NCOTMB SOLDIER OF THE MONTH BOARD (SOTMB) 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 is NOT a form of chemical agents?

A. Gases

B. Vapors

C. Aerosols

D. Solids

2. What is the difference between cover and concealment? Examples of each?

A. Concealment provides protection, while cover hides you.

B. Cover provides protection, while concealment will only hide you. A solid wall vs A bush.

C. Both provide protection equally.

D. Neither provides protection or concealment.

3. During an NBC attack, when should warning be given?

A. before you put on your mask

B. when you hear the alarm

C. after you leave the area

D. after you put on your mask

4. Which statement is true about the Centerhold Technique?

A. It is a method used with the Lensatic compass

B. It is a method used with a protractor

C. It is a surveying technique

D. It is a map-reading method

5. Which word is NOT part of the Army Values acronym LDRSHIP?

A. Leadership

B. Loyalty

C. Duty

D. Respect

6. In METT-TC, what does the second T stand for?

A. Time

B. Terrain

C. Troops

D. Theater

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7. Which term is NOT one of the major mission command activities performed during operations?

A. Planning

B. Execution

C. Assessing

D. Logistics

8. Which item is essential to achieving a proper sight picture during aiming?

A. Align front and rear sights

B. Breathe out slowly while squeezing the trigger

C. Use rapid bursts to adjust aim

D. Keep finger on trigger at all times

9. Which publication contains the Army Command Policy?

A. AR 600-20

B. AR 600-50

C. AR 600-80

D. AR 601-50

10. Which North type is indicated by the map grid lines?

A. True north

B. Magnetic north

C. Grid north

D. None of the above

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following is NOT a form of chemical agents?

A. Gases

B. Vapors

C. Aerosols

D. Solids

The idea being tested is how chemical agents are described by their physical state versus how they reach targets. A chemical agent can be encountered as a gas, a vapor, or a solid—these describe its intrinsic form. An aerosol, however, refers to how the agent is dispersed in air—tiny particles or droplets carried by a gas. So while an agent can be delivered as an aerosol, the aerosol itself is not a separate form of the agent; it's the distribution method.

2. What is the difference between cover and concealment? Examples of each?

A. Concealment provides protection, while cover hides you.

B. Cover provides protection, while concealment will only hide you. A solid wall vs A bush.

C. Both provide protection equally.

D. Neither provides protection or concealment.

The main idea is that cover and concealment serve different safety purposes: cover stops or deflects bullets and fragments, giving you physical protection, while concealment hides your position by masking your appearance or line of sight without stopping fire. The statement that matches this best is that cover provides protection, while concealment will only hide you; a solid wall offers protection from bullets, whereas a bush hides you but doesn't stop bullets. This distinction is crucial: you want cover when you expect enemy fire, and concealment when you just need to avoid being seen. Some objects can provide both, but the core difference remains that cover reduces or blocks harm, and concealment only hides your presence.

3. During an NBC attack, when should warning be given?

A. before you put on your mask

B. when you hear the alarm

C. after you leave the area

D. after you put on your mask

In an NBC environment, protecting yourself first is essential. Putting on your mask immediately reduces your exposure to airborne hazards, so you can safely assess the situation and communicate what's happening. If you warn before you're masked, you risk inhaling contaminants yourself and you may not be able to help others effectively. Once you're masked, giving the warning allows you to guide others to safety without compromising your own protection. That's why the appropriate timing is after you put on your mask.

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4. Which statement is true about the Centerhold Technique?

A. It is a method used with the Lensatic compass

B. It is a method used with a protractor

C. It is a surveying technique

D. It is a map-reading method

Centerhold is a technique used with a Lensatic compass to transfer or derive a bearing from a map by centering the compass on the map and using the sighting features to align with the desired line. The design of the Lensatic compass—with its center pivot, sighting wire, and rotating bezel—supports keeping the device steady while you relate map directions to a real heading. This makes it a compass-based method rather than simply using a drafting tool like a protractor, a broad surveying technique, or a general map-reading method. A protractor measures angles on a map without a compass; surveying covers field measurement methods; map-reading is broader interpretation without necessarily employing the centerhold technique. So, the statement that Centerhold is a method used with the Lensatic compass is the correct description.

