USCG MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN (MST) SERVICE WIDE EXAM (SWE) PRACTICE (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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Table of Contents

Copyright 1

Table of Contents 2

Introduction 3

How to Use This Guide 4

Questions 5

Answers 8

Explanations 10

Next Steps 15

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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 article of the UCMJ addresses the right to remain silent?

A. Article 15

B. Article 31

C. Article 44

D. Article 62

2. What is the maximum duration for all vessels in the Qualship 21 Program before a new examination is needed?

A. 12 months

B. 24 months

C. 36 months

D. 48 months

3. What wind speed range is associated with category 3 hurricanes?

A. 74-95 MPH

B. 96-110 MPH

C. 111-129 MPH

D. 130-156 MPH

4. What is the threshold capacity for non-tank ships that requires an Oil Record Book?

A. 200 GT and up

B. 300 GT and up

C. 400 GT and up

D. 500 GT and up

5. What is the form number for the "Enlisted Employee Review"?

A. 3780

B. 3788

C. 3755

D. 3700

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6. What type of booming consists of three vessels and a skimmer to maintain shape?

A. U booming

B. Containment booming

C. J booming

D. V booming

7. On what date did ISM become applicable to passenger vessels, tankers, and high speed craft?

A. 01 July 1996

B. 01 July 1998

C. 01 July 2000

D. 01 July 2002

8. How many missions does the Coast Guard have?

A. 5

B. 7

C. 9

D. 11

9. What is the wind speed for a category 4 hurricane?

A. 130-156 MPH

B. 111-129 MPH

C. 96-110 MPH

D. 74-95 MPH

10. What type of weather front is represented by triangles and semi-circles on the same side?

A. Cold front

B. Warm front

C. Stationary front

D. Occluded front

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What article of the UCMJ addresses the right to remain silent?

A. Article 15

B. Article 31

C. Article 44

D. Article 62

The article of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) that addresses the right to remain silent is Article 31. This article provides service members with the right to refrain from making any statements that may incriminate them. It essentially gives the accused the privilege against self-incrimination, similar to the Miranda rights recognized in civilian law. Under Article 31, a service member who is suspected of an offense must be informed of their right against self-incrimination before being questioned, ensuring that they understand they are not obligated to speak, which is critical for protecting their legal rights. This framework is essential in maintaining fairness and justice within military legal proceedings.

2. What is the maximum duration for all vessels in the Qualship 21 Program before a new examination is needed?

A. 12 months

B. 24 months

C. 36 months

D. 48 months

The maximum duration for all vessels in the Qualship 21 Program before requiring a new examination is 36 months. This timeframe is established to ensure that vessels maintain high standards of safety and environmental protection over time. Regular examinations and assessments are critical for verifying that vessels comply with both national and international standards. It allows for the identification of any deficiencies or issues that may arise, thereby facilitating timely corrective actions. Keeping the examination schedule within this 36-month framework helps to uphold the program's goal of promoting operational excellence in maritime practices.

3. What wind speed range is associated with category 3 hurricanes?

A. 74-95 MPH

B. 96-110 MPH

C. 111-129 MPH

D. 130-156 MPH

Category 3 hurricanes are defined within the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale, which categorizes hurricanes based on their sustained wind speeds. A hurricane reaches Category 3 status when it has sustained wind speeds between 111 and 129 miles per hour. This level of intensity typically leads to significant damage, affecting not only well-built homes but also causing power outages and difficult conditions for both residents and emergency responders. Understanding these categories is crucial for emergency planning and preparedness, as they inform the level of response needed in the event of a hurricane making landfall.

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4. What is the threshold capacity for non-tank ships that requires an Oil Record Book?

A. 200 GT and up

B. 300 GT and up

C. 400 GT and up

D. 500 GT and up

The threshold capacity for non-tank ships that necessitates the use of an Oil Record Book is set at 400 gross tons (GT) and above. This regulation stems from international conventions aimed at preventing pollution from ships, particularly regarding oil and oily mixtures. Under the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), non-tank vessels of 400 GT and more must maintain an Oil Record Book to provide a comprehensive record of each operation concerning oil and oily waste. This includes entries related to the discharge of oil residues, the transfer of fuel oil, and any incidents involving oil pollution. The requirement helps ensure a regulatory framework for monitoring and reporting oil-related activities on board, thereby promoting accountability and environmental protection. Ships below this threshold are not subject to the same rigorous documentation requirements, which is why the specific threshold of 400 GT is crucial to maritime operations and environmental compliance.

