AIRBORNE MINE COUNTERMEASURES (AMCM) PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

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How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

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Questions

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1. Which sweep is Magnetic?

A. MK-103 Mechanical Sweep

B. MK-104 Acoustic Sweep

C. MK-105 Magnetic Sweep

D. MK-106 Passive Sweep

2. Which step comes after 'Develop MCM Tactical Plan' in the 10-step process?

A. Implement MCM Tactical Plan

B. Determine MCM Tactical Plan

C. Monitor and Evaluate Progress

D. Assess Situation

3. Which statement best describes the effect of increasing width on the minefield design?

A. Increases the depth of water required

B. Decreases the total number of mines

C. Changes the mine's explosive timing

D. Increases the number of mines while preventing actuation circle overlap

4. Which of the following is a type of minefield?

A. Offensive Minefield

B. Defensive Minefield

C. Protective Minefield

D. All three types

5. What does COMOMAG stand for?

A. Commander, Mobile Mine Assembly Group

B. Commanding Officer, Mine Operations Group

C. Chief of Maritime Mine Assembly Group

D. Committee on Maritime Mine Administration Group

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6. Which component serves as the tow cable for the AN/AQS-24 system?

A. An Electro Mechanical Tow Cable

B. Antenna

C. Power supply

D. Control console

7. Very Shallow Water depth range corresponds to which depth?

A. 0'-10'

B. 10'-40'

C. 40'-200'

D. Over 200'

8. What does NAVO/NAVOCEANO refer to in the context of survey contacts?

A. Naval Oceanographic Office

B. Naval Air Operations Command

C. Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program

D. Naval Construction Battalion Center

9. In the 10-step MCM process, what is Step 1?

A. Develop MCM Tactical Plan

B. Assess Situation

C. Identify MCM Objectives

D. Implement MCM Tactical Plan

10. What does Uncountered Minefield Planning determine?

A. The MOE

B. The MOP

C. The planned deployment schedule

D. The overall combat effectiveness rating

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Answers

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1. C
2. B
3. D
4. D
5. A
6. A
7. B
8. A
9. D
10. A

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Explanations

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1. Which sweep is Magnetic?

A. MK-103 Mechanical Sweep

B. MK-104 Acoustic Sweep

C. MK-105 Magnetic Sweep

D. MK-106 Passive Sweep

Magnetic sweeps are designed to produce a controlled magnetic field to replicate a ship's magnetic signature, causing magnetic influence mines to detonate in a safe, planned way as the vessel passes. This is accomplished with a towable magnetic source, the MK-105 Magnetic Sweep. The other sweeps target different mine fuze types: a mechanical sweep engages mechanical (contact) fuzes, an acoustic sweep targets acoustic fuzes, and a passive sweep operates without emitting an active energy signal. So the sweep that is magnetic is MK-105 Magnetic Sweep.

2. Which step comes after 'Develop MCM Tactical Plan' in the 10-step process?

A. Implement MCM Tactical Plan

B. Determine MCM Tactical Plan

C. Monitor and Evaluate Progress

D. Assess Situation

The sequence emphasizes validating and detailing the plan before moving to action, so you're not just drafting ideas but confirming exactly what will be done. After developing the MCM Tactical Plan, you need to determine its specifics: what objectives it will achieve, what resources and constraints exist, who is responsible for each task, and how success will be measured. This step anchors the plan in reality, ensuring it's feasible, aligned with mission goals, and ready for implementation. Only once these elements are clarified and agreed should you move on to putting the plan into action. Implementing the plan would come after this determination, while assessing the situation sits earlier in the cycle to gather initial information, and monitoring and evaluating progress happens after execution to track results and adjust as needed.

3. Which statement best describes the effect of increasing width on the minefield design?

A. Increases the depth of water required

B. Decreases the total number of mines

C. Changes the mine's explosive timing

D. Increases the number of mines while preventing actuation circle overlap

The key idea is that each mine has a defined actuation circle—the zone in which it can detect or trigger. When the field becomes wider, you need more of these non-overlapping zones to maintain effective coverage across the larger footprint. Placing more mines while keeping their actuation circles disjoint ensures each mine acts independently, avoids interference between nearby mines, and preserves the intended spacing and coverage. If you tried to keep the same number of mines or if you allowed the actuation circles to overlap, coverage would be uneven or redundant triggers could occur, which is undesirable for a well-designed field. So, increasing width leads to more mines to cover the expanded area, with actuation circles spaced so they do not overlap. The other options don't fit because width doesn't inherently change water depth, timing, or reduce the number of mines.

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4. Which of the following is a type of minefield?

A. Offensive Minefield

B. Defensive Minefield

C. Protective Minefield

D. All three types

Minefields are defined by their purpose in a campaign: offensive, defensive, and protective types each describe a legitimate use of mine warfare. An offensive minefield is placed to disrupt or deter an enemy's movement and to shape the battlefield in favor of your forces. A defensive minefield aims to shield a critical area—like a coast, port, or flank—by denying or delaying enemy access. A protective minefield is used to safeguard a specific route, asset, or unit, providing a safe buffer zone. Because each of these roles is a recognized approach to applying mines in operations, a single theater can feature minefields of all three kinds. Therefore, the correct answer is that all three types exist.

