

**OEC MSP**  
**Written Scenario Exercises**

**Sample of a written response**

The following section contains a sample essay response to a scenario. Use this as a guide for writing answers to two scenarios.

**General Problem Description**

A 60-year-old male (Patient A) is sitting on the snow after climbing uphill to help his wife (Patient B), who fell on a more difficult slope and is complaining of severe lower leg pain. Patient A is short of breath and complaining of chest pain, and has a history of angina.

**Patient Information**

**Patient A:** Complains of severe chest pain, sub-sternal radiating to the left arm. The patient has taken a nitroglycerin tablet but has not felt any relief. The patient also complains of shortness of breath, is anxious, and is concerned for his wife, who is perspiring heavily.

**Patient B:** Complains of severe pain and tenderness at the top of her left boot. The patient's circulation, motor functions, and sensation are within normal limits. (She can wiggle her toes, is not bleeding, and has no open fracture.)

Vital Signs	Patient A		Patient B	
	Pulse	Respirations	Pulse	Respirations
Initial	118	32	110	20
5 min.	110	30	112	22
10 min	106	28	100	22
15 min	110	30	104	24

**Sample of Written Response**

**Leadership:** Communication with both patients and available helpers is crucial. Patient A needs to be reassured about his wife's condition. Patient B needs to be reassured about her husband and treated quickly to avoid further complications with shock. The leader must direct with *confidence* and a *positive* attitude. Utilize all available helpers aggressively and effectively. Use a *team approach* and control the situation at all times. Give clear, simple directions. It is essential that the necessary OEC skills are performed on both patients according to OEC performance guidelines. It is the leader's responsibility to ensure proper skill application by all helpers.

**Decision-making:** Ensure the overall safety of the people at the accident site by identifying any immediate hazards, marking the site clearly, and protecting the patients from further possible harm. *Assess* the problem. Determine the *priority* for treatment by performing primary surveys on each patient followed by secondary surveys to determine appropriate medical care for each patient. With the possibility of a heart attack for Patient A, alert the base that this is a hurry case. Call for two toboggans equipped with hill packs, as well as blankets, a quick splint, and oxygen.

**Problem management:** *Utilize* the available people to assist with the patients and the equipment. Assign people according to their skill and experience. *Direct* bystanders to help secure the site, and assist with splinting and lifting, if patrollers are not immediately available. *Request* the appropriate equipment. Have a *plan of action* based on the patients' conditions and the circumstances of the accident and the environment.

The main concern is the need to get Patient A to advanced life support as quickly as possible while still properly handling Patient B.

Patient A should be positioned so that he is comfortable. He should be transported with his head uphill, while having oxygen administered to him. Transport Patient A in a sitting position unless the patient is more comfortable lying down. Patroller assistance also will dictate this transportation decision. Patient B should be transported with the injury uphill.

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### Scenarios from The Ski Patroller's Manual, 14<sup>th</sup> ed.

Select two of the following scenarios and provide a written response as described on a previous page.

#### Written OEC Scenario 1

##### General Scenario

A skier is out of control and goes off the slope at high speed. The skier strikes a tree, bounces off, and collides with a second tree with his lower body. He then lands on a rock. There is a witness to the accident, and he has remained on the scene. The patient remains unresponsive throughout the scenario.

##### Patient Information

The skier is unresponsive with slight bleeding from the nose. His skull is bruised on the side of the forehead, next to the temple. There is no response to pain. The left leg is at a 45-degree angle.

<u>Vital Signs</u>	<u>Pulse</u>	<u>Respirations</u>
Initial	120	14
5 Min	126	18
10 Min	130	18 Secretions beginning to affect breathing. Patient is gagging.
15 min	128	14

##### Scenario objectives

Describe your actions as leader. What injuries do you suspect? What are your treatment and transport priorities? What other aspects of the scenario need your attention? Be sure to show how you would handle leadership, decision making, and problem management.

#### Written OEC Scenario 2

##### General Scenario

A skier goes over a jump and crosses her skis when landing. This causes a hard, body-slam fall on a firm packed slope. The fall is on her right side.

