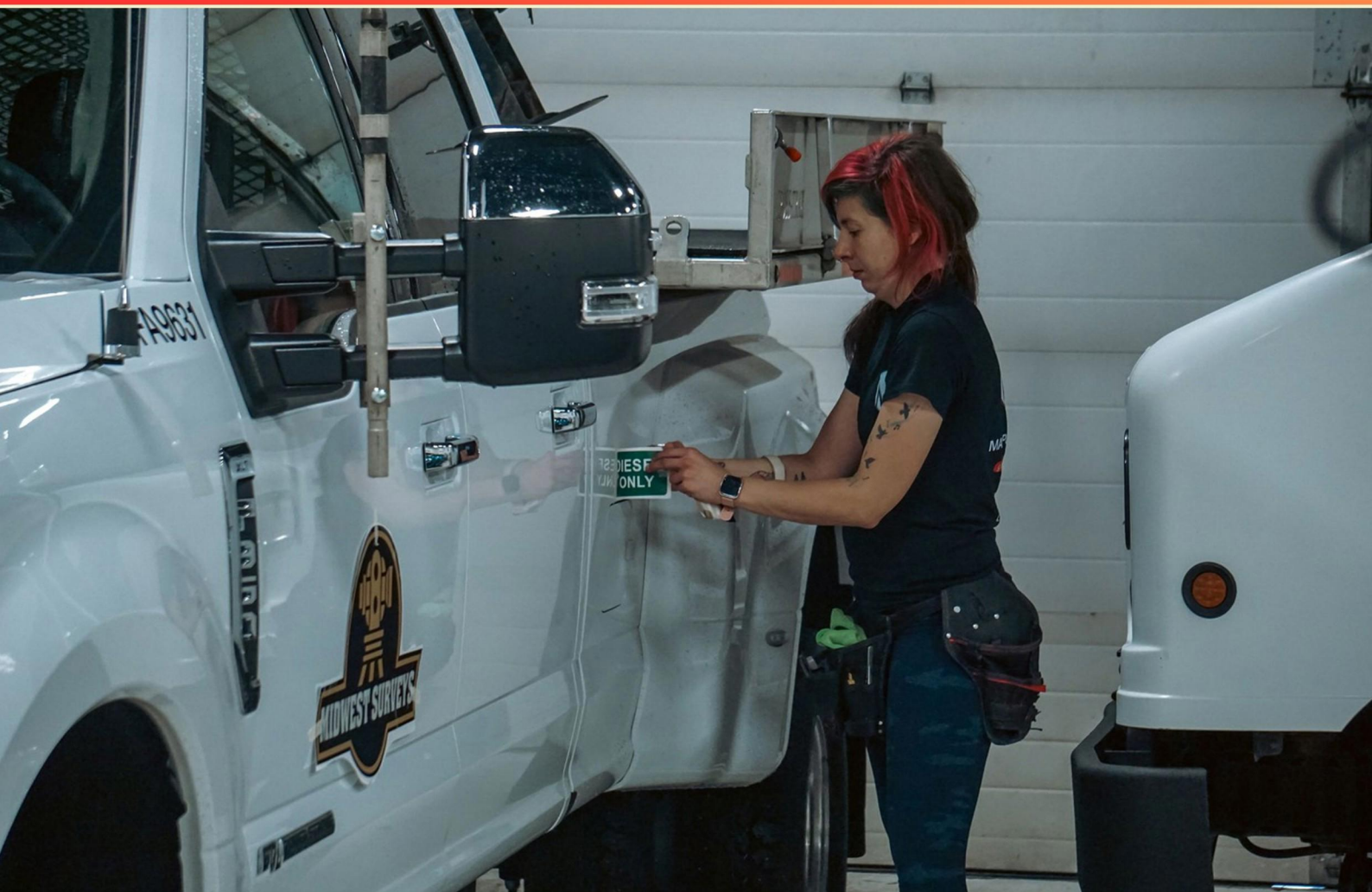


SCE GROUNDMAN PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

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.

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. What is a ground switch and when would you use it?**
 - A. A switch used to connect equipment to a grounding path; used during maintenance to establish a known ground reference.
 - B. A switch used to disconnect main feed.
 - C. A switch for turning off all power.
 - D. A switch only used in switching stations.
- 2. Which of the following statements about anchor point placement for fall protection is correct?**
 - A. They can be placed anywhere as long as they are attached
 - B. They must be placed on solid, rated portions of the pole at or above shoulder height, away from damaged wood, and capable of supporting the load
 - C. They should be placed at ground level for stability
 - D. They must be installed only by a supervisor
- 3. What is the fault duty for 2/0 grounds?**
 - A. 9k Amps Of Fault Duty
 - B. 27k Amps Of Fault Duty
 - C. 18k Amps Of Fault Duty
 - D. 36k Amps Of Fault Duty
- 4. Which statement best describes the purpose of a clear job briefing and communication plan?**
 - A. To document attendance.
 - B. To ensure everyone understands the plan, hazards, and roles.
 - C. To speed up the work schedule.
 - D. To assign blame after tasks.
- 5. What does mechanical advantage describe?**
 - A. The ratio of the output force to the input force
 - B. The energy efficiency of a machine
 - C. The speed of movement
 - D. The amount of friction in a system

