

# Project-Planning-Design Exam Pass4sure | Valid Project-Planning-Design Exam Tips



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## NCARB Project-Planning-Design Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Building Systems, Materials, &amp; Assemblies:</b> This section of the exam measures skills of architectural designers and covers the understanding of building systems such as mechanical, electrical, and plumbing, along with structural and specialty systems. It also involves selecting appropriate materials and assemblies to align with program needs, budgets, and regulations.</li></ul>
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Project Integration of Program &amp; Systems:</b> This section of the exam measures skills of project architects and focuses on integrating decisions about environmental conditions, codes, and building systems into one cohesive project design. It highlights how to configure the building and incorporate both program requirements and contextual conditions in a unified design approach.</li></ul>
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Codes &amp; Regulations:</b> This section of the exam measures the skills of project architects and focuses on applying zoning laws, environmental rules, and building codes during the planning stage. Candidates are tested on how to integrate multiple regulatory requirements into a project's design effectively.</li></ul>
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Project Costs &amp; Budgeting:</b> This section of the exam measures skills of architectural designers and assesses the ability to evaluate design alternatives based on program goals, perform cost evaluations, and manage cost considerations throughout the design process.</li></ul>
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Environmental Conditions &amp; Context:</b> This section of the exam measures skills of architectural designers and covers how to use site analysis information to determine building placement and environmental planning decisions. It emphasizes applying sustainable principles and considering the neighborhood context to guide project design.</li></ul>

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## NCARB ARE 5.0 Project Planning & Design (PPD) Sample Questions (Q86-Q91):

### NEW QUESTION # 86

When laying out access routes and parking lots for an office building, which of the following strategies can increase the security of the site?

- A. Designate parking areas based on defined user groups
- B. Integrate shipping and receiving in one location
- C. Provide an equal amount of parking spaces on each side of the building
- D. Provide public access to all parking areas

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:

Designating parking areas for different user groups (e.g., employees, visitors, service vehicles) helps control access, monitor activity, and reduce unauthorized entry, improving site security.

Equal parking on all sides (A) does not affect security.

Integrating shipping and receiving (C) may improve logistics but not necessarily security.

Providing public access to all parking (D) can increase security risks.

NCARB PPD guidelines emphasize zoning and controlled access as key security strategies.

References:

ARE 5.0 PPD - Environmental Conditions and Context, Site Security

The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th Edition - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

### NEW QUESTION # 87

The use of a central computer system to monitor a building's heating and cooling demands will do which one of the following?

- A. Eliminate the use of a facility manager
- B. Be primarily for solar-heating and natural-cooling systems
- C. Increase the cost of energy consumption
- D. Interactively select the least energy-intensive system or combination of systems

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:

Central building automation systems (BAS) monitor and control HVAC and other systems to optimize energy efficiency by selecting the best combination of available systems and adjusting operation based on demand and conditions. This reduces energy consumption and operational costs.

BAS does not eliminate the need for facility managers (A), who oversee broader operations.

It aims to reduce, not increase, energy costs (C).

BAS is applicable to all mechanical systems, not limited to solar or natural cooling (D).

References:

ARE 5.0 PPD - Building Systems and Assemblies, Building Automation

The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th Edition - Mechanical Systems

### NEW QUESTION # 88

Which of the following are characteristics of heavy-timber construction? Check the four that apply.

- A. Susceptibility to differential shrinkage
- B. Fire resistance
- C. Relatively rapid on-site erection times
- D. Susceptibility to rot
- E. Presence of sapwood to prevent insect damage
- F. Suitability to create unusual layouts or irregular forms

**Answer: A,B,C,D**

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:

Heavy timber construction is characterized by:

Fire resistance (A): Large timber members char on the surface when exposed to fire, which protects the structural core, giving inherent fire resistance.

Susceptibility to differential shrinkage (C): Heavy timber elements can shrink unevenly, potentially causing joints or connections to loosen.

Relatively rapid on-site erection times (D): Pre-fabricated heavy timber elements are large and can be quickly erected compared to traditional framing.

Susceptibility to rot (E): Without proper detailing and protection, timber can decay due to moisture exposure.