##### Patient Information

The patient is oriented to person, place, time and event, but because of deepening shock, she is not completely responsive. The patient's right rib cage hurts a great deal, with more diffuse pain inside the chest cavity. She is coughing up pink sputum. Her breathing is difficult (rapid and shallow). Her right upper arm is also very painful.

<u>Vital Signs</u>	<u>Pulse</u>	<u>Respirations</u>
Initial	96	26
5 Min	100	28
10 Min	106	30
15 min	112	32

### Scenario objectives

Describe your actions as leader. What injuries do you suspect? What are your treatment and transport priorities? What other aspects of the scenario need your attention? Be sure to show how you would handle leadership, decision making, and problem management.

### Written OEC Scenario 3

#### General Scenario

Three kids are goofing around and pushing each other while on the chair lift. One starts to fall, grabs hold of the other two, and all three fall from the chair (about 10 feet).

#### Patient Information

**Patient A:** The patient may have broken ribs and is having some trouble breathing. He is sitting up and holding his arm to his chest (in a “V” position with his hand at the opposite shoulder). He is relatively comfortable in this position but feels a little nauseated. He blames the others for the accident.

**Patient B:** The patient has broken his glasses and complains of pain under his eyelid. Glass is in the eye. He blames the others for the accident.

**Patient C:** This patient is shaken and bruised but not injured. He blames the others for almost killing him. He is persistently distracting when not attended to.

### Scenario objectives

Describe your actions as leader. What injuries do you suspect? What are your treatment and transport priorities? What other aspects of the scenario need your attention? Be sure to show how you would handle leadership, decision making, and problem management.

### Written OEC Scenario 4

#### General Scenario

A 16 year old hits a “pop” fence, which causes a forward fall. When you arrive on the scene, the patient’s mental status is fuzzy. He doesn’t recall the accident but answers to his name. The patient is wearing a medical-alert tag that says DIABETIC. He can move his jaw, and although it is painful, he is able to swallow with no airway obstruction.

#### Patient Information

The patient is conscious of sharp, severe pain one inch anterior to the angle of the jaw. His teeth don’t mesh properly. The patient is insulin dependent. He took insulin that morning but skipped lunch.

<u>Vital Signs</u>	<u>Pulse</u>	<u>Respirations</u>
Initial	68	18
5 Min	72	16
10 Min	72	14
15 min	70	14

### Scenario objectives

Describe your actions as leader. What injuries do you suspect? What are your treatment and transport priorities? What other aspects of the scenario need your attention? Be sure to show how you would handle leadership, decision making, and problem management.

### Written OEC Scenario 5

#### General Scenario

When you arrive on the scene, the skier tells you he lost control trying to jump a mogul, became airborne, and hit the tree with his right side. He is lying on a significant grade at the tree-lined edge of the slope.

#### Patient Information

The patient is lying on his right side with the left ski off. The right hip is slightly flexed. He guards the right leg and will not allow the right hip to be extended. The skier complains persistently of groin/hip pain and keeps repeating that he has to go to the bathroom. He has severe pain upon pelvic compression and pain in the lower quadrants. A low pulse rise and increased general abdominal guarding occur. The patient becomes diaphoretic and increasingly insistent about having to void.

<u>Vital Signs</u>	<u>Pulse</u>	<u>Respirations</u>
Initial	100	22 and shallow

Vitals rise gradually throughout the problem.

### Scenario objectives

Describe your actions as leader. What injuries do you suspect? What are your treatment and transport priorities? What other aspects of the scenario need your attention? Be sure to show how you would handle leadership, decision making, and problem management.

### Written OEC Scenario 6

#### General Scenario

You have just arrived on the scene of an accident involving a guest and an employee who was driving a snowmobile. A bystander states that a member of the snowmaking crew was driving his snowmobile very recklessly and that he forced the skier off the trail. The skier struck a snowmaking hydrant and caught her left ski under a snow-making pipe as she left the trail. The snowmobile operator has driven away.

