DELIVERING CABLE SERVICES PRACTICE TEST (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 a key difference between frequency modulation and amplitude modulation in microwave links?

A. FM transmits a single channel; AM carries blocks of broadband channels between headends and hubs

B. FM uses amplitude variation

C. AM uses frequency variation

D. FM and AM both carry multiple channels

2. What function does PCM serve in the public switched telephone network?

A. It compresses audio for video streaming.

B. It converts the analog voice signal into digital form to allow many calls on the same wire.

C. It amplifies signals for long-distance transmission.

D. It encrypts calls for security.

3. For manual boring under obstacles, how long should the starting trench be?

A. Long enough to accommodate the pipe or rod length used for the bore

B. Twice the required bore depth

C. Just wide enough for the bore head

D. As short as possible to minimize disruption

4. Name two common types of connectors used on coaxial cable in cable systems.

A. SMA connectors; N-type connectors

B. RCA connectors; HDMI connectors

C. F-type connectors; compression connectors

D. BNC connectors; RCA connectors

5. Which statement best describes channel bonding in DOCSIS networks?

A. It reduces the need for a separate return path.

B. It aggregates multiple downstream/upstream channels to increase total throughput.

C. It shortens the length of coax cable.

D. It stops interference by limiting channels.

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6. Before burying an underground drop cable, what critical step must be completed?

A. Notify authorities

B. Locate other underground utilities

C. Install warning markers

D. Perform a soil test

7. A single beam TV receive-only antenna uses what primary physical shape to focus the signal?

A. Has a parabolic shape that reflects the downlink signal from all locations on the dish surface onto a central focal point

B. Is a flat dish

C. Uses a horn antenna

D. Is a circular flat reflector

8. Where must a cable operator publicly display their Equal Employment Opportunity procedures?

A. On their websites

B. In a local newsletter only

C. In phone book listings

D. Not required

9. What steps would you take if a customer reports slow Wi-Fi after installation?

A. Change the provider's DNS only.

B. Replace all cables with fiber.

C. Disable internet access to test local network.

D. Validate gateway status, test throughput, optimize Wi-Fi channels, adjust placement, update firmware, and consider a Wi-Fi mesh or higher plan.

10. Which organization regulates safety practices during installation, operation, or maintenance of electrical supply and communication lines?

A. The National Electrical Safety Code (NESC)

B. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

C. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

D. The National Security Agency (NSA)

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is a key difference between frequency modulation and amplitude modulation in microwave links?

A. FM transmits a single channel; AM carries blocks of broadband channels between headends and hubs

B. FM uses amplitude variation

C. AM uses frequency variation

D. FM and AM both carry multiple channels

In microwave links, how the signal is carried depends on the modulation type and how channels are multiplexed on the link. Frequency modulation encodes information in the instantaneous frequency of the carrier, keeping the carrier amplitude essentially constant. This makes it well-suited for a focused, single narrowband channel on a point-to-point path. Amplitude modulation, on the other hand, encodes information in the carrier's amplitude, which allows the carrier to carry a broader payload—essentially blocks of broadband channels between headends and hubs. So the main distinction here is that FM is typically used for a single channel on the link, while AM is used to carry blocks of broadband channels across the link. The other statements mix up what each modulation type does (FM uses frequency variation, AM uses amplitude variation) and to carry multiple channels, which isn't the defining difference in this context.

2. What function does PCM serve in the public switched telephone network?

A. It compresses audio for video streaming.

B. It converts the analog voice signal into digital form to allow many calls on the same wire.

C. It amplifies signals for long-distance transmission.

D. It encrypts calls for security.

Pulse Code Modulation in the public switched telephone network is the process of turning the continuous analog voice into a digital form so many calls can share the same wire. The voice is sampled at a fixed rate (8000 samples per second) and each sample is quantized into digital values (typically 8 bits), producing a 64 kbps digital stream per channel. This digital representation lets multiple channels be multiplexed and routed through the digital switching and transmission system, enabling efficient, reliable communication over the same physical line. It isn't about compressing the signal, amplifying it, or encrypting it by itself; the main function is converting analog voice into digital form to support multiplexing and digital transmission.

3. For manual boring under obstacles, how long should the starting trench be?

A. Long enough to accommodate the pipe or rod length used for the bore

B. Twice the required bore depth

C. Just wide enough for the bore head

D. As short as possible to minimize disruption

When you're performing manual boring under obstacles, you need enough space at the start to assemble and feed the bore rods or pipe. The trench should be long enough to accommodate the full length of the rods you plan to push into the bore, so you can build the bore head in place and advance smoothly without stopping to reposition in a cramped space. This setup is essential for control and safety—having room for the equipment, joints, and hands helps maintain a straight, steady bore and reduces the risk of jams or misalignment. Choosing a trench that focuses on depth, width, or keeping it as short as possible misses the practical need for space to handle the tooling and push the bore forward effectively.

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4. Name two common types of connectors used on coaxial cable in cable systems.

A. SMA connectors; N-type connectors

B. RCA connectors; HDMI connectors

C. F-type connectors; compression connectors

D. BNC connectors; RCA connectors

The key idea is identifying the connectors most commonly used with coaxial cable in cable systems. The F-type connector is the standard 75-ohm, screw-on connector you see on most residential coax leads, wall outlets, and set-top boxes. It's simple to install, cheap, and designed for both indoor and outdoor use, which is why it's so widely used in everyday cable TV setups. Compression connectors describe a family of fasteners installed with a compression tool to create a tight, weatherproof seal on outdoor runs. They're popular in professional and residential installations for terminating RG6 or similar coax because they reliably protect against moisture while delivering solid signal performance. These two cover the typical way coaxial cable is terminated in cable systems: the ubiquitous F-type for general terminations, and compression connectors for durable outdoor terminations. Other options either aren't as common in standard cable TV installations or aren't the typical indoor/outdoor coax terminations you'd expect.