Unsuitable for unusual layouts or irregular forms (B): Heavy timber tends to be more rigid and better suited for regular layouts.

Presence of sapwood (F): Sapwood is generally more susceptible to insect attack; durable heartwood is preferred to resist insects.

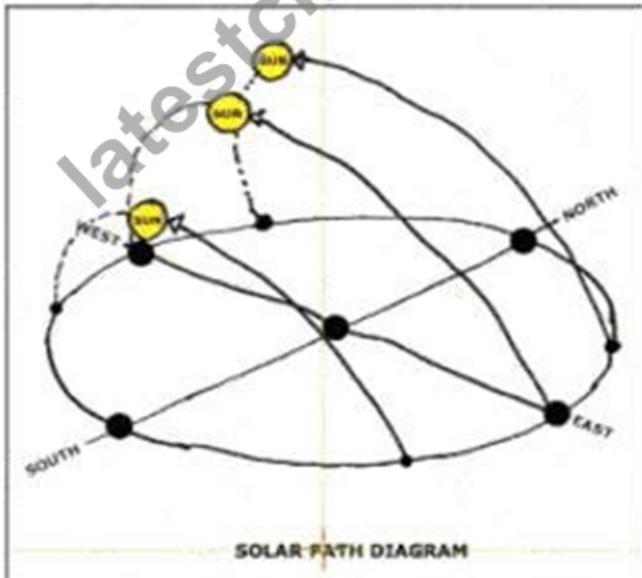
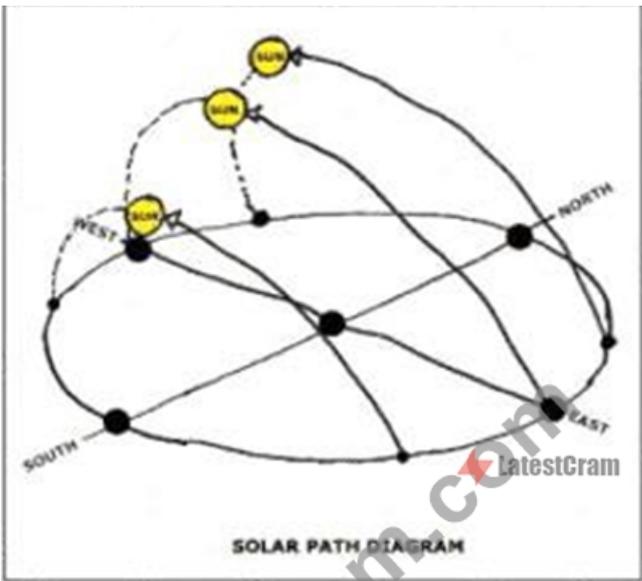
References:

ARE 5.0 PPD - Building Systems and Assemblies, Heavy Timber Construction The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th Edition - Wood Construction

#### **NEW QUESTION # 89**

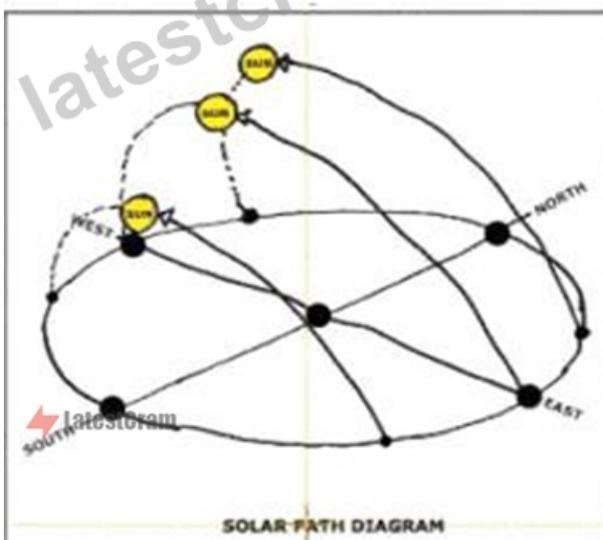
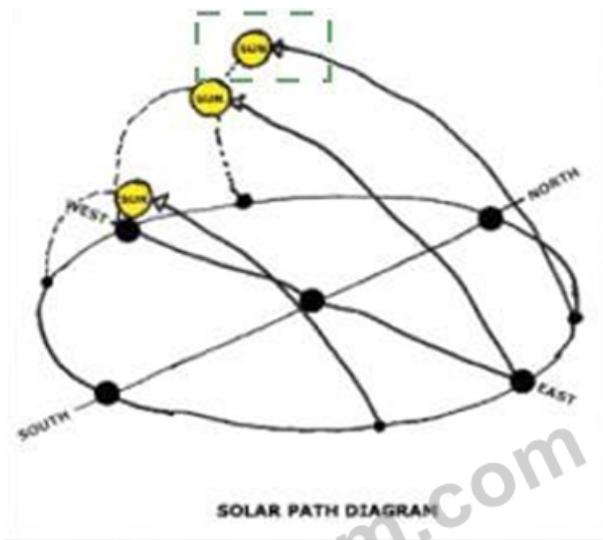
An architect is designing overhangs for a building on a site in the southeastern United States. The architect desires to minimize heat gain during the summer months.

