

**4-H BEEF LEARNING INFORMATION**  
**(WITH ANSWERS FOR JUDGING)**

- 1) Name 3 breeds of beef cattle  
A. Hereford, Shorthorn, Angus, Charolais, Limousin
- 2) T or F? You should dehorn your project steer or better yet buy a dehorned or polled steer.  
A. True
- 3) What should a finished steer ready to butcher weigh? \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ pounds.  
A. 1250 to 1350 pounds
- 4) How much water per day might a feeder steer need: 10 to 15 gallons, or 1-3 gallons?  
A. 10-15 gallons
- 5) T or F? Fiber is hard to digest.  
A. True
- 6) What is Bull?  
A. A male cattle of any age, that is un-castrated.
- 7) What are young cattle of either sex under 1 year of age called?  
A. Calves
- 8) T or F? A female animal that shows evidence through age, weight, conformation, and udder of having produced one or more calves is called a cow.  
A. True
- 9) What does “polled” mean?  
A. Cattle born without horns
- 10) What is a male animal that has been castrated before sexual maturity called?  
A. Steer
- 11) If you see an animal scratching or rubbing, it is a good indication it may have what?  
A. Mites, Parasites, Flies, Ticks, grubs, or Lice
- 13) What is a “bolus”, as in chewing a cud?  
A. A hunk of food brought up from the rumen, partially digested.
- 14) The grades of beef for young market animals are\_\_\_\_\_  
A. Prime, Choice, Select, Standard
- 15) The grades of beef for old market animals are\_\_\_\_\_.

A. Commercial, Utility, Cutter, Canner

16) What is the length of the gestation period of a cow?

A. 285 days (9 months and 7 days).

17) What feed helps your animal grow and build muscle?

A. Proteins

18) Name two feeds for cattle that are a good source of protein.

A. Cottonseed, Soybean, Linseed, Alfalfa Hay

19) What do you call high energy source feeds?

A. Carbohydrates

20) Name 3 carbohydrate type energy feeds.

A. Barley, Corn, Oats, Wheat, Milo, Beet Pulp, Molasses

21) What is the Food Conversion Ratio; FCR?

A. FCR is the amount of grain you get from every pound of grain you feed.

22) What is the Food Conversion Ratio for cattle?

A. The Food Conversion Ratio for cattle is 8:1

22) Feed that is low in digestibility and high in fiber is called what?

A. Roughage

23) Give an example of roughage or high fiber feed.

A. Hay or Pasture

24) A feed that is highly digestible and low in fiber is called what?

A. Concentrate

25) What is the term "finish" describing?

A. Degree of fatness and readiness for market.

26) What is the term used for describing the process of fattening, training, and grooming an animal for show or sale called?

A. Fitting

27) What is a beef animal that has one or both parents not registered with a breed association called?

A. Grade Animal

28) What does "Parturition" mean?

A. Act of birth

- 29) A table that gives a line of ancestors for an animal; a genealogical tree, is called what?  
A. Pedigree
- 31) T or F? Nutrition is the study of the feeding process and how the animal dies.  
A. False. Nutrition is the study of the feeding process and how an animal uses feed.
- 32) T or F? Genetics is the study of how an animal processes its food.  
A. False. Genetics is the study of how animal or plant characteristics are passed from parent to offspring.
- 33) What is the first thick milk a mother gives, which is full of important nutrition called?  
A. Colostrum
- 34) T or F? A small amount of marbling is necessary for juiciness and flavor of meat.  
A. True
- 35) T or F? Yield (Dressing Percent) is the weight (yield) of the carcass as a percent of live weight.  
A. True. Example: A 1000 lb. live steer yields a 600 pound carcass. The “dressing percent” is 60% (600 divided by 1000x100%=60%).
- 36) T or F? A “Rib Eye” is a cross section of the loin muscle (longissimus dorsi). The large muscle of a rib steak or loin chops.  
A. True
- 37) Name the 4 parts of a ruminant’s stomach in order. (4 points available)  
A. Rumen, Reticulum, Omasum, Abomasum
- 38) Name two types or species of animals that are ruminants. (2 points available)  
A. Cattle, Sheep, Goats
- 39) Give an example of what means an animal might be identified by. ( 1 point available)  
A. Brand, tattoo, number and neck chain, ear tag
- 40) Cattle grubs found on the back of an animal are the larvae of what?  
A. Heel Fly
- 41) Name three parasites which may affect cattle. (3 points available)  
A. Ticks, Lice, Horn Flies, Intestinal Worms, mites
- 42) Name a disease cattle may get.  
A. Blackleg, Leptospirosis, Influenza, Pneumonia, Pink eye, Hoof rot
- 43) T or F? An animal should clean-up the feed you have given it in ½ to 1 ½ hours.  
A. True

## SHOWMANSHIP

1) T or F? You should have a scotch comb.

A. True, (Comb: Scotch or flat.)

2) T or F? It is important to be ready to enter the ring when your class is called. This means keeping track of earlier classes and having both your animal and yourself ready.

A. True

3) T or F? Circle the ring clockwise at a brisk walk

A. True

4) T or F? While leading the calf, the showmen walks to the left of the calf's head, so the judge will have a full front view of the animal.

A. True

5) T or F? With the lead strap in your right hand, hold the calf's head up to display alertness. This position must be comfortable for your arm and the animals head. (Otherwise you may both tire out before the show is over). Your left hand has the remainder of the lead and your show stick, being carried comfortably between waist and shoulder height.

A. True

6) T or F? The halter shank needs to be loose at all times, so the animal can move freely about.

A. False. The halter shank needs to be tight at all times, so the exhibitor can feel all movements of the calf.

7) T or F? You must keep your eyes on the judge at all times, besides to look where you are going and to set up your animal

A. True

8) T or F? You can "Place the animals feet" with pressure on the halter, combined with the use of the show stick.

A. True

9) T or F? After the judge moves on to the next animal, comb your animals hair back in place, if it was touched, and make sure the animal is reset properly.

A. True

10) T or F? While stopped, stand 6" - 12" away from the calf, facing it at a 45° angle from the calf's head. Find a spot along the underside of the calf and content the animal by gently scratching with the show stick.

A. True

11) T or F? When instructed to change place in line, lead out forward and turn the animal to the right (clockwise). Keep the calf between the judge and yourself. Lead back through the spot you just left and lead to the proper place. Avoid making very short turns as this detracts from the animal's appearance.

A. True

12) T or F? The judge's first lineup is generally their final placing. You can relax now and quit "showing".

A. False. The judge's first lineup is generally not their final placing, and so you shouldn't become discouraged or quit showing until the class is dismissed.

13) T or F? Part of having "Good Ethics" is having a good attitude only if you win.

A. False. A good showman will always be courteous and maintains a sportsmanlike attitude throughout the show, whether winning first or not.

14) T or F? You do not need to shave/ clip your animal, that's for swine only.

A. False. You do clip your animal before showing it.

15) T or F? It does not matter whether you get your calf used to being tied. It is only important to train it to wear a halter and walk.

A. False. It has to be tied up at the fair for the whole week.