articles, books, Loop editions and talked to people, I added possible answers and thoughts to the back of each card. Some topics ended up having 4 or 5 cards. I placed the cards in categories, i.e. Teaching, Lines, Rods, Definitions, Saltwater Fishing, Freshwater Fishing, Distance Casting, Accuracy, Mends, etc.
- 4) Continually added comments, potential questions and other pertinent information to each of the 19 tasks. i.e. What are 9 reasons we false cast, name 8 uses of a roll cast, what are 4 potential advantages of making a horizontal cast?
- 5) Made written, detailed lesson plans for how I would teach each of the 19 casts to an MCI candidate. Made written detailed lesson plans for all beginner and intermediate student drills and casts, i.e. pick ups and lay down, grass drill, roll casts, double haul, etc.
- 6) Took advantage of every teaching opportunity available.
- 7) Read, studied, and committed to paper, every relevant article in *The Loop* from 1994 to the present.
- 8) Cast almost daily emphasizing 2 or 3 tasks and generally “playing” with the others. Set up a very deliberate schedule and planned to master each task, continuously reviewing previously mastered tasks while adding 1 or 2 more.
- 9) Regarding “Explain and Demonstrate” tasks, I wrote detailed responses and ‘performed’ them to my mentors and fishing buddies, making additions, deletions, adjustments ... revision after revision after revision to make my demonstrations and explanations clear, crisp, and concise. It is impressive how much you can learn from this process and how much your teaching can be improved.

I hope this helps!

Dayle