USADSA TACTICS 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. What does the term "L" represent in Line 5 of a MEDEVAC request?

A. Location

B. Literature

C. Litter patients

D. Last known contact

2. At what angle is a detour bypass method typically executed?

A. 45 degrees

B. 90 degrees

C. 180 degrees

D. 270 degrees

3. What is the distance between the squad leader and each fire team when using the traveling movement technique?

A. 10 meters

B. 15 meters

C. 20 meters

D. 25 meters

4. What are the three primary movement techniques used by a squad?

A. Walking, Running, Hiding

B. Traveling, Skimming, Crawling

C. Traveling, Traveling Overwatch, Bounding Overwatch

D. Jumping, Crawling, Running

5. What is the responsibility of the trail element in a squad column fire team when crossing an LDA?

A. Establish rear security

B. Establish near side security

C. Lead a change in formation

D. Coordinate with the front element

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6. Where is the squad leader ideally placed within his squad?

A. At the front

B. In the center

C. Wherever he can best control the squad

D. At the rear

7. What are the three minor terrain features?

A. Hill, Valley, Ridge

B. Cliff, Spur, Draw

C. Mount, Valley, Bay

D. Mine, Waterfall, Gorge

8. What does Battle Drill 1 refer to in military tactics?

A. React to Direct Fire Contact

B. Locate enemy positions

C. Conduct reconnaissance

D. Execute a withdrawal

9. What do the 3 D's refer to when reacting to contact?

A. Distance, Defense, Direction

B. Distance, Description, Direction

C. Delivery, Description, Distance

D. Deployment, Distance, Direction

10. Which of the following is a characteristic of a Patrol Base?

A. Near urban areas

B. Away from vantage points

C. Provides cover and concealment

D. Located on high ground

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What does the term "L" represent in Line 5 of a MEDEVAC request?

A. Location

B. Literature

C. Litter patients

D. Last known contact

In a MEDEVAC (Medical Evacuation) request, the term "L" specifically represents "Litter patients." This denotes the type of patients being evacuated, indicating that they require transportation on a stretcher rather than being mobile or able to move on their own. This classification is important for the medical team to prepare the necessary resources and personnel for the evacuation, ensuring that the patients receive appropriate care during transport. Identifying patients as litter or ambulatory helps in prioritizing the type of aircraft or evacuation methods used, corresponding to the severity of the patients' conditions and their medical needs. Properly categorizing patients is crucial for efficient and effective evacuation planning in emergency and combat situations.

2. At what angle is a detour bypass method typically executed?

A. 45 degrees

B. 90 degrees

C. 180 degrees

D. 270 degrees

The detour bypass method is typically executed at a right angle, which is 90 degrees. This approach is often used in tactical scenarios where the objective is to navigate around an obstacle while maintaining a position or strategy. Executing a 90-degree turn allows for effective repositioning without directly engaging with the obstacle. Such a tactic is essential in maintaining the integrity of formation and ensuring that units can continue their maneuver without unnecessary exposure to potential threats or complications posed by the obstacle. In contrast to executing a detour at 45, 180, or 270 degrees, a 90-degree turn provides a clearer and more direct route that limits the engagement angles and maximizes efficiency in bypassing obstacles.

3. What is the distance between the squad leader and each fire team when using the traveling movement technique?

A. 10 meters

B. 15 meters

C. 20 meters

D. 25 meters

In the context of military tactics, when using the traveling movement technique, the distance of 20 meters between the squad leader and each fire team is crucial for maintaining effective communication and control while ensuring the integrity of the formation. This distance allows for adequate spacing that facilitates maneuverability and minimizes the risk of entire sections being compromised by enemy fire. Being too close may lead to vulnerabilities in the formation, as it can be easier for the enemy to inflict damage on a tightly packed unit. Conversely, spacing the teams too far apart can hinder command and support, especially during fast-moving operations. The 20-meter distance strikes a balance, ensuring that the squad leader can effectively manage the fire teams, relay commands promptly, and maintain situational awareness without sacrificing operational security or cohesion.

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4. What are the three primary movement techniques used by a squad?

A. Walking, Running, Hiding

B. Traveling, Skimming, Crawling

C. Traveling, Traveling Overwatch, Bounding Overwatch

D. Jumping, Crawling, Running

The three primary movement techniques used by a squad are best described as Traveling, Traveling Overwatch, and Bounding Overwatch. Traveling is a formation that allows a squad to move from one point to another quickly while providing a reasonable degree of security against enemy contact. In this technique, the squad maintains a formation that balances speed and safety, allowing for movement in areas where threats are low or nonexistent. Traveling Overwatch provides a blend of movement and security, where one element moves while the other element provides security by observing and covering the moving element. This technique is particularly useful when moving through potentially hostile territory, as it ensures that one part of the squad can react to enemy threats while still making progress toward the objective. Bounding Overwatch is a more dynamic movement technique used in higher-threat situations. In this case, one element moves to a designated position to cover the second element as it advances. This method is advantageous for maintaining momentum in direct engagement with an adversary while ensuring that the squad maintains cover and security. These techniques collectively offer a tactical framework for squads to maneuver effectively while maintaining awareness of potential enemy threats, making C the most accurate choice regarding primary movement techniques in a squad context.

