FIRE SUPPORT COORDINATOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE (FSCDC) 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. Which types and methods of CAS Attacks are listed?

A. type 1, 2, and 3; BOT, BOC

B. type A and B; BOT, COD

C. type I and II; COD

D. All types 1-3; BOT, BOC

2. What is the role of SACC?

A. Controls fires afloat, established by the CATF

B. Manages airspace coordination

C. Provides weather support

D. Coordinates logistics for artillery units

3. Which statement correctly lists the scheduling rates for Mortars, Artillery, and NSFS?

A. Mortars 3 rpm, Arty 1 rpm, NSFS 16 rpm

B. Mortars 2 rpm, Arty 2 rpm, NSFS 12 rpm

C. Mortars 2 rpm, Arty 1 rpm, NSFS 16 rpm

D. Mortars 1 rpm, Arty 1 rpm, NSFS 20 rpm

4. Type 1 CAS requires JTAC to visually acquire which elements for each attack?

A. JTAC relies on radar guidance only

B. JTAC can release weapons without visual acquisition

C. JTAC visually acquires attacking aircraft and target for each attack

D. JTAC coordinates without aircraft involvement

5. Which plan is used to coordinate fire support?

A. Counter Fire Plan

B. Fire Support Comm Plan

C. Naval Surface Support Plan

D. Operations Plan

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6. What does CDE stand for in combat assessment?

A. Collateral Damage Estimation

B. Casualty Damage Evaluation

C. Collateral Damage Assessment

D. Civil Damage Estimation

7. Which statement best describes how weather affects fires planning and adjustments?

A. Weather affects a combination of visibility, ballistics, and sensor performance; planners factor in METT's Weather piece and adjust targets accordingly.

B. Weather affects visibility, but not ballistic performance in some cases.

C. Weather does not impact target adjustments.

D. Weather only affects the color of signaling devices.

8. What is the BP distance to the target?

A. 2-5 km

B. 5-15 km

C. 15-25 km

D. 25-35 km

9. Which NGF report indicates Ammo Remaining?

A. Pepper

B. Pickle

C. Candy

D. Honey

10. Which timeline type may use any weird combination?

A. Continuous timeline

B. Interrupted timeline

C. Nonstandard timeline

D. Ato timeline

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which types and methods of CAS Attacks are listed?

A. type 1, 2, and 3; BOT, BOC

B. type A and B; BOT, COD

C. type I and II; COD

D. All types 1-3; BOT, BOC

CAS engagements are categorized by how the target is described and controlled (the attack type) and by how the strike is delivered (the method). The standard CAS attack types are Type 1, Type 2, and Type 3, which cover different ways target information and control are handled. The two common delivery methods are Bomb On Target and Bomb On Coordinate, which describe delivering ordnance to a known target point or to a specified coordinate. The option that lists Type 1, Type 2, and Type 3 along with Bomb On Target and Bomb On Coordinate correctly matches these recognized terms. The other choices mix in nonstandard labels or a method not typically used in this context, so they don't fit.

2. What is the role of SACC?

A. Controls fires afloat, established by the CATF

B. Manages airspace coordination

C. Provides weather support

D. Coordinates logistics for artillery units

The SACC's job is to control and coordinate surface-based fires from afloat units within the CATF's area of operations. Established by the CATF, it provides a single point to plan, execute, and deconflict naval gunfire and other ship-fired weapons, ensuring the right target is engaged at the right time without fratricide or interference with other fires. This role focuses on fires from ships, not on airspace management, weather support, or logistics coordination, which are handled by other elements.

3. Which statement correctly lists the scheduling rates for Mortars, Artillery, and NSFS?

A. Mortars 3 rpm, Arty 1 rpm, NSFS 16 rpm

B. Mortars 2 rpm, Arty 2 rpm, NSFS 12 rpm

C. Mortars 2 rpm, Arty 1 rpm, NSFS 16 rpm

D. Mortars 1 rpm, Arty 1 rpm, NSFS 20 rpm

Scheduling rates show how many rounds can be planned and fired per minute from each weapon system when coordinating fires, reflecting how fast crews and fire control can move from one mission to the next while maintaining safety and accuracy. Mortars fire in a fast, close-range tempo, and sustaining about two rounds per minute fits typical planning expectations for a mortar team working within a coordinated fire plan. Artillery, being larger and requiring more setup, ammunition handling, and target verification, is generally slower—about one round per minute—allowing for proper fire control and adjustments. NSFS, with its high-rate-capability naval guns and abundant supply, can deliver a much higher tempo, around sixteen rounds per minute, to maximize volume of fire when needed. Therefore, the schedule of two rounds per minute for mortars, one for artillery, and sixteen for NSFS aligns with how these systems are typically managed in a coordinated fire plan, making it the best choice.

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4. Type 1 CAS requires JTAC to visually acquire which elements for each attack?

A. JTAC relies on radar guidance only

B. JTAC can release weapons without visual acquisition

C. JTAC visually acquires attacking aircraft and target for each attack

D. JTAC coordinates without aircraft involvement

Type 1 CAS relies on tight, positive control of a single attacking aircraft against a single target, with the JTAC maintaining visual contact on both the aircraft delivering the weapons and the target for every attack. This per-attack visual acquisition ensures positive identification, proper deconfliction, and the ability to abort or adjust immediately if the target or situation changes. Relying on radar-only guidance or releasing weapons without visual acquisition removes essential safety and precision checks. Coordinating without aircraft involvement defeats the purpose of Type 1 control, which depends on the JTAC's direct, in-scene oversight of each strike.

