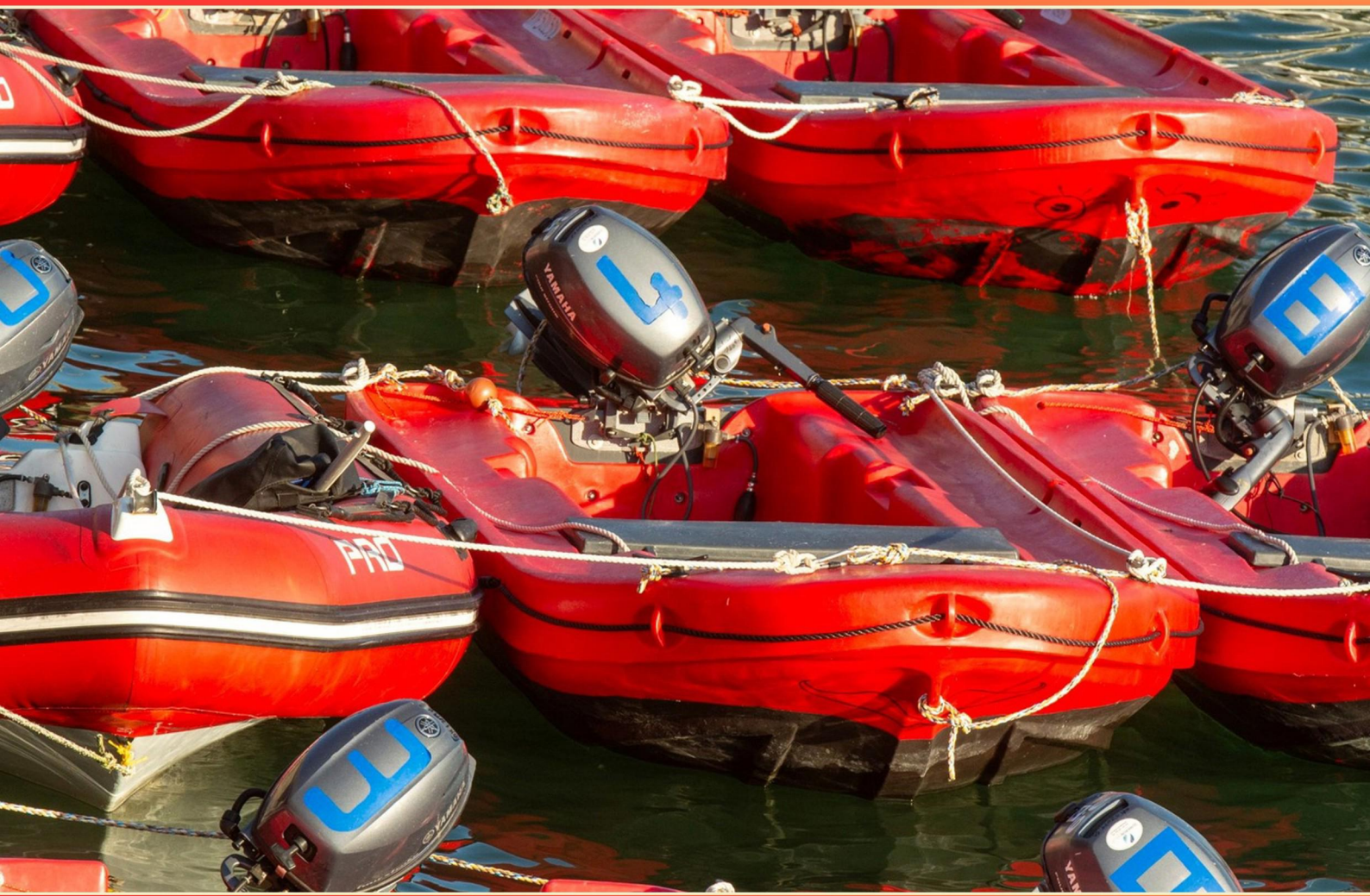
DECK GENERAL AND DECK SAFETY PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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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 a valuable tool to determine your position?