5. What is the responsibility of the trail element in a squad column fire team when crossing an LDA?

A. Establish rear security

B. Establish near side security

C. Lead a change in formation

D. Coordinate with the front element

In a squad column fire team transitioning across a Linear Danger Area (LDA), the trail element's primary responsibility is to establish near side security. This is crucial because as the team crosses the LDA, the first element is vulnerable while moving through the open space. The trail element positions itself to cover the team's rear and ensure that the area immediately adjacent to the LDA on the near side is secure. By focusing on near side security, the trail element can effectively prevent any threats from approaching the team while they are in a potentially exposed position. This role is vital in keeping the entire unit safe and allowing it to successfully complete the crossing without being ambushed or attacked from the vulnerable side. While setting up rear security, leading a change in formation, or coordinating with the front element are also important tasks in different contexts, they are not the primary focus of the trail element during this particular maneuver. The trail element's responsibility to establish a secure position near the LDA allows for better overall squad safety and operational effectiveness.

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6. Where is the squad leader ideally placed within his squad?

A. At the front

B. In the center

C. Wherever he can best control the squad

D. At the rear

The ideal placement of the squad leader within the squad is determined by situational awareness and the ability to effectively manage and control the team during operations. By choosing a position that allows for maximum control, the squad leader is able to maintain communication, provide guidance, and adapt to changing circumstances on the battlefield. When the squad leader is in a location where they can oversee the entire squad, they are better positioned to make tactical decisions, direct movements, and ensure that all members are operating cohesively as a unit. This flexibility allows them to respond quickly to threats, direct resources where they are most needed, and maintain overall situational awareness. While the other placements have their advantages – being at the front may allow for a commanding view of engagements, being in the center might facilitate communication among team members, and being at the rear could provide oversight and security – these placements may limit the squad leader's ability to react swiftly and effectively control the squad in dynamic situations. Therefore, the most effective strategy involves situating the squad leader in a manner that maximizes control and adaptability, which is why the choice that emphasizes control is the best fit.

7. What are the three minor terrain features?

A. Hill, Valley, Ridge

B. Cliff, Spur, Draw

C. Mount, Valley, Bay

D. Mine, Waterfall, Gorge

The correct choice identifies the three minor terrain features as cliff, spur, and draw. In military or tactical mapping, understanding terrain features is crucial for planning maneuvers and operations. A cliff represents a steep rock face which can be a significant obstacle or cover. A spur is a prominent projection from a ridge that extends downhill, often providing a good vantage point or an access route to higher ground. A draw is a landform that has a small valley or depression leading down to a lower area, which can be useful for concealment or movement. Recognizing these features allows military personnel to effectively leverage the terrain for strategic advantages, whether that's for cover, movement, or identifying natural barriers. The other choices include terms that don't specifically categorize minor terrain features recognized in tactical contexts.

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8. What does Battle Drill 1 refer to in military tactics?

A. React to Direct Fire Contact

B. Locate enemy positions

C. Conduct reconnaissance

D. Execute a withdrawal

Battle Drill 1 refers to the procedure for reacting to direct fire contact. This drill is a critical component of military training, as it prepares soldiers to quickly and effectively respond when they encounter enemy fire. The primary focus of Battle Drill 1 is on immediate actions that troops should take to ensure their safety and maintain combat effectiveness in the face of direct threats. When soldiers encounter unexpected enemy fire, the emphasis is on immediate and decisive actions such as seeking cover and returning fire, while also assessing the situation for further developments. This quick response is essential in maintaining unit cohesion and ensuring the safety of personnel during the chaos of battle. The other options, while relevant to military tactics, do not accurately define Battle Drill 1. Locating enemy positions is an important task but typically falls under reconnaissance operations rather than a specific drill focused on reaction to fire. Conducting reconnaissance involves gathering information about enemy forces and terrain but does not relate to immediate combat actions. Lastly, executing a withdrawal is a tactical movement that occurs under specific circumstances and is not encapsulated by the immediate reaction required in Battle Drill 1. Thus, the correct answer highlights the fundamental tactics soldiers employ when they first face direct fire.

9. What do the 3 D's refer to when reacting to contact?

A. Distance, Defense, Direction

B. Distance, Description, Direction

C. Delivery, Description, Distance

D. Deployment, Distance, Direction

*The correct reference for the 3 D's when reacting to contact is indeed about Distance, Description, and Direction. Each of these components plays a crucial role in how military personnel assess and respond to contact with the enemy. - **Distance** helps in determining how far the contact is from the personnel. This information is critical to assess the level of threat and the appropriate response needed. Understanding the distance can influence tactical decisions, such as whether to engage, take cover, or maneuver. - **Description** refers to the identification of the enemy's capabilities and characteristics. This could include the number of enemies, their armament, and any observable behavior that may provide insights into their intentions. A thorough and accurate description is vital for effective coordination and planning of actions among units. - **Direction** involves identifying the exact location from which the contact is originating. This allows personnel to orient themselves and potentially target their response more effectively. Accurate direction is essential for communications and operational planning. Together, these elements enable soldiers to make informed decisions in high-stress situations, thereby enhancing situational awareness and effectiveness in combat scenarios.*

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10. Which of the following is a characteristic of a Patrol Base?

A. Near urban areas

B. Away from vantage points

C. Provides cover and concealment

D. Located on high ground

A Patrol Base is a temporary location that is used by a military unit to rest, regroup, and plan further operations. One of the key characteristics of a Patrol Base is its ability to provide both cover and concealment. This means that the location not only helps shield personnel and equipment from enemy observation and fire, but it also allows for the unit to operate without revealing its position. Cover refers to physical protection from enemy fire, which is crucial for the safety and survival of the soldiers. Concealment, on the other hand, means hiding from the enemy's view, allowing for quiet movement and planning without detection. By ensuring that a Patrol Base has these characteristics, a unit can effectively prepare for future missions while minimizing their risk of being attacked. While there may be instances where a Patrol Base could be near urban areas or on high ground, these are not defining characteristics. Instead, the primary focus is on maintaining a location that supports the unit's operational security and readiness, emphasized by the necessity of cover and concealment.

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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:

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

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