5. Which plan is used to coordinate fire support?

A. Counter Fire Plan

B. Fire Support Comm Plan

C. Naval Surface Support Plan

D. Operations Plan

Coordinating fire support relies on a Fire Support Communications Plan. This plan establishes the communications framework for all fire support actors—how requests are made, who approves them, and which nets, call signs, and messaging formats are used—so artillery, naval gunfire, air support, and other fires can be requested, deconflicted, and executed consistently. It connects the fire support team (FOs/FISTs, JTACs, FDCs) with higher headquarters and other ballistics and aviation assets, providing the procedures for target location, priority, time on target, and aborts. By standardizing radio procedures, target data formats, and escalation paths, fires are delivered accurately and safely. The other plans are narrower in scope: a counter-fire plan focuses on defense against enemy fires, a Naval Surface Support Plan covers naval surface assets specifically, and an Operations Plan is a broader planning document that may include fire support but does not define the communications framework for coordinating fires.

6. What does CDE stand for in combat assessment?

A. Collateral Damage Estimation

B. Casualty Damage Evaluation

C. Collateral Damage Assessment

D. Civil Damage Estimation

Collateral damage assessment focuses on evaluating the unintended harm to people and property that could result from a military action. In combat assessment, this step helps determine whether a strike stays within proportionality and ROE by considering how much collateral harm is likely or has occurred, and what mitigations are needed. This makes it the best match for the acronym, since it denotes the evaluative process used to gauge collateral harm to inform decisions about proceeding, adjusting targets, or applying risk-reduction measures. Other phrasings imply forecasting or different kinds of damage evaluation, which drift from the established practice of assessing collateral effects in this context.

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7. Which statement best describes how weather affects fires planning and adjustments?

A. Weather affects a combination of visibility, ballistics, and sensor performance; planners factor in METT's Weather piece and adjust targets accordingly.

B. Weather affects visibility, but not ballistic performance in some cases.

C. Weather does not impact target adjustments.

D. Weather only affects the color of signaling devices.

Weather shapes fires planning and adjustments by affecting three key areas: visibility to identify and acquire targets, ballistic performance that changes with wind, temperature, and air density, and sensor performance used for target tracking and confirmation. Planners incorporate this information as METT-TC Weather, using it to adjust target selections, firing data, and timing so the plan remains effective under evolving conditions. For example, a crosswind can cause wind drift that requires different wind corrections or even selecting different targets, while poor visibility may limit target identification and push adjustments toward more conservative or alternative targeting approaches. The combined impact on what you can see, how rounds will behave, and how sensors perform is exactly why weather drives planning and adjustments in fire support.

8. What is the BP distance to the target?

A. 2-5 km

B. 5-15 km

C. 15-25 km

D. 25-35 km

BP distance to the target is the distance from the base point used as the reference for a fire mission to the target. This distance matters because it defines the engagement envelope for planning, communication, and execution of indirect fires from that base point. Five to fifteen kilometers is the typical range for a base point to a target because it keeps the observer within a reliable window for observing impacts, calling for fire, and making rapid corrections while staying within safe, standard artillery engagement distances. Distances shorter than that often involve direct-fire considerations or fall outside the standard fire-control procedures, and distances much longer can complicate targeting data, reduce accuracy, and slow response. So, the BP-to-target distance is commonly in the 5–15 km range.

9. Which NGF report indicates Ammo Remaining?

A. Pepper

B. Pickle

C. Candy

D. Honey

In NGF reporting, ammunition status is conveyed with a fixed code word so quickly and unambiguously you can make sustainment decisions on the move. The word Candy is the designated term that indicates ammo remaining, meaning there is still ammunition on hand for the requested item. That makes it the best choice because it directly communicates a positive supply status, enabling the Fire Direction and Fire Support teams to plan resupply or adjust tactics accordingly. The other terms in the list are not used to signal ammo remaining, as they would represent different conditions and don't indicate current ammunition on hand.

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10. Which timeline type may use any weird combination?

A. Continuous timeline

B. Interrupted timeline

C. Nonstandard timeline

D. Ato timeline

Timeline types define how events unfold in time during fire support planning. The option that may use any weird combination is a nonstandard timeline, because its defining feature is the absence of a fixed pattern. It accommodates irregular sequences, overlapping actions, and irregular durations to fit unique operations. This flexibility is essential when coordination requirements don't align to a simple flow, such as when multiple tasks must be interwoven or timing is dictated by dynamic battlefield conditions. In contrast, a continuous timeline assumes a steady, unbroken progression of events with consistent timing; an interrupted timeline includes planned pauses but still follows a recognizable pattern with defined breaks; an ATO timeline is tied to the structured windows and sequencing dictated by the Air Tasking Order and tends to be more standardized. Therefore, nonstandard timeline is the one that accommodates those unusual combinations.

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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://fscdc.examzify.com

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

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