5. What is the form number for the "Enlisted Employee Review"?

A. 3780

B. 3788

C. 3755

D. 3700

The "Enlisted Employee Review" form is identified by the form number 3788. This form is part of the evaluation process for enlisted personnel and is critical for assessing performance, providing feedback, and helping to plan career development within the U.S. Coast Guard. The form captures essential metrics about an enlisted member's service, achievements, and areas for improvement. Accurate completion and submission of this form are vital for career progression and for maintaining quality personnel management within the service. Understanding the specific form numbers associated with various processes helps ensure that personnel adhere to the correct protocols and contributes to the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the evaluation system.

6. What type of booming consists of three vessels and a skimmer to maintain shape?

A. U booming

B. Containment booming

C. J booming

D. V booming

The type of booming that consists of three vessels and a skimmer to maintain its shape is referred to as V booming. This configuration is specifically designed to effectively contain and collect oil spills or other hazardous materials in a more controlled manner. In V booming, the two outer vessels create a V-shaped barrier that serves to direct the contaminant towards the skimmer, which is positioned at the apex of the V. This arrangement helps to maximize the collection efficiency as it encourages the fluid to flow inward, making it easier for the skimmer to collect and remove the substance from the water. Other types of booming, such as U booming or J booming, have distinct configurations and methods of operation that do not specifically use three vessels in the same manner as V booming, nor do they focus on the same shape-maintaining structure combined with a skimmer. Containment booming is more general and does not imply the specific arrangement needed to effectively manage the situation described.

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7. On what date did ISM become applicable to passenger vessels, tankers, and high speed craft?

A. 01 July 1996

B. 01 July 1998

C. 01 July 2000

D. 01 July 2002

The correct answer is July 1, 1998, which marks the date when the International Safety Management (ISM) Code became applicable to passenger vessels, oil tankers, and high-speed craft. This implementation date was significant as it aimed to enhance the safety of operations and ensure the protection of the marine environment by mandating formal safety management systems on board these types of vessels. The introduction of the ISM Code was a response to the need for a higher standard of management in international shipping, especially after several maritime accidents highlighted deficiencies in safety practices. By instituting structured safety management systems, it set forth guidelines on how to manage safety and operational risks on vessels. Understanding the significance of this date and the role of the ISM Code is crucial for marine science technicians, as it reflects the ongoing commitment to safety and environmental stewardship within the maritime industry, fundamentally influencing practices and policies on commercial vessels.

8. How many missions does the Coast Guard have?

A. 5

B. 7

C. 9

D. 11

The United States Coast Guard has 11 statutory missions that encompass a wide range of responsibilities aimed at ensuring maritime safety, security, and environmental protection. These missions include tasks such as search and rescue, law enforcement, environmental protection, and maintaining navigational aids. Understanding these missions is essential for anyone involved in Coast Guard operations, as they highlight the diverse roles the Coast Guard plays in safeguarding the nation's waters and supporting maritime commerce. The specific number of missions is critical because it reflects the organization's comprehensive approach to maritime challenges and threats, emphasizing its multifaceted role. Recognizing all 11 missions helps personnel understand their responsibilities and the broader context of Coast Guard operations in protecting life at sea, enforcing laws, and preserving the marine environment.

9. What is the wind speed for a category 4 hurricane?

A. 130-156 MPH

B. 111-129 MPH

C. 96-110 MPH

D. 74-95 MPH

A category 4 hurricane is characterized by wind speeds ranging from 130 to 156 miles per hour. This classification is part of the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale, which categorizes hurricanes based on their sustained wind speeds and the potential damage they can cause. At this level, a category 4 hurricane can lead to severe damage, including the loss of roofs and walls of well-constructed homes, and cause power outages that may last weeks or months. Understanding these categories is crucial for preparedness and response efforts during hurricane events.

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10. What type of weather front is represented by triangles and semi-circles on the same side?

A. Cold front

B. Warm front

C. Stationary front

D. Occluded front

The scenario described in the question, where triangles and semi-circles are depicted on the same side of a front, corresponds to an occluded front. In meteorology, an occluded front occurs when a cold front overtakes a warm front, causing the warm air mass to be lifted off the ground. This front is characterized by its mixed symbols: triangles represent colder air descending behind a cold front, while semi-circles indicate warmer air associated with a warm front. The combination of both symbols on the same side signifies that the front is in a transition phase, where the cooler, denser air has lifted the warmer air aloft, creating a complex interaction resulting in changeable weather conditions typically found in the vicinity of occluded fronts. Understanding the characteristics of an occluded front helps in predicting weather patterns effectively, as it often leads to cloud formation and precipitation, contributing to a better analysis of atmospheric dynamics.

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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://uscgmstswe.examzify.com

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

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