

PDC INITIATION 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.

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!

Questions

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- 1. Who were two founders of our chapter?**
 - A. Jamie Glasgow and Fitz Glasgow
 - B. Jamie and Fitz Glasgow
 - C. Jamie Glasgow and Fitz Carter
 - D. Fitz Glasgow and Jamie Carter

- 2. In initiation, which element describes a high-level risk and its mitigation as identified during planning?**
 - A. Market analysis and risk scoring.
 - B. Detailed risk mitigation plan with dates.
 - C. Risk: Schedule slippage; Mitigation: Re-baseline the plan.
 - D. Risk: Budget shortfall due to volatile costs; Mitigation: Include contingency reserves and phased implementation.

- 3. Attendance at national and regional meetings is expected.**
 - A. Not specified
 - B. Sometimes
 - C. True
 - D. False

- 4. Which of the following is a leadership-focused Thurston Cup report?**
 - A. Ralph L. Saroyan Brotherhood Award
 - B. John D. Grabenstein Leadership Award
 - C. Prescott Scholarship Cup
 - D. Chapter Publication Award

- 5. Which activity is explicitly listed as a way alumni can stay involved with Collegiate Brothers?**
 - A. Lead local political campaigns
 - B. Review CVs or help prepare Brothers for interviews
 - C. Publish a monthly newsletter
 - D. Organize sports events

6. What should be included in a risk register at initiation?

- A. Stakeholder contact lists and meeting notes.
- B. A formal change log and approval records.
- C. A risk register listing identified risks, their probability, impact, owner, triggers, and planned responses.
- D. A procurement vendor evaluation table.

7. What is the role of the sponsor in initiation?

- A. Provide day-to-day management of project execution.
- B. Provide authorization, funding, and accountability; approve the charter and go/no-go.
- C. Draft the project charter and detailed design.
- D. Negotiate procurement contracts.

8. How is a benefits owner defined?

- A. The person who manages project risk.
- B. The sponsor's assistant.
- C. The project customer.
- D. The person accountable for realizing a specific benefit after project completion.

9. Why is a risk register described as a living document in initiation?

- A. It is updated as risks evolve and new risks are identified.
- B. It remains static once created.
- C. It is discarded after initiation.
- D. It is replaced by a new document at each stage.

10. Which phrase reflects valuing family in the Reflection?

- A. Let us replace family with wealth
- B. Let us forget our roots
- C. Let us cherish family
- D. Let us neglect family

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Who were two founders of our chapter?

- A. Jamie Glasgow and Fitz Glasgow
- B. Jamie and Fitz Glasgow**
- C. Jamie Glasgow and Fitz Carter
- D. Fitz Glasgow and Jamie Carter

The question tests your ability to correctly identify the two people who founded the chapter from their names. The two founders are Jamie Glasgow and Fitz Glasgow. This pairing matches both individuals with the Glasgow surname, reflecting the same two people referenced in the prompt. The other options introduce a different surname for one founder (Carter) or mix names in a way that doesn't correspond to the known founders, so they don't fit as accurately.

2. In initiation, which element describes a high-level risk and its mitigation as identified during planning?

- A. Market analysis and risk scoring.
- B. Detailed risk mitigation plan with dates.
- C. Risk: Schedule slippage; Mitigation: Re-baseline the plan.
- D. Risk: Budget shortfall due to volatile costs; Mitigation: Include contingency reserves and phased implementation.**

In initiation, you identify high level risks that could affect project objectives and outline broad responses that can be put in place early on. The choice that describes a budget shortfall due to volatile costs and pairs it with a broad, strategic response—including contingency reserves and a phased implementation—fits this stage best. It signals a general understanding of potential financial uncertainty and uses flexible, high level measures to handle it without committing to detailed actions or schedules. The other options tend to be either more about identifying risks or about specific, concrete steps that belong to later planning or execution. For example, mentioning market analysis and risk scoring is about recognizing risks rather than outlining a high level plan to address them. Detailing a mitigation plan with dates adds specificity that goes beyond initiation. Describing a concrete corrective action like re-baselining the schedule is similarly detailed and action oriented rather than a broad early response.

3. Attendance at national and regional meetings is expected.

- A. Not specified
- B. Sometimes
- C. True**
- D. False

The main idea tested here is whether attending national and regional meetings is an expectation rather than optional. If the program policy says attendance is expected, the statement is true. Regular attendance helps you stay informed about updates, hear leadership briefings, and engage with peers, which are typical reasons such participation is required. Because the policy specifies an expectation for attendance, alternatives like saying it's not specified, it's sometimes optional, or that it's false don't fit the stated rule. Plan to attend, or arrange approved alternatives if you have a valid conflict.

4. Which of the following is a leadership-focused Thurston Cup report?

- A. Ralph L. Saroyan Brotherhood Award
- B. John D. Grabenstein Leadership Award**
- C. Prescott Scholarship Cup
- D. Chapter Publication Award

Leadership development and measurable leadership outcomes are what a leadership-focused Thurston Cup report emphasizes. The John D. Grabenstein Leadership Award is the one designated for leadership reports, with its title explicitly signaling leadership focus and aligning with the Thurston Cup's leadership category. The other awards target different areas: brotherhood, scholarship, and publications. So this option best matches the requirement of being leadership-focused.

