



# Salem Classical Fencing

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## 115 Basic Foil Skills Challenge Examination Study Guide

In order to take classes beyond 115 Basic Foil Skills, the student must successfully complete **all** of the skills on this examination with a staff instructor as the test proctor.

### Examination of Actions

The student should be able to perform the listed actions. All actions assume right-handed student vs. right-handed proctor **or** left-handed student vs. right-handed proctor (i.e. the most common match-ups). The student will be given **three** opportunities to perform each action correctly, and must execute the action correctly at least two times (the proctor has a limited amount of discretion in this area).

\* For left-handed students, actions may require the proctor and/or the student to act in the opposite line. Likewise, the hand position may need to be reversed – i.e. from supination to pronation and vice versa.

⌘ Indicates an action that is so fundamental that a major error executing this action will result in an automatic failure.

1. Pass Fail **Change of engagement ⌘ – sixte to quarte**  
*in response to proctor closing his outside line*
2. Pass Fail **Change of engagement ⌘ – quarte to sixte**  
*in response to proctor closing his outside line*
3. Pass Fail **Counter-disengage ⌘ – in quarte**  
*in response to proctor changing engagement from high inside to high outside*
4. Pass Fail **Counter-disengage ⌘ – in sixte**  
*in response to proctor changing engagement from high outside to high inside*
5. Pass Fail **Parry Quarte ⌘ (lateral) – with a retreat, from sixte**  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high inside line*
6. Pass Fail **Parry Sixte ⌘ (lateral) – with a retreat, from quarte**  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high outside line*
7. Pass Fail **Parry Tierce (lateral) – with a retreat, from quarte**  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high outside line*
8. Pass Fail **Parry Quarte (lateral) – with a retreat, from tierce**  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high inside line*
9. Pass Fail **Parry Prime (lateral) – with a retreat, from sixte**  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high inside line*
10. Pass Fail **Parry Sixte (lateral) – with a retreat, from prime**  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high outside line*

11. Pass Fail **Parry Octave**  (semi-circular) – with a retreat, from sixte  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to low outside line*
12. Pass Fail **Parry Sixte**  (semi-circular) – with a retreat, from octave  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high outside line*
13. Pass Fail **Parry Septime**  (semi-circular) – with a retreat, from quarte  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to low inside line*
14. Pass Fail **Parry Quarte**  (semi-circular) – with a retreat, from septime  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high inside line*
15. Pass Fail **Parry Circle-Quarte**  – with a retreat, from quarte  
*in response to proctor's attack by feint to high outside line and disengage to high inside line*
16. Pass Fail **Parry Circle-Sixte**  – with a retreat, from sixte  
*in response to proctor's attack by feint to high inside line and disengage to high outside line*
17. Pass Fail **Parry High Septime (half-circle)** – with a retreat, from sixte  
*in response to proctor's attack by feint to low inside line and change to high line*
18. Pass Fail **Parry Sixte (lateral)** – with a retreat, from high septime  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high outside line*
19. Pass Fail **Parry Septime (diagonal)** – with a retreat, from sixte  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to low inside line*
20. Pass Fail **Parry Sixte (diagonal)** – with a retreat, from septime  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high outside line*
21. Pass Fail **Parry Seconde (diagonal)** – with a retreat, from quarte  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to low outside line*
22. Pass Fail **Parry Quarte (diagonal)** – with a retreat, from seconde  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high inside line*
23. Pass Fail **Parry Quarte-Riposte Direct** – with a retreat, from sixte  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high inside line*
24. Pass Fail **Parry Sixte-Riposte Direct** – with a retreat, from quarte  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to high outside line*
25. Pass Fail **Parry Septime-Riposte Direct** – with a retreat, from sixte  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to low inside line*
26. Pass Fail **Parry Octave-Riposte Direct** – with a retreat, from sixte  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to low outside line*
27. Pass Fail **Parry High Septime-Riposte Direct** – with a retreat, from sixte  
*in response to proctor's indirect attack to the inside line*
28. Pass Fail **Parry Seconde-Riposte Direct** – with a retreat, from sixte  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to the low outside line*
29. Pass Fail **Parry Prime-Riposte Direct** – with a retreat, from sixte  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to the inside line*
30. Pass Fail **Parry Tierce-Riposte Direct** – with a retreat, from sixte  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to the high outside line*