5. What does COMOMAG stand for?

A. Commander, Mobile Mine Assembly Group

B. Commanding Officer, Mine Operations Group

C. Chief of Maritime Mine Assembly Group

D. Committee on Maritime Mine Administration Group

A Navy acronym like COMOMAG is read as a command title followed by the unit name. COMOMAG expands to Commander, Mobile Mine Assembly Group. "Commander" designates the officer in charge, while "Mobile Mine Assembly Group" describes the unit's function—organizing and supporting mobile mine assembly operations. This naming pattern is how many Navy commands are formed, with the initial part signaling the leadership and the rest naming the unit. The other options don't fit Navy terminology: they refer to individual roles (Commanding Officer) or a non-unit entity (Committee) and would not produce the standard command-unit title that COMOMAG represents.

6. Which component serves as the tow cable for the AN/AQS-24 system?

A. An Electro Mechanical Tow Cable

B. Antenna

C. Power supply

D. Control console

The main idea is that the tow cable for a towed AMCM system is a specialized link that does more than just drag the sensor behind the ship. The electro-mechanical tow cable is designed to physically pull the AN/AQS-24's tow body while also carrying power and data between the ship and the sensor. It's built to handle the dynamic loads of towing at depth and often includes power conductors and a data path (sometimes via fiber) to support the sonar's operation. That combination of mechanical towing capability plus electrical/data transmission is what makes this cable the tow cable. The antenna is a separate part of the sonar system, not the tether; the power supply provides power but isn't the tether itself; the control console is the operator interface, not the tether.

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7. Very Shallow Water depth range corresponds to which depth?

A. 0'-10'

B. 10'-40'

C. 40'-200'

D. Over 200'

In AMCM depth classifications, Very Shallow Water is defined as depths roughly from 10 to 40 feet. This range sits between the extremely shallow intertidal areas and the deeper nearshore zones, making it a distinct operating environment. Within this band, mine countermeasure assets can typically operate from nearby vessels or shore-based platforms, and sonar and other sensing methods still perform effectively, while factors like tides, waves, and sediment movement remain significant considerations for planning and safety. Depths below 10 feet are generally treated as an even more restricted, extremely shallow/intertidal zone, where operating conditions and procedures differ from the nearshore clearance work characteristic of Very Shallow Water. Once you exceed about 40 feet, you move into a deeper-water category, which has its own set of operational considerations and equipment requirements, distinct from Very Shallow Water.

8. What does NAVO/NAVOCEANO refer to in the context of survey contacts?

A. Naval Oceanographic Office

B. Naval Air Operations Command

C. Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program

D. Naval Construction Battalion Center

NAVO/NAVOCEANO refers to the Naval Oceanographic Office, the Navy's organization that handles oceanography and hydrography. In the context of survey contacts, this is the go-to office for hydrographic surveys, bathymetric data, and related charting and geospatial products. NAVOCEANO oversees the Navy's ocean survey programs and provides the data, standards, and coordination needed to plan and execute surveys, ensuring safe navigation and supporting mine countermeasure operations. The other options aren't involved in hydrographic survey data: one is an aviation command, another is a nuclear propulsion program, and the last is a Seabees construction center.

9. In the 10-step MCM process, what is Step 1?

A. Develop MCM Tactical Plan

B. Assess Situation

C. Identify MCM Objectives

D. Implement MCM Tactical Plan

Starting the mission requires moving from planning to action. Step one is implementing the MCM Tactical Plan, which means putting the plan into motion by issuing orders, coordinating the allocated assets and forces, establishing command and control, and beginning the initial MCM actions. This transition from preparation to execution is what gets the operation underway, setting the conditions for the actual mine countermeasure tasks to begin and for adjustments to be made as real-time information comes in. The other steps are generally about shaping and refining the approach before execution, whereas this step focuses on getting the plan actively underway.

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10. What does Uncountered Minefield Planning determine?

A. The MOE

B. The MOP

C. The planned deployment schedule

D. The overall combat effectiveness rating

Uncountered Minefield Planning is about judging how well the operation will achieve its intended end-state effects. Those end-state effects are captured by Measures of Effectiveness, or MOEs. MOEs describe whether the mission objectives—like safe passage through a mined area, reduced risk to personnel, and timely achievement of mission goals—are being met as a result of the plan. In contrast, Measures of Performance describe how well specific tasks or system functions perform (for example, detection accuracy, clearance rate, or time to complete a maneuver). The planned deployment schedule is a logistical product of planning—it describes when and how assets will be used, not how successful the mission outcomes will be. The overall combat effectiveness rating is a broader assessment of force capability that isn't determined solely by the planning step in question. So, the planning activity focuses on MOEs—the end-state effectiveness of the plan.

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Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

https://amcm.examzify.com

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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