A. GPS

B. Compass

C. Radar

D. Sextant

2. In a river with a strong current, the flowing water will:

A. Increase your speed over ground and reduce your maneuverability

B. Decrease your speed over ground and improve maneuverability

C. Have no effect on your speed over ground

D. Only affect maneuverability, not speed

3. What is one of the few exemptions to the safe manning requirement?

A. Desertion; the vessel can sail short if caused by a desertion, and the master determines that the vessel is sufficiently manned to remain seaworthy

B. Medical leave

C. Port restrictions

D. Crew training day off

4. Which action is listed as a consideration after a collision?

A. Ensure passengers and crew are accounted for

B. Secure all valuables

C. Stop reporting the incident

D. Resume normal operations immediately

5. What is it called when the tow line takes sudden and hard tension, usually jerking the line out of the water?

A. Shock loading

B. Line snag

C. Tension spike

D. Snap load

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6. How often is the Notice to Mariners published?

A. Weekly

B. Monthly

C. Daily

D. Annually

7. Direction of an object from the observer measured clockwise from true north is called _____?

A. True bearing

B. Magnetic bearing

C. Course

D. Heading

8. How fast do Gale winds go?

A. 34-47 knots

B. 20-30 knots

C. 48-60 knots

D. 10-20 knots

9. What is a cold front?

A. A front formed by warm air rising over cold air

B. The surface expression when cold air displaces warm air

C. A warm air pocket advancing over cold air

D. A high-pressure boundary

10. Bank cushion near a bank tends to push the bow outward and pull the stern toward the bank. Which choice correctly describes this effect?

A. The bow outward, and the stern inward

B. The bow inward, and the stern outward

C. No movement of either end

D. Both ends move outward

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is a valuable tool to determine your position?

A. GPS

B. Compass

C. Radar

D. Sextant

The main idea here is that GPS provides direct, real-time knowledge of your exact position. A GPS receiver uses signals from satellites orbiting the planet to figure out your latitude, longitude, and altitude. By measuring how long it takes those signals to travel from at least four satellites to your receiver, it solves for your position and even corrects the receiver's clock error. This gives you precise coordinates anywhere in the world, as long as you have a clear view of the sky to receive the satellite signals. A compass only shows direction relative to magnetic north, not your actual location on a map. Radar is useful for detecting nearby objects and estimating their distance, but it doesn't tell you your own global position. A sextant can determine position by celestial navigation, but it requires favorable skies, reliable timekeeping, and manual calculations, making it slower and more cumbersome than using GPS. In most modern navigation contexts, GPS is the most valuable tool for determining your position quickly, accurately, and globally.

2. In a river with a strong current, the flowing water will:

A. Increase your speed over ground and reduce your maneuverability

B. Decrease your speed over ground and improve maneuverability

C. Have no effect on your speed over ground

D. Only affect maneuverability, not speed

Current has its own velocity, and your speed over ground is the combination of your speed through the water plus the water's speed. In a strong river current, that flowing water pushes you downstream, so your speed over ground increases in the direction of the flow. At the same time, the current makes steering more difficult because it continuously pushes your boat off your intended heading, reducing your ability to hold a precise course or execute quick turns. So, with a strong current, you'll move faster over ground downstream and your maneuverability is diminished, unless you actively counteract the current with steering and power.

3. What is one of the few exemptions to the safe manning requirement?

A. Desertion; the vessel can sail short if caused by a desertion, and the master determines that the vessel is sufficiently manned to remain seaworthy

B. Medical leave

C. Port restrictions

D. Crew training day off

The concept being tested is that there is only a narrow, formal exception to the minimum safe manning rules: if crew desertion reduces the number of people on board. In that situation, the master may still sail with a reduced crew, but only if the remaining crew can operate the vessel safely, maintain proper watchkeeping, and handle emergencies, so the ship stays seaworthy. This is why desertion is the best answer: it is a recognized, specific condition under which temporary reductions in crew can be approved. Other scenarios like medical leave, port restrictions, or a crew training day off aren't recognized exemptions to safe manning, because they don't guarantee the vessel can be operated safely with fewer hands, and they don't provide an approved basis for sailing short-handed.

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4. Which action is listed as a consideration after a collision?

