COMBAT ARMS TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE (CATM) CDC 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. What is the proper stance for standing shooting position?

A. Feet together, body twisted away from the target

B. Feet shoulder-width apart, knees slightly bent

C. Feet wide apart, leaning forward

D. Feet close together, arms extended

2. If the GO end of the headspace gauge enters freely all the way to the ring and the NO GO end does not enter, how is the headspace described for the M2 machine gun?

A. Excessive

B. Incorrect

C. Correct

D. Inadequate

3. What happens when the barrel latch of the M203 is depressed?

A. It secures the barrel

B. It unlocks the barrel

C. It activates the firing mechanism

D. It ejects the cartridge

4. Why is it important for the M122A1 tripod legs to lock fully?

A. To ensure accuracy of fire

B. To maintain structural integrity

C. To prevent weapon malfunction

D. To facilitate rapid deployment

5. Which is the standard round used in the M16A2 and M4 series weapons and also linked and used in the M249?

A. Cartridge, 7.62mm, ball

B. Cartridge, 5.56mm, ball, M855

C. Cartridge, 9mm, ball

D. Cartridge, 5.56mm, tracer, M856

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6. Improperly positioning the first round of a partial belt on the M249 AR feed tray can lead to what malfunction?

A. Failure to fire

B. Failure to eject

C. Failure to feed/strip

D. Failure to extract

7. What is the primary purpose of the bore constriction check tool?

A. To measure length

B. To detect dents and minor damage

C. To clean the barrel

D. To check ammunition compatibility

8. What is the range increment for the rear sight range plate of the MK19 machine gun?

A. 50 meters

B. 100 meters

C. 200 meters

D. 150 meters

9. What does "sight picture" refer to in marksmanship?

A. The view of the target through the weapons scope

B. The alignment of the front and rear sights with the target

C. The positioning of the shooter while aiming

D. The distance between the shooter and the target

10. What is the consequence of having a bolt deformation of over 50 percent in the MK19 machine gun?

A. It can still be used safely

B. It requires replacement

C. It enhances accuracy

D. It is irrelevant

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the proper stance for standing shooting position?

A. Feet together, body twisted away from the target

B. Feet shoulder-width apart, knees slightly bent

C. Feet wide apart, leaning forward

D. Feet close together, arms extended

The proper stance for the standing shooting position is characterized by having the feet shoulder-width apart and the knees slightly bent. This stance provides a stable and balanced platform for shooting, which is crucial for accuracy and control. The shoulder-width placement of the feet helps to distribute the shooter's weight evenly and allows for greater stability, while slightly bending the knees aids in absorbing any recoil and maintaining balance during the shot. This stance is fundamental because it enhances the ability to react and adjust to different shooting scenarios. It allows for a proper alignment of the upper body and arms, facilitating clean, consistent shots. In contrast, stances that involve feet being together, excessively wide, or leaning forward can compromise balance, reduce stability, and affect the accuracy of shooting. Understanding the mechanics of the standing shooting position is essential for effective marksmanship, and mastering it plays a vital role in a variety of shooting disciplines.

2. If the GO end of the headspace gauge enters freely all the way to the ring and the NO GO end does not enter, how is the headspace described for the M2 machine gun?

A. Excessive

B. Incorrect

C. Correct

D. Inadequate

The headspace for the M2 machine gun is described as correct when the GO end of the headspace gauge can enter freely all the way to the ring, while the NO GO end does not enter the chamber. This scenario indicates that the chamber is within the proper range for headspace measurements. The GO gauge measuring that it can fit fully means the gun can chamber a round successfully, ensuring reliable feeding and firing. On the other hand, the NO GO gauge not entering signifies that the chamber does not have excessive space that could lead to the round being too far forward, which could compromise safety and functionality. Therefore, this combination indicates that the headspace is neither excessive nor inadequate. In summary, this description signifies that the weapon will function as intended, supporting proper operation and safety standards necessary in combat arms training and maintenance contexts.

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3. What happens when the barrel latch of the M203 is depressed?

A. It secures the barrel

B. It unlocks the barrel

C. It activates the firing mechanism

D. It ejects the cartridge

When the barrel latch of the M203 is depressed, the correct outcome is that it unlocks the barrel. This action allows for the safe removal of the barrel from the receiver, facilitating the loading or unloading of the grenade launcher. The design of the M203 includes this feature to ensure that the operator can quickly and efficiently change out barrels as needed for different missions or types of ammunition. Understanding this mechanism is crucial for proper weapon maintenance and operation, as it enhances the user's ability to operate the weapon effectively in various tactical situations. The other options do not accurately describe the function of the barrel latch. For example, securing the barrel would imply that it is being locked in place, while activating the firing mechanism or ejecting a cartridge are functions related to the trigger mechanism and operational cycle, not the barrel latch itself.

4. Why is it important for the M122A1 tripod legs to lock fully?

A. To ensure accuracy of fire

B. To maintain structural integrity

C. To prevent weapon malfunction

D. To facilitate rapid deployment

The importance of the M122A1 tripod legs locking fully primarily relates to maintaining structural integrity. When the tripod legs are properly secured, they provide a stable base that can withstand the forces exerted during firing. This stability is crucial, as any movement or flexing of the tripod can lead to misalignment of the weapon, which can affect accuracy and potentially cause safety hazards. In addition to structural integrity, proper locking of the legs minimizes the risk of accidental collapse or shifting during operation, ensuring that the operator can maintain consistent positioning and control over the weapon system. This safety aspect is vital in combat situations where reliability and robustness of equipment can directly impact mission success and personnel safety. While factors like accuracy of fire and weapon malfunction are relevant, the locking of the tripod legs resonates most with the need to maintain a solid and reliable platform for firing.

