CYCLE 10 BROADCAST 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 of the following best describes phantom power in studio microphone setups?

A. A battery-powered system designed for wireless handheld mics.

B. A power supply that powers all microphones directly from mains in a studio.

C. A power source used by dynamic microphones to boost signal.

D. A power supply used by condenser microphones to operate.

2. Is 'point to point' an open or private communication?

A. Open

B. Private

C. Encrypted

D. Public

3. What does CPM stand for and what is its primary use in advertising?

A. Cost Per Mille (per thousand impressions); used to price ad space and compare campaigns.

B. Content Per Mille; a content quality metric.

C. Clicks Per Mille; a measure of online engagement.

D. Channel Percentage Metric; a broadcast reach indicator.

4. One key guideline for ethical interviewing in journalism?

A. Rely solely on social media quotes.

B. Ask leading questions to steer the interview.

C. Record interviews without consent.

D. Avoid misrepresentation; ask open-ended questions and verify quotes.

5. Labeling things is not very important for a broadcast.

A. True

B. Not very important

C. False

D. Not sure

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6. Which statement best describes the function of a Tech Book in a show production?

A. All show requirements

B. Crew contact information

C. Vendor list

D. Rehearsal schedule

7. What does SOT stand for, and how is it used in a news piece?

A. Sound-off-track

B. Sound-on-tape; a short clip of a person speaking used to support the story.

C. Segment-on-tape

D. Story-on-tape

8. Who needs to be ready when a broadcast begins?

A. Only on-air talent

B. Everyone

C. Director and AD

D. Producer

9. What does the cough button do on the Model 210?

A. Mutes it

B. Overdrives mic

C. Engages talkback

D. Silences the room

10. After fading to black, the AD will _____ to end the show?

A. End the show

B. The final cue

C. Sign-off

D. Countdown

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following best describes phantom power in studio microphone setups?

A. A battery-powered system designed for wireless handheld mics.

B. A power supply that powers all microphones directly from mains in a studio.

C. A power source used by dynamic microphones to boost signal.

D. A power supply used by condenser microphones to operate.

Phantom power is a DC voltage, usually 48 volts, supplied through the microphone cable from a mixer or audio interface to power condenser microphones. It's sent equally on the two signal lines so the balanced path stays quiet and neutral, while providing the energy the mic's internal electronics and backplate capsule need to operate. Condenser mics rely on this external power to run their preamps and the capacitor element; dynamic microphones generate their signal mechanically and don't require phantom power, so they typically work without it. It's not a mains-wide power supply for all mics, and it isn't used to boost the signal for dynamics—the purpose is simply to power condenser microphones via the mic cable.

2. Is 'point to point' an open or private communication?

A. Open

B. Private

C. Encrypted

D. Public

Point-to-point means a direct link between two endpoints with no other parties on the path. Because the channel is not shared with multiple recipients, the communication is private in terms of access. It isn't open or public, which would imply broader visibility. Encryption could be added to protect the content, but the term itself describes the direct, two party nature of the connection, not its cryptographic protection.

3. What does CPM stand for and what is its primary use in advertising?

A. Cost Per Mille (per thousand impressions); used to price ad space and compare campaigns.

B. Content Per Mille; a content quality metric.

C. Clicks Per Mille; a measure of online engagement.

D. Channel Percentage Metric; a broadcast reach indicator.

CPM stands for Cost Per Mille, with mille meaning thousand. This pricing model shows how much you pay to have the ad shown 1,000 times (impressions). The primary use in advertising is to price ad space and compare campaigns because it normalizes cost by reach, not by clicks or actions. You figure it out by dividing the amount spent by the number of impressions, then multiplying by 1,000. For example, spending $500 for 250,000 impressions gives a CPM of $2.00. This helps planners compare how efficiently different placements or campaigns reach people, regardless of how many clicks or conversions they generate.

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4. One key guideline for ethical interviewing in journalism?