A. Ensure passengers and crew are accounted for

B. Secure all valuables

C. Stop reporting the incident

D. Resume normal operations immediately

The key idea is that people come first. After a collision, the most important step is to make sure every passenger and crew member is accounted for. This headcount helps identify who may be injured or in need of assistance, guides immediate medical response, and informs decisions about safe evacuation, shelter, or further help. Knowing who is on board and where they are enables the crew to coordinate effectively and ensures no one is left behind or undiscovered in damaged areas. Securing valuables is not the priority in the immediate aftermath; focusing on people can't be delayed. Stopping reporting the incident would leave authorities and company procedures in the dark about what happened, hindering rescue, investigation, and proper record-keeping. Resuming normal operations right away ignores potential hazards from damage or fuel leaks and could put people at risk, so safety checks and risk assessment must come first before any return to normal operations.

5. What is it called when the tow line takes sudden and hard tension, usually jerking the line out of the water?

A. Shock loading

B. Line snag

C. Tension spike

D. Snap load

When a tow line is pulled suddenly and the tension jumps quickly, that rapid surge is called shock loading. It's an impulse force that spikes beyond the line's normal steady load, because the line and fittings have to absorb the sudden jerk. This is why towing safety emphasizes smooth starts, gradual changes in tension, and equipment rated for dynamic, or shock, loads. Line snag would mean the line catches on something and doesn't inherently describe a sudden increase in pull. Tension spike describes a quick rise in tension but isn't the standard term used in tow line safety. Snap load isn't the typical term used for this situation either.

6. How often is the Notice to Mariners published?

A. Weekly

B. Monthly

C. Daily

D. Annually

Regular updates to navigational information need a steady, manageable rhythm. The Notice to Mariners is published weekly. This cadence allows chart corrections, new hazards, and changes to aids to navigation to be distributed promptly to mariners, while keeping the volume of notices to a practical level. If it were daily, mariners would face too many changes to track effectively; monthly or annual publication would leave important updates lagging, potentially affecting safety at sea. Optional urgent notices can be issued outside the regular weekly cycle when necessary, but the standard schedule remains weekly.

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7. Direction of an object from the observer measured clockwise from true north is called _____?

A. True bearing

B. Magnetic bearing

C. Course

D. Heading

Direction from the observer to an object, measured clockwise from true north, is called a true bearing. This uses true north—the geographic north—as the reference, so the angle represents direction relative to that fixed point. Bearings are usually given in degrees from 0 to 360. This differs from magnetic bearing, which uses magnetic north and can vary with location, and from heading or course, which describe the direction the observer's nose is pointing or the actual path over the ground, respectively. Since the definition explicitly uses true north as the reference and measures clockwise, the correct term is true bearing.

8. How fast do Gale winds go?

A. 34-47 knots

B. 20-30 knots

C. 48-60 knots

D. 10-20 knots

Gale winds are a defined strong-wind category used at sea, and they fall in the range of about 34 to 47 knots. This level is enough to create rough seas, whitecaps, and challenging handling of equipment and the vessel, which is why it's singled out as a distinct wind category for safety planning. The other ranges describe lighter or more extreme conditions: 20–30 knots is a fresh to strong breeze, not yet a gale; 10–20 knots is a light to gentle breeze; 48–60 knots is considered a storm level, more dangerous than a gale.

9. What is a cold front?

A. A front formed by warm air rising over cold air

B. The surface expression when cold air displaces warm air

C. A warm air pocket advancing over cold air

D. A high-pressure boundary

A cold front is the boundary where a mass of cold air advances into and displaces warmer air at the surface, causing the warmer air to rise. This surface interaction—cold air moving in and pushing the warm air out of the way—best describes what a cold front is. The other scenarios describe warm-front dynamics (warm air rising over cold air) or a boundary not defined by a temperature contrast (a high-pressure boundary), which is why they don't fit a cold front.

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10. Bank cushion near a bank tends to push the bow outward and pull the stern toward the bank. Which choice correctly describes this effect?

A. The bow outward, and the stern inward

B. The bow inward, and the stern outward

C. No movement of either end

D. Both ends move outward

Bank cushion happens when a boat is very close to a bank. The water between the hull and the bank is squeezed, creating a pressure pattern that pushes sideways on the boat. This increased pressure on the bank side acts to push the bow away from the bank. At the same time, the flow around the stern interacts with that same pressure pattern so the stern tends to be drawn toward the bank. The combined effect is that the bow moves outward (away from the bank) while the stern moves inward (toward the bank), matching the described outcome.

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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://deckgendecksafety.examzify.com

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

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