31. Pass Fail **Parry Circle-Sixte-Riposte Direct – with a retreat, from sixte**  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to the high inside line*
32. Pass Fail **Parry Circle-Quarte-Riposte Direct – with a retreat, from quarte**  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to the high outside line*
33. Pass Fail **Parry Quarte-Riposte Indirect – with a retreat, from sixte**  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to the high inside line, followed by quarte counterparry*
34. Pass Fail **Parry Sixte-Riposte Indirect – with a retreat, from quarte**  
*in response to proctor's direct attack to the high outside line, followed by sixte counterparry*
35. Pass Fail **Advance-check**  
*in response to verbal cue*
36. Pass Fail **Retreat-check**  
*in response to verbal cue*
37. Pass Fail **Attack Quarte Direct – with a lunge**  
*in response to proctor's invitation by changing guard from quarte to sixte while advancing*
38. Pass Fail **Attack Sixte Direct – with a lunge**  
*in response to proctor's invitation by changing guard from sixte to quarte while advancing*
39. Pass Fail **Attack Septime Direct – with a lunge**  
*in response to proctor's invitation by changing guard from septime to octave while advancing*
40. Pass Fail **Attack Octave Direct – with a lunge**  
*in response to proctor's invitation by changing guard from octave to septime while advancing*
41. Pass Fail **Beat Quarte-Attack Direct – with a balestra**  
*in response to proctor's invitation by point in line*
42. Pass Fail **Beat Sixte-Attack Direct – with a balestra**  
*in response to proctor's invitation by point in line*
43. Pass Fail **Attack Indirect to High Inside – with a lunge**  
*in response to proctor's invitation by changing guard from sixte to quarte and back to sixte while advancing*
44. Pass Fail **Attack Indirect to High Outside – with a lunge**  
*in response to proctor's invitation by changing guard from quarte to sixte and back to quarte while advancing*
45. Pass Fail **Beat Quarte-Attack Indirect – with a balestra**  
*in response to proctor's invitation by point in line, followed by a reaction of quarte parry*
46. Pass Fail **Beat Sixte-Attack Indirect – with a balestra**  
*in response to proctor's invitation by point in line, followed by a reaction of sixte parry*
47. Pass Fail **Feint High Inside-Disengage to High Outside – with a pattinando**  
*in response to proctor's advance into lunge distance in sixte, followed by a late quarte parry and retreat*
48. Pass Fail **Feint High Outside-Disengage to High Inside – with a pattinando**  
*in response to proctor's advance into lunge distance in quarte, followed by a late sixte parry and retreat*

49. Pass Fail **Beat Quarte-Feint-Disengage to High Outside – with an advance-lunge**  
*in response to proctor's point in line, followed by a quarte parry and retreat in response to the feint*
50. Pass Fail **Beat Sixte-Feint-Disengage to High Inside – with an advance-lunge**  
*in response to proctor's point in line, followed by a sixte parry and retreat in response to the feint*
51. Pass Fail **Feint High Inside-Disengage-Disengage to High Inside – with an advance-lunge**  
*in response to proctor's advance into lunge distance in sixte, followed by a quarte parry, a sixte parry, and a retreat*
52. Pass Fail **Feint High Outside-Disengage-Disengage to High Outside – with an advance-lunge**  
*in response to proctor's advance into lunge distance in quarte, followed by a sixte parry, a quarte parry, and a retreat*

### **Fundamental Positions and Movements**

The student should be able to perform the listed positions without any **major** errors, whether individually and in combination (e.g. *advance-retreat-lunge*). A major error at **any** point during the testing process is an automatic failure for the entire examination. However, at the proctor's discretion, the rest of the exam may continue for evaluation purposes.

53. Pass Fail **Ready/Rest**
54. Pass Fail **On Guard** ✍
55. Pass Fail **Extend and return to guard** ✍
56. Pass Fail **Advance** ✍
57. Pass Fail **Retreat** ✍
58. Pass Fail **Lunge** ✍
59. Pass Fail **Advance-Lunge** ✍
60. Pass Fail **Pattinando** ✍
61. Pass Fail **Balestra (jump-lunge)** ✍

### **Basic Safety**

The following are basic safety skills for fencers. Failure to demonstrate these skills at **any** point during the testing process is an automatic failure for the entire examination. However, the rest of the exam may continue for evaluation purposes.

62. Pass Fail **Point down when not fencing** ✍  
 The student's weapon point should be aimed at the floor at all times, except when the student is fencing or engaged in drill.
63. Pass Fail **Face forward** ✍  
 Whenever the student is fencing or engaged in drill, the unprotected back of the student's head should never be visible from the perspective of the opponent or partner.