5. Which word is NOT part of the Army Values acronym LDRSHIP?

A. Leadership

B. Loyalty

C. Duty

D. Respect

The Army Values are a fixed set represented by the acronym LDRSHIP, which stands for Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage. Leadership isn't one of those seven words, so it isn't included in the acronym. The other options—Loyalty, Duty, and Respect—are all actual values in the list, while Leadership is not.

6. In METT-TC, what does the second T stand for?

A. Time

B. Terrain

C. Troops

D. Theater

The second T stands for Troops and Support Available. In METT-TC you analyze Mission, Enemy, Terrain and Weather, Troops and Support Available, Time, Civil Considerations—the two Ts are separate: the first is Terrain and Weather, the second is Troops and Support. Time is a separate factor that comes later. So this question points to Troops (and the accompanying support) as the correct interpretation of the second T, since you're evaluating whether you have enough personnel and the backing assets needed to accomplish the mission. The other options don't fit because Time is a different element, Terrain is the first T, and Theater isn't part of METT-TC.

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7. Which term is NOT one of the major mission command activities performed during operations?

A. Planning

B. Execution

C. Assessing

D. Logistics

The main idea here is that mission command centers on three core activities: planning, execution, and assessment. Planning sets up how the mission will be carried out, outlining the courses of action and coordinating resources. Execution is the act of carrying that plan into action in the field, directing activities and adapting as conditions change. Assessment is the ongoing process of measuring progress, evaluating outcomes, and identifying needed adjustments to stay aligned with the mission's goals. Logistics, while essential for sustaining operations (providing supplies, transport, maintenance, and support), is a support function rather than a core mission command activity. So the term that does not fit as a major mission command activity is Logistics.

8. Which item is essential to achieving a proper sight picture during aiming?

A. Align front and rear sights

B. Breathe out slowly while squeezing the trigger

C. Use rapid bursts to adjust aim

D. Keep finger on trigger at all times

Achieving a proper sight picture hinges on aligning the front and rear sights. When the front sight sits centered in the rear sight notch and the tops are level, your aim is aligned with the target and the bore. The front sight should be crisp while the target and rear sight may blur slightly, giving you a stable, repeatable image to place on the point of aim. This alignment is what makes the shot predictable when you press the trigger. Breathing and trigger squeeze matter for the shot once the sight picture is set, but they don't establish the sight picture itself. Rapid bursts disrupt your visual alignment, so they're not how you refine aiming. Keeping your finger on the trigger at all times is unsafe and distracts from achieving the correct sight alignment.

9. Which publication contains the Army Command Policy?

A. AR 600-20

B. AR 600-50

C. AR 600-80

D. AR 601-50

Army Regulation 600-20 is the publication that contains the Army Command Policy. This regulation lays out the duties of commanders and the policies that shape the command climate, including equal opportunity, sexual harassment, hazing, and related expectations for leader conduct and governance. Because the question asks for where the Army Command Policy is published, this regulation is the correct reference. The other listed regulations cover different Army topics and do not contain the command policy.

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10. Which North type is indicated by the map grid lines?

A. True north

B. Magnetic north

C. Grid north

D. None of the above

Map grid lines define grid north—the direction along the map's north–south grid axis. This differs from true north, which points toward the geographic North Pole, and from magnetic north, the compass direction affected by Earth's magnetism. The grid is a separate coordinate system laid over the map, so the direction indicated by the grid lines is grid north, not the true geographic north or the magnetic north. Therefore, the grid lines indicate grid north.

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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://ncotmbsotmb.examzify.com

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

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