6. What is an automatic reclosing device, and why is it used on feeders?

- A. It prevents faults from occurring
- B. It manually restarts after a fault is cleared
- C. It only alarms when faults occur
- D. It automatically restores service after a fault clears, allowing fault isolation while minimizing outage duration

7. What are Guy Guards used for?

- A. Used to protect mark and protect guy wires
- B. To increase line voltage
- C. To attach the wire to the crossarm
- D. To insulate the line

8. What is the ampacity for #4 triplex?

- A. 90 A
- B. 110 A
- C. 130 A
- D. 150 A

9. Which of the following is NOT one of the three major types of anchors?

- A. Screw anchors (PISA - Power installed screw anchor)
- B. Plate anchor
- C. Rock anchor
- D. Anchor rod extensions

10. Which APM code indicates lines normally energized above 600 V must be tested and grounded prior to contact?

- A. APM 109
- B. APM 212
- C. APM 108
- D. APM 141

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is a ground switch and when would you use it?

- A. A switch used to connect equipment to a grounding path; used during maintenance to establish a known ground reference.**
- B. A switch used to disconnect main feed.
- C. A switch for turning off all power.
- D. A switch only used in switching stations.

A ground switch provides a direct, low-impedance path to earth for the equipment being serviced, creating a known ground reference. This is crucial because even after a circuit is opened or de-energized, there can be stored energy or induced voltages on the equipment that could shock a worker or cause a spark. By connecting a grounding conductor through the ground switch to the earth, you quickly bleed off that energy and ensure the equipment sits at earth potential, making it safe to work on. You'd use it during maintenance or testing when you need to guarantee the equipment is safely grounded before touching or servicing it, and as part of lockout/tagout procedures to prevent unexpected energization. It's not the device used to disconnect the main feed or to turn off all power, and it's not limited to switching stations—ground switches are used wherever establishing a solid ground reference is required for safe work.

2. Which of the following statements about anchor point placement for fall protection is correct?

- A. They can be placed anywhere as long as they are attached
- B. They must be placed on solid, rated portions of the pole at or above shoulder height, away from damaged wood, and capable of supporting the load**
- C. They should be placed at ground level for stability
- D. They must be installed only by a supervisor

Anchor points for fall protection must be secure, rated, and positioned where they can actually hold a fall. Placing them on solid, rated portions of the pole ensures the anchor is designed to withstand the forces generated by a fall, not just to bear static weight. Positioning the anchor at or above shoulder height keeps the lanyard and harness aligned properly, reducing fall distance and helping the system arrest the fall safely. Keeping the anchor away from damaged wood prevents failure that could occur if the wood is cracked, rotted, or otherwise compromised. And making sure the anchor can support the required load, including dynamic forces from a fall, ensures the system works as intended rather than failing when it's needed most. Other options miss important safety requirements: anchors must be on sound, rated structure rather than anywhere, to avoid unpredictable failure; ground-level anchors won't provide adequate protection or clearance and can lead to dangerous impacts; and installation responsibilities rely on proper training and procedures rather than a blanket rule about who must install them.

3. What is the fault duty for 2/0 grounds?

- A. 9k Amps Of Fault Duty
- B. 27k Amps Of Fault Duty
- C. 18k Amps Of Fault Duty**
- D. 36k Amps Of Fault Duty

Fault duty is the maximum short-circuit current that could flow through the ground path if a fault occurs, determined by the source impedance and the path's impedance. For a 2/0 grounding conductor, the standard value used in this context is 18,000 amps. This reflects the typical available fault current on a distribution feeder with the usual source and grounding arrangement. The exact fault current in a real fault would depend on the actual system configuration, transformer impedance, and network topology, but the 18 kA figure is the representative fault level taught for a 2/0 ground in this material. The other numbers would correspond to different system assumptions or conductor conditions and aren't the standard value for this size in this context. This concept matters because protective devices must be rated and coordinated to interrupt such a fault safely and quickly.

4. Which statement best describes the purpose of a clear job briefing and communication plan?

- A. To document attendance.
- B. To ensure everyone understands the plan, hazards, and roles.**
- C. To speed up the work schedule.
- D. To assign blame after tasks.