5. Which activity is explicitly listed as a way alumni can stay involved with Collegiate Brothers?

- A. Lead local political campaigns
- B. Review CVs or help prepare Brothers for interviews**
- C. Publish a monthly newsletter
- D. Organize sports events

Alumni involvement is most effective when it leverages their professional experience to help current Brothers advance. Reviewing CVs or coaching interview prep provides concrete, real-world guidance, lets alumni share transferable skills, and strengthens the network by directly supporting members' career development. That alignment with ongoing, mentor-like support is why this option stands out as the explicit way alumni stay involved. Leading local political campaigns may fall outside the typical career-support role; publishing a monthly newsletter is a communications task; organizing sports events is more social and recreational. They can happen, but they don't match the stated form of alumni involvement as clearly.

6. What should be included in a risk register at initiation?

- A. Stakeholder contact lists and meeting notes.
- B. A formal change log and approval records.
- C. A risk register listing identified risks, their probability, impact, owner, triggers, and planned responses.**
- D. A procurement vendor evaluation table.

The main idea being tested is that a risk register at project initiation should capture a structured set of risks with assessment and planned responses so risks can be monitored and managed from the start. A risk register is not just a list; it pairs each identified risk with its likelihood and potential impact, assigns an owner responsible for follow-up, notes triggers or early warning signs, and outlines how the risk will be addressed through mitigation, contingency, or escalation plans. This combination lets the team prioritize threats, track who is responsible, and know what actions to take if a risk materializes. Stakeholder contact lists and meeting notes are about communication and stakeholder management, not the risk management record itself. A formal change log and approval records belong to change control and governance processes, not the ongoing catalog of risks and responses. A procurement vendor evaluation table ties to procurement decisions rather than to the structured risk information needed to anticipate and respond to risks. In short, the risk register at initiation should document each identified risk with its probability, impact, owner, triggers, and planned responses to enable proactive risk management from day one.

7. What is the role of the sponsor in initiation?

- A. Provide day-to-day management of project execution.
- B. Provide authorization, funding, and accountability; approve the charter and go/no-go.**
- C. Draft the project charter and detailed design.
- D. Negotiate procurement contracts.

In initiation, the sponsor serves as the senior authority who authorizes the project, commits the necessary funding, and holds accountability for the project's outcomes. They review and approve the project charter, which formally legitimizes the project and sets its purpose, objectives, and high-level boundaries, and they make the go/no-go decision on whether to move forward into planning. This top-level involvement ensures the project aligns with strategy and has the resources and executive support needed to succeed. Day-to-day management is the project manager's domain, drafting the charter and detailed designs is a collaborative effort with the sponsor providing input and approval, and negotiating procurement contracts is typically handled by procurement or the PM team under sponsor oversight.

8. How is a benefits owner defined?

- A. The person who manages project risk.
- B. The sponsor's assistant.
- C. The project customer.
- D. The person accountable for realizing a specific benefit after project completion.**

The key idea here is benefits ownership: the person who is accountable for ensuring a specific benefit is realized after the project is finished. This role focuses on value delivery, not just delivering outputs. The benefits owner takes responsibility for defining how the benefit will be measured, creating and owning the benefits realization plan, and driving the changes needed in the business to achieve the expected result. They monitor progress, engage the right stakeholders, and ensure the organization actually adopts the changes required to realize the benefit. This distinguishes the role from others in the project. The person who manages project risk deals with potential problems and mitigations during execution, not with delivering long-term outcomes. The sponsor's assistant supports the sponsor's work but does not own the benefit realization. The project customer benefits from the deliverables but isn't necessarily responsible for ensuring the benefit is realized after the project closes. For example, if a new CRM system is expected to increase sales productivity by 20%, the benefits owner would be the leader responsible for making sure that value is actually realized after go-live—setting the right metrics, ensuring adoption, and overseeing the realization plan—rather than just delivering the system itself.

9. Why is a risk register described as a living document in initiation?

- A. It is updated as risks evolve and new risks are identified.**
- B. It remains static once created.
- C. It is discarded after initiation.
- D. It is replaced by a new document at each stage.

Risks in a project are dynamic, so the risk register must be kept as a living document. As you move through initiation and into planning, new risks can be discovered, and the likelihood and impact of existing risks can change based on new information, stakeholder input, or changes in scope. Updating the register with current probabilities, impacts, owners, and planned responses keeps it relevant and guides timely decisions. It isn't static, discarded, or replaced at every stage because doing so would lose valuable context, history, and continuity in how risks are managed throughout the project.

10. Which phrase reflects valuing family in the Reflection?

- A. Let us replace family with wealth
- B. Let us forget our roots
- C. Let us cherish family
- D. Let us neglect family

Valuing family in a reflection comes through language that treats family as precious and worthy of care. The phrase "Let us cherish family" communicates holding family dear, appreciating them, and prioritizing those relationships, which is exactly what valuing family looks like in reflective thinking. Cherish conveys active appreciation and protection, signaling a sustained, heartfelt regard for family. In contrast, the other options push away or de-emphasize family: replacing family with wealth suggests a shift in priorities toward material things; forgetting our roots implies a disconnection from heritage; neglecting family shows indifference. Each of these alternatives contradicts the idea of valuing family, making the cherished phrasing the strongest fit.

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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://pdcinitiation.examzify.com>

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

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