5. Which is the standard round used in the M16A2 and M4 series weapons and also linked and used in the M249?

A. Cartridge, 7.62mm, ball

B. Cartridge, 5.56mm, ball, M855

C. Cartridge, 9mm, ball

D. Cartridge, 5.56mm, tracer, M856

The standard round used in the M16A2 and M4 series weapons, as well as linked for use in the M249, is the Cartridge, 5.56mm, ball, M855. This round is specifically designed for military applications and is optimized for use in both rifles and light machine guns, providing consistency and reliability across different platforms. The M855 cartridge features a steel penetrator tip designed to enhance performance against a variety of materials, making it suitable for combat situations. Its compatibility with the M16A2 and M4 rifles ensures effective operation in terms of accuracy and lethality. Additionally, the same cartridge being used in the M249 allows for logistical simplicity, as soldiers can share ammunition across these different weapons systems. Using a single type of round for multiple platforms aids in training and simplifies ammunition supply and management in the field, which are critical factors in military operations. The M855 round's specifications and intended application align perfectly with the requirements of the M16A2, M4, and M249.

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6. Improperly positioning the first round of a partial belt on the M249 AR feed tray can lead to what malfunction?

A. Failure to fire

B. Failure to eject

C. Failure to feed/strip

D. Failure to extract

Positioning the first round of a partial belt incorrectly on the M249 AR feed tray can lead to a failure to feed or strip. This malfunction occurs when the weapon is unable to properly lift and move the round from the feed tray into the chamber, which is essential for the firing cycle. A round that is misaligned or not seated correctly can prevent the feeding mechanism from functioning as intended, causing the gun to not receive the necessary ammunition to fire. In the context of the M249's operation, the feed mechanism relies on the proper setup of the ammunition in the feed tray. If the first round in the belt is not positioned correctly, the machine gun cannot engage it with the bolt, resulting in the failure to feed. This emphasizes the importance of correct ammunition handling and loading procedures to ensure reliable weapon function during operations.

7. What is the primary purpose of the bore constriction check tool?

A. To measure length

B. To detect dents and minor damage

C. To clean the barrel

D. To check ammunition compatibility

The primary purpose of the bore constriction check tool is to detect dents and minor damage within the barrel of a firearm. This tool is essential for ensuring that the barrel is free of obstructions or deformities that could affect the weapon's accuracy and functionality. By using the bore constriction check tool, armorers can assess the interior condition of the barrel, identifying any irregularities that may have been caused by wear, dropped firearms, or other forms of impact. Such inspections are critical for maintaining the operational readiness and safety of the firearm. Regular checks can help prevent potential malfunctions or accidents that might arise from a compromised barrel. While measuring length, cleaning the barrel, or checking ammunition compatibility are important aspects of firearm maintenance, those tasks are handled with different tools and procedures. Understanding the specific function of the bore constriction check tool highlights its role in the overall maintenance and safety procedures of firearms in combat arms training.

8. What is the range increment for the rear sight range plate of the MK19 machine gun?

A. 50 meters

B. 100 meters

C. 200 meters

D. 150 meters

The range increment for the rear sight range plate of the MK19 machine gun is 100 meters. This increment allows for precise targeting and adjustments during operations. Understanding this range increment is essential for effective use of the MK19, as it directly influences the gunner's ability to hit targets at varying distances. The sighting system is designed with this specific increment to facilitate quicker adjustments, making it easier for operators to engage targets effectively over the operational range of the machine gun. Knowing the correct range increments helps maximize the weapon's accuracy and efficiency in combat scenarios.

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9. What does “sight picture" refer to in marksmanship?

A. The view of the target through the weapons scope

B. The alignment of the front and rear sights with the target

C. The positioning of the shooter while aiming

D. The distance between the shooter and the target

The term "sight picture" in marksmanship specifically describes the alignment of the front and rear sights with the target. It is a critical component of accurate shooting, as it ensures that the shooter is correctly aiming at the target by aligning these sights properly. This alignment allows the shooter to focus on the target while ensuring that the sights are in the correct position relative to it. Achieving the correct sight picture involves ensuring that the front sight is centered in the rear sight aperture and that both sights are aligned with the target. This precise alignment is essential for effective aiming and shot placement, making it a fundamental skill in marksmanship. While the other options may represent aspects of shooting — such as the view through a scope, the shooter's positioning, or the distance to the target — they do not encompass the specific concept of "sight picture." Understanding and mastering the sight picture is crucial for anyone looking to improve their marksmanship skills.

10. What is the consequence of having a bolt deformation of over 50 percent in the MK19 machine gun?

A. It can still be used safely

B. It requires replacement

C. It enhances accuracy

D. It is irrelevant

In the context of the MK19 machine gun, a bolt deformation of over 50 percent indicates significant wear and potential structural compromise of the bolt. This level of deformation can adversely affect the weapon's performance, reliability, and safety. The bolt is a critical component that plays a vital role in the functioning of the firing mechanism and overall operation of the machine gun. If the bolt is deformed beyond this threshold, it is no longer able to reliably lock into place or withstand the pressures generated during firing, which could lead to malfunctions or catastrophic failure. Therefore, requiring replacement when there is more than 50 percent deformation is essential to maintain operational safety and effectiveness of the weapon system. Regular inspections and adherence to maintenance standards are critical to ensure the integrity of the weapon is upheld and to prevent accidents or failures during operation.

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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:

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

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