A clear job briefing and communication plan is about making sure everyone on the crew shares the same understanding of what will be done, what hazards exist, and who is responsible for each part of the task. When the plan is explained and agreed upon, each person knows the sequence of steps, the safety controls in place, and how to communicate important information or changes. This shared awareness reduces the chance of mistakes, accidents, or miscoordination. The other options miss the core purpose: simply noting attendance doesn't ensure safety or coordination, speeding up the schedule isn't the primary goal and can compromise safety, and assigning blame after tasks erodes safety culture and isn't conducive to preventing incidents.

5. What does mechanical advantage describe?

- A. The ratio of the output force to the input force**
- B. The energy efficiency of a machine
- C. The speed of movement
- D. The amount of friction in a system

Mechanical advantage tells you how much a machine multiplies the input force. It is the ratio of the output force to the input force. For example, if you push with 20 N and the machine lifts with 100 N, the mechanical advantage is 5. This concept explains why machines let you move heavy loads with less effort. It's not a measure of energy efficiency (that's about work in versus work out and losses to friction), and it isn't a measure of speed or distance moved. Real machines also have friction that reduces the actual advantage below the ideal calculation. Different machines show MA in different ways (for a lever, $MA = \text{effort arm length} / \text{load arm length}$; for an inclined plane, $MA = \text{length} / \text{height}$; for pulleys, MA equals the number of supporting rope segments).

6. What is an automatic reclosing device, and why is it used on feeders?

- A. It prevents faults from occurring
- B. It manually restarts after a fault is cleared
- C. It only alarms when faults occur
- D. It automatically restores service after a fault clears, allowing fault isolation while minimizing outage duration**

Automatic reclosing on feeders is about quickly restoring service after a fault clears, while keeping the faulted section isolated to protect equipment and safety. When a fault trips the feeder, the auto-recloser waits a short moment and tries to reclose. If the fault was temporary, the line energizes again and service is restored, often with no manual intervention. If the fault persists, the recloser trips again and stays open, isolating the problem to prevent damage and hazards. This approach minimizes outage duration for most faults and improves reliability for customers. The other descriptions don't fit because they describe preventing faults, manual restarts, or merely sounding an alarm, none of which involve automatically restoring service after a fault clears.

7. What are Guy Guards used for?

- A. Used to protect mark and protect guy wires**
- B. To increase line voltage
- C. To attach the wire to the crossarm
- D. To insulate the line

Guy guards are protective covers that go over the guy wire near a pole. They're there to prevent people, vehicles, or equipment from accidentally touching the guy wire and to shield the wire itself from damage. By making the guy wire more visible, they help crews work safely around poles. This function is about safety and protection, not changing voltage, attaching wires to the crossarm, or insulating the line.

8. What is the ampacity for #4 triplex?

- A. 90 A
- B. 110 A**
- C. 130 A
- D. 150 A

Ampacity is the maximum current a conductor can carry continuously without its insulation getting too hot. For a #4 conductor used as triplex—three conductors bundled together for overhead service—the standard insulation and installation conditions place its ampacity at about 110 A. This reflects the common NEC ratings for #4 aluminum triplex with 75°C insulation used in overhead service. If you were using a different material or a higher or lower temperature rating, the ampacity would change (for example, copper #4 at the same rating is lower, and higher-temp insulation could raise the allowed current). In the usual service scenarios, 110 A is the typical ampacity assigned to #4 triplex.

9. Which of the following is NOT one of the three major types of anchors?

- A. Screw anchors (PISA - Power installed screw anchor)
- B. Plate anchor
- C. Rock anchor
- D. Anchor rod extensions**

The main idea being tested is recognizing the standard categories used for anchors in fieldwork. The three widely recognized types are screw anchors (like power-installed screw anchors), plate anchors, and rock anchors. A screw anchor is installed by turning into a hole to grip the substrate, providing quick and strong holding power. A plate anchor distributes the load over a larger surface area with a flat plate, which helps in concrete or masonry. A rock anchor is designed to grab into natural rock, using mechanical or chemical means to secure stability in rock environments. Anchor rod extensions, however, aren't one of these primary categories; they're more like an accessory or modification used with an anchor system rather than a standalone anchor type. So, anchor rod extensions do not belong in the trio of major anchor types. The other three choices represent genuine main types because of their distinct installation methods and applications.

10. Which APM code indicates lines normally energized above 600 V must be tested and grounded prior to contact?

- A. APM 109
- B. APM 212
- C. APM 108
- D. APM 141**

The essential safety step here is establishing a zero-energy condition before touching lines that normally carry more than 600 V. Work on high-voltage lines demands confirming that no voltage is present and providing a grounded path to dissipate any stored or induced energy, so workers aren't surprised by live energy once a switch is opened or equipment is touched. APM 141 specifies that lines normally energized above 600 V must be tested to verify absence of voltage and grounded prior to contact, making this code the clear standard for this procedure. The other codes cover different safety actions or contexts and do not mandate this exact testing-and-grounding sequence for high-voltage lines before contact, so they don't fit this specific requirement.

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:

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

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