- 1. To safely and effectively handle weapons, Soldiers must be cognitively aware of three distinct weapons handling measures. What are they?
- 2. What is rule 1 of firearm safety?
- 3. What is rule 2 of firearm safety?
- 4. What is rule 3 of firearm safety?
- 5. What is rule 4 of firearm safety?
- 6. The readiness of a Soldier's weapon is termed as its weapon safety status (WSS).
- 7. Each color represents a specific series of actions that are applied to a weapon.
- 8. What must leaders take into consideration when giving weapon control statuses?
- 9. The shooter is responsible for the point of impact of every round fired from their weapon. What does this mean?

- 1. To safely and effectively handle weapons, Soldiers must be cognitively aware of three distinct weapons handling measures:
 - a. The rules of firearms safety.
 - b. Weapons safety status.
 - c. Weapons control status.
- 2. What is rule 1 of firearm safety?
 - a. Rule 1: Treat Every Weapon as if it is Loaded
 - b. 1-7. Any weapon handled by a Soldier must be treated as if it is loaded and prepared to fire. Whether or not a weapon is loaded should not affect how a Soldier handles the weapon in any instance.
 - c. 1-8. Soldiers must take the appropriate actions to ensure the proper weapon status is applied during operations, whether in combat or training.
- 3. What is rule 2 of firearm safety?
 - a. Rule 2: Never Point the Weapon at Anything You Do Not Intend to Destroy
 - b. 1-9. Soldiers must be aware of the orientation of their weapon's muzzle and what is in the path of the projectile if the weapon fires. Soldiers must ensure the path between the muzzle and target is clear of friendly forces, noncombatants, or anything the Soldier does not want to strike. When this is unavoidable, the Soldier must minimize the amount of time the muzzle is oriented toward people or objects they do not intend to shoot, while simultaneously applying the other three rules of fire arms safety.
- 4. What is rule 3 of firearm safety?
 - a. Rule 3: Keep Finger Straight and Off the Trigger Until Ready to Fire
 - b. 1-11. Soldiers must not place their finger on the trigger unless they intend to fire the weapon. The Soldier is the most important safety feature on any weapon. Mechanical safety devices are not available on all types of weapons. When mechanical safeties are present, Soldiers must not solely rely upon them for safe operation knowing that mechanical measures may fail.
 - c. 1-12. Whenever possible, Soldiers should move the weapon to mechanical safe when a target is not present. If the weapon does not have a traditional mechanical safe, the trigger finger acts as the primary safety.
- 5. What is rule 4 of firearm safety?
 - a. Rule 4: Ensure Positive Identification of the Target and its Surroundings
 - b. 1-13. The disciplined Soldier can positively identify the target and knows what is in front of and what is beyond it. The Soldier is responsible for all bullets fired from their weapon, including the projectile's final destination.
 - c. 1-14. Application of this rule minimizes the possibility of fratricide, collateral damage, or damage to infrastructure or equipment. It also prepares the Soldier for any follow-on shots that may be required.
- 6. The readiness of a Soldier's weapon is termed as its weapon safety status (WSS).
 - a. It is a standard code that uses common colors (green, amber, red, and black) to represent the level of readiness for a given weapon.
- 7. Each color represents a specific series of actions that are applied to a weapon.

- a. The weapon safety status colors are used in training and combat to place or maintain a level of safety relevant to the current task or action of a Soldier, small unit, or group.
- b. Green, "Fully Safe" the weapon is clear, no ammunition is present the
- c. chamber is empty, and the fire selector switch is set to SAFE.
- d. Amber, "Substantially Safe" a leader must clear and verify that the weapon's bolt is forward, the chamber is empty, and ammunition is
- e. introduced to the weapon. This is an administrative or preparatory WSS. Leaders use amber primarily for mounted operations and during combat operations when directed to maintain a substantially safe weapon with the ability to rapidly transition and escalate to red or black, based on the situation.
- f. Red, "Marginally Safe" the fire selector switch is set to SAFE, the magazine
- g. is locked in the magazine well, a round is in the chamber, and the bolt is locked in the forward position.
- h. Black, "Not Safe" Indicates when the weapon is fully prepared to fire, the
- i. firer has positively identified the target, the fire selector switch is set to FIRE, and the firer's finger is on the trigger, and the fire is in the process of engaging the target.
- 8. What must leaders take into consideration when giving weapon control statuses?
 - a. Tactical situation, rules of engagement for the area of operations, and expected or anticipated enemy contact. The WCS outlines the target identification conditions under which friendly elements may engage a perceived threat with direct fire. A weapon control status and a weapons safety status are both implemented and available to leaders to prevent fratricide and limit collateral damage. These postures or statuses are typically suited to the area of operation or type of mission and should alwaysbe clearly outlined to all Soldiers, typically in the operations order (OPORD), warning order (WARNORD), or fragmentary order (FRAGORD).
- 9. The shooter is responsible for the point of impact of every round fired from their weapon. What does this mean?
 - a. This requires the Soldier to ensure the target area is clear of friendly and neutral actors, in front of and behind the target. Soldiers must also be aware of the environment the target is positioned in, particularly in urban settings—friendly or neutral actors may be present in other areas of a structure that the projectile can pass through.