Click in the sun on the solar path diagram that the architect should consider when designing the overhangs.

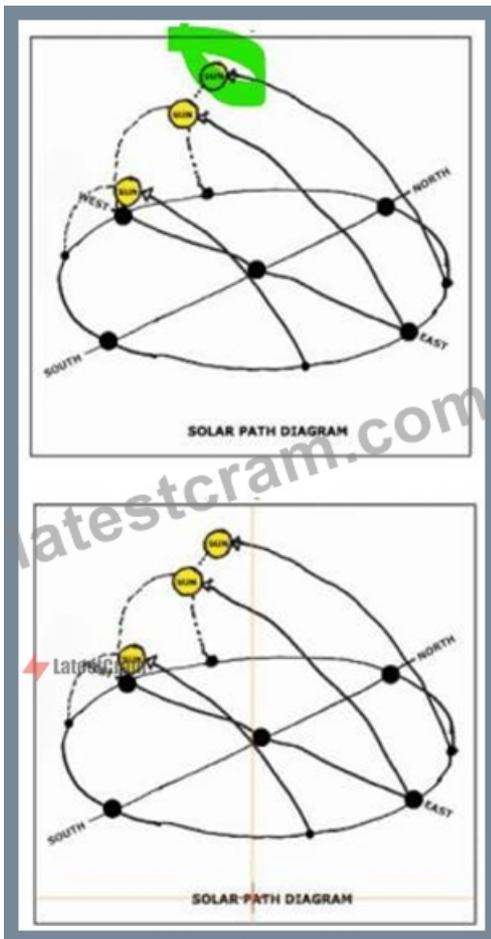


Answer:

Explanation:



Explanation:  
 A diagram of solar path diagram AI-generated content may be incorrect.



\* The solar path diagram shows the sun's trajectory through the sky at different times of the year.

\* In the southeastern U.S., during summer months, the sun reaches a high altitude (near the top of the solar path diagram), typically toward the southern sky.

\* Designing overhangs to block this high summer sun reduces direct solar heat gain inside the building, improving thermal comfort and reducing cooling loads.

\* The lower sun position corresponds to winter when sunlight penetration is beneficial for passive solar heating and daylighting, so overhangs should allow low-angle winter sun while shading high-angle summer sun.

On the provided diagrams, the sun symbol at the highest arc near the south (the highest yellow sun on the upper diagram) represents the summer sun path to focus on for shading design.

### NEW QUESTION # 90

The design of a large, one-story building to be used for the storage of confidential documents is being evaluated for security. The owners wish to have as much storage space as possible.

Which of the following design strategies would be the most economical solution to maximize security?

- A. Minimize building entries and windows
- B. Increase building setbacks
- C. Add visual surveillance cameras

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:

Minimizing building entries and windows reduces potential unauthorized access points, increasing security while maximizing usable interior storage space. This approach is cost-effective compared to increasing setbacks (which requires more land) or installing surveillance systems (which adds operational costs).

NCARB PPD guidelines recommend minimizing access points and openings for high-security storage buildings.

References:

ARE 5.0 PPD - Environmental Conditions and Context, Security Design

The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th Edition - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