5. Which statement best describes channel bonding in DOCSIS networks?

A. It reduces the need for a separate return path.

B. It aggregates multiple downstream/upstream channels to increase total throughput.

C. It shortens the length of coax cable.

D. It stops interference by limiting channels.

Channel bonding in DOCSIS networks means combining multiple downstream (and/or upstream) channels into a single, wider pathway so data can flow in parallel. This lets the modem achieve higher total throughput because several channels are being used at the same time rather than just one. It doesn't shorten the coax cable, nor does it eliminate the need for a return path—the upstream channels still carry data back to the network. It also isn't about stopping interference by limiting channels; bonding increases capacity by using more channels in parallel.

6. Before burying an underground drop cable, what critical step must be completed?

A. Notify authorities

B. Locate other underground utilities

C. Install warning markers

D. Perform a soil test

Before burying an underground drop cable, identify what's beneath by locating existing underground utilities. This step directly reduces the risk of striking gas lines, power cables, water mains, or telecom lines, which can cause fires, electrocution, service outages, and expensive repairs. The locating is usually done by contacting the local call-before-you-dig service, which coordinates with utility owners to locate and mark lines on the surface so you can plan a safe trench path. Once you know where things run, you can avoid them or adjust the trench depth accordingly. While notifying authorities or installing warning markers are important safety practices in other contexts, they don't substitute for actually identifying buried utilities. A soil test isn't relevant to preventing a utility hit.

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7. A single beam TV receive-only antenna uses what primary physical shape to focus the signal?

A. Has a parabolic shape that reflects the downlink signal from all locations on the dish surface onto a central focal point

B. Is a flat dish

C. Uses a horn antenna

D. Is a circular flat reflector

A parabolic reflector is used because its shape focuses energy from a distant source onto a single point. When radio waves arrive from the satellite along near-parallel paths, each point on the parabolic surface reflects a ray toward a common focal point on the dish axis. Placing the feed horn or LNB at that focal point captures the concentrated signal, giving the high gain and narrow beam needed for satellite TV reception. A flat dish wouldn't bring all the rays to a single spot, so it wouldn't provide the same focusing and gain. A horn antenna is the feed that sits at the focus, not the dish shape itself, and a circular flat reflector wouldn't produce the required focus either.

8. Where must a cable operator publicly display their Equal Employment Opportunity procedures?

A. On their websites

B. In a local newsletter only

C. In phone book listings

D. Not required

Public access to EEO procedures is required so applicants and the public can easily see how discrimination complaints are handled and what the company's policy is. The most reliable and wide-reaching way to satisfy this is by posting the procedures on the cable operator's website. A website makes the information easily discoverable, up-to-date, and accessible from anywhere, which is why it's the best choice. Displaying them only in a local newsletter would limit who can access the information, and listing them in a phone book is outdated and not practical for ongoing updates. Saying it isn't required isn't accurate, since regulators expect clear, accessible EEO information.

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9. What steps would you take if a customer reports slow Wi-Fi after installation?

A. Change the provider's DNS only.

B. Replace all cables with fiber.

C. Disable internet access to test local network.

D. Validate gateway status, test throughput, optimize Wi-Fi channels, adjust placement, update firmware, and consider a Wi-Fi mesh or higher plan.

Troubleshooting slow Wi-Fi after installation means taking a structured look at the network to identify where the slowdown is coming from and fixing it step by step. Start with the gateway itself: check that the modem/router is healthy, show proper sync with the service, and confirm there are no error indicators. Then test actual throughput on devices connected to the gateway to see if the speeds match what the plan promises. Move to the wireless layer by examining both bands. Test 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz performance, then optimize channels to the least congested option and ensure channel width is appropriate for your environment. Interference from neighboring networks or appliances can significantly slow things down, so channel optimization can make a big difference. Placement matters too. Position the gateway centrally, elevated, and away from walls, metal objects, and other electronics that can block or reflect signals. Good placement reduces dead zones and improves overall coverage. Don't forget firmware—the latest updates often include performance and stability improvements, so updating the device is a key step. If speeds and coverage are still lacking after these steps, consider expanding coverage with a Wi-Fi mesh system or discussing a higher-tier plan with the provider to meet demand. Other quick fixes aren't as effective for widespread slowdowns: changing DNS mainly affects name resolution, not overall throughput; replacing cables with fiber isn't a relevant, practical remedy for a wireless performance issue after installation; and turning off internet access to test the local network doesn't provide a meaningful diagnostic and disrupts service.

10. Which organization regulates safety practices during installation, operation, or maintenance of electrical supply and communication lines?

A. The National Electrical Safety Code (NESC)

B. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

C. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

D. The National Security Agency (NSA)

Safety standards for installing, operating, or maintaining electric supply and communication lines are defined by the National Electrical Safety Code. This code sets the rules for how lines and their supporting structures are designed, installed, maintained, and operated to protect workers and the public. It covers practical details like safe working clearances, construction methods, equipment, and procedures used during line work, ensuring that routine tasks and repairs can be done without unnecessary risk. The Federal Communications Commission focuses on licensing and technical requirements for communications services and equipment, not the safety practices for installing or maintaining electrical lines. The Environmental Protection Agency handles environmental protections and regulations, not electrical safety codes. The National Security Agency deals with national security and intelligence, not infrastructure safety standards. Hence, the National Electrical Safety Code is the standard that matches the described responsibility.

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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://deliveringcableservices.examzify.com

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

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