#### Patient Information

The skier is lying on her back with her head downhill. She complains of severe pain in the right upper leg and the left knee. She will not allow the left knee to be straightened.

<u>Vital Signs</u>	<u>Pulse</u>	<u>Respirations</u>
Initial	100	24

Vitals remain stable if patient is treated for shock.

If not treated for shock, pulse and respirations become 140 and 35.

### Scenario objectives

Describe your actions as leader. What injuries do you suspect? What are your treatment and transport priorities? What other aspects of the scenario need your attention? Be sure to show how you would handle leadership, decision making, and problem management.

### Written OEC Scenario 7

#### General Scenario

A novice skier was skiing out of control down an advanced slope. Another skier collided with the novice as he was finishing a turn. The novice (Patient A) is not moving. The other skier (Patient B) is sitting on the ground.

#### Patient Information

Patient A is unresponsive and lying face down on the snow. He has blood running from his mouth and is having trouble breathing. The bleeding appears to be where he bit his tongue. Patient B is sitting on the ground complaining of pain in his shoulder. He is very rude and is yelling at the unresponsive skier.

<u>Vital Signs</u>	<u>Pulse</u>	<u>Respirations</u>	
Patient A	+12	+4	Vitals remain stable
Patient B	Normal	Normal when calm	
	Elevated	Elevated when not calm	

### Scenario objectives

Describe your actions as leader. What injuries do you suspect? What are your treatment and transport priorities? What other aspects of the scenario need your attention? Be sure to show how you would handle leadership, decision making, and problem management.

### Written OEC Scenario 8

#### General Scenario

A skier who was jumping off a mogul struck two skiers who crossed his path. All three slid down the hill. One skier slid into the path of a snow-grooming machine. The lift operator tells you about the accident as you come off the chair, including the fact that the accident happened 10 minutes earlier and that there are no other patrollers available to help. You grab a toboggan and take it to the accident.

#### Patient Information

Patient A, the skier who jumped off the mogul, has pain in both lower legs; one is bleeding. He is very upset and apologetic. He repeatedly says that he never saw the other skiers until it was too late. He is also the skier who hit the grooming machine.

Patient B is unresponsive when you arrive but comes around as you start to do the assessment. He is unclear about what caused the accident and gets upset when he sees that his friend has been further injured by hitting the grooming machine.

Patient C has a large gash on the side of his neck; there is a pool of blood under him. His pupils are fixed and dilated.

<u>Vital Signs</u>	<u>Pulse</u>	<u>Respirations</u>	
Patient A	+16	+6	Vitals remain elevated throughout the scenario
Patient B	+16	+6	Vitals remain elevated throughout the scenario
Patient C	None	None	

### **Scenario objectives**

Describe your actions as leader. What injuries do you suspect? What are your treatment and transport priorities? What other aspects of the scenario need your attention? Be sure to show how you would handle leadership, decision making, and problem management.

## **Written OEC Scenario 9**

### **General Scenario**

You and another patroller are standing at the top of a chairlift where you observe two skiers trying to get off the lift. As they rise from the chair, the first skier begins to fall. He grabs for the second skier for support and they both fall. The second skier is hit on the back of the head by the chair as it swings around.

### **Patient Information**

Patient A is nervous and anxious about his friend's reaction to the accident. He complains of pain and tenderness in his right wrist and of pain when trying to move his fingers or wrist.

Patient B has a laceration on the back of his head from the chair, surrounded by some local tenderness, but he reports no generalized head or neck pain or problems with movement. He also complains of a knee that is sore from being twisted during the fall and says he heard it "pop" when falling. At some point during the interview, after the patient realizes he is bleeding, he tells you that he is HIV-positive. This is a cause for concern as you had contact with the blood before putting on your gloves. Vitals are as found.

### **Scenario objectives**

Describe your actions as leader. What injuries do you suspect? What are your treatment and transport priorities? What other aspects of the scenario need your attention? Be sure to show how you would handle leadership, decision making, and problem management.