A. Rely solely on social media quotes.

B. Ask leading questions to steer the interview.

C. Record interviews without consent.

D. Avoid misrepresentation; ask open-ended questions and verify quotes.

Ethical interviewing in journalism centers on accuracy and fairness, making sure what a source says is captured faithfully. The best approach is to use open-ended questions that invite thoughtful, detailed responses and to verify quotes by confirming them with the source and, when possible, corroborating with additional evidence. This combination helps avoid misrepresentation and preserves context, giving the reader a truthful picture. Relying solely on social media quotes can mislead because quotes may be taken out of context or edited, leading to misrepresentation. Leading questions push a person toward a desired answer and can skew the story, compromising neutrality. Recording interviews without consent breaches trust and can violate legal or ethical standards.

5. Labeling things is not very important for a broadcast.

A. True

B. Not very important

C. False

D. Not sure

Labeling things in a broadcast matters because a broadcast environment is a fast-paced, interdependent system where clarity and quick, accurate communication are essential. When scripts, rundowns, camera cues, audio tracks, and graphics are clearly labeled, everyone on the team can immediately identify what belongs to which segment, which camera is live, and which asset should air. That clarity reduces miscommunications that could lead to switching to the wrong camera, displaying the wrong graphic, or missing a cue. It also makes handoffs smoother, speeds up on-air decisions, and helps with post-production and archiving by making it easy to find the exact version of a script or asset later. If labeling is neglected, confusion multiplies under pressure, increasing the chance of mistakes, delays, or last-minute fixes. So labeling is important, and the statement is false.

6. Which statement best describes the function of a Tech Book in a show production?

A. All show requirements

B. Crew contact information

C. Vendor list

D. Rehearsal schedule

A Tech Book serves as the master reference for everything the show's technical side must achieve. It gathers all the show's requirements in one place so the lighting, sound, set, props, and stage management teams can plan, source, and execute accurately. This includes technical specifications, cue lists, timing, load-in/load-out details, equipment lists, rigging notes, stage plots, power needs, and safety considerations. Because it aims to capture all the show's needs—what must exist, when it must exist, and who is responsible for it—it best describes the function of a Tech Book. While crew contact information, a vendor list, and a rehearsal schedule are important components, they are parts of the broader set of show requirements rather than the full purpose on their own.

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7. What does SOT stand for, and how is it used in a news piece?

A. Sound-off-track

B. Sound-on-tape; a short clip of a person speaking used to support the story.

C. Segment-on-tape

D. Story-on-tape

Sound-on-tape refers to a short clip of a person speaking that is used to support or illustrate a news story. It provides actual words from a source, adding credibility and a human voice to the piece. In a broadcast, this clip is inserted alongside the narrator's voiceover or over video footage, usually a few seconds long, to emphasize a point, quote a witness, or provide expert perspective. The other terms listed aren't standard ways to describe this element, since they don't capture the idea of a brief spoken clip tied directly to the story.

8. Who needs to be ready when a broadcast begins?

A. Only on-air talent

B. Everyone

C. Director and AD

D. Producer

In a broadcast, readiness is a team effort. When a show starts, not just the on air talent but every part of the production must be prepared to execute their role immediately. The director and AD need to call and manage cues, the producer oversees timing and content flow, the talent delivers lines, and the technical side—audio, graphics, cameras, and playback—must be ready to deliver precisely when needed. If anyone isn't ready, a moment can fall apart, causing delays or mistakes that ripple across the whole program. So the best answer is that everyone involved in the broadcast needs to be ready.

9. What does the cough button do on the Model 210?

A. Mutes it

B. Overdrives mic

C. Engages talkback

D. Silences the room

The cough button mutes your microphone. It's a quick, temporary mute you press when you need to cough or clear your throat so that sound isn't transmitted to the audience. Releasing it returns you to normal audio. It doesn't overdrive or distort the mic, it doesn't turn on talkback, and it doesn't silence the room—the mic input is simply muted while you need it.

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10. After fading to black, the AD will _____ to end the show?

A. End the show

B. The final cue

C. Sign-off

D. Countdown

In a live broadcast, timing and coordination are all about a clear end plan. After fading to black, the assistant director uses a countdown to signal the remaining time and to wrap the show precisely. This gives everyone on the floor and in control rooms a exact moment to cut, roll to the next thing, or insert any last legal IDs, ensuring a clean, on-time finish even if the host has already stopped talking. The other ideas describe what happens in content or at the moment of ending, but the countdown is the procedural step that actually coordinates the final wrap.

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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://cycle10broadcast.examzify.com

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

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