

Q – codes and other abbreviations

Everyone these days is familiar with LOL, etc but shortly after radio was invented, people realized that it took a long time to send messages like:

Where are you located?

Or

I am located in Ottawa.

Along came Q – codes so now I could send “QTH?” or “QTH Ottawa” and not have to send so many letters in Morse Code.

You do not have to know Morse Code for the exam however just like lots of people will say OMG while talking to you many amateurs will use Q - codes in voice transmissions. You will hear stations ask what your QTH is or if you are going QRT, etc. Thus the exam covers several Q – codes and other expressions like 73 that started out as short cuts for Morse Code (CW) operations. Here is a list of those on the exam and some others you will encounter while operating. I leave it up to you to look them up and learn their meanings before the course starts.

QRZ

QTH

QRO

QRX

QRS

QSY

QRL

QSL

QSO

QRP

QRN

QRM

QSB

QSK

In addition to the Q – codes there are several other expressions

73

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DE

K

CQ

This will be a good start in your goal to get that certificate.

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