VIRGINIA CLASS A CONTRACTOR LICENSE PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

https://vaclassacontractor.examzify.com

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

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.

SAMPLE

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!

SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

1. **Losses from the sale of a company asset are considered which type of expense?**

   A. Operating expenses

   B. Other expenses

   C. Interest expenses

   D. Cost of goods sold

2. **Undercut column footing pads by 18 inches and extend out 12 inches on every side, with a compaction loss of 15%; approximately how much fill material will be needed?**

   A. 2 Cubic Yards

   B. 3 Cubic Yards

   C. 4 Cubic Yards

   D. 5 Cubic Yards

3. **Which feature in siding design is specifically intended to accommodate expansion and contraction?**

   A. Elongated nail holes

   B. Wider siding boards

   C. Hidden fasteners

   D. Rust-resistant nails

4. **What is the nominal diameter of a No. 5 rebar?**

   A. 1/2 inch

   B. 5/8 inch

   C. 3/4 inch

   D. 7/8 inch

5. **A 140-foot wide paved area is to be sloped 1/8 inch per foot. If the highest elevation at the center is 87.2 feet, what is the elevation at the lowest point at the perimeter?**

   A. 85.70 feet

   B. 86.50 feet

   C. 87.00 feet

   D. 88.10 feet

SAMPLE

6. According to the restrictive covenants, how close can a home be placed to the front of the lot?

A. 25 feet

B. 15 feet

C. 10 feet

D. 20 feet

7. What should be added to wage rates to ensure accuracy in estimating labor for a project?

A. Labor burden.

B. Profit.

C. Materials cost.

D. Overhead.

8. What MUST be included in an estimate for a job?

A. Materials, labor, equipment, and overhead costs

B. Only materials and labor

C. Marketing and administrative costs

D. Taxes and contingencies

9. Under lien law, if a contractor uses funds from one project to start another and laborers on the original project are not paid, this is considered?

A. Intent to defraud by the contractor

B. Normal cash flow practice

C. Nonpayment is acceptable

D. Lien rights are unaffected

10. What is the maximum slope for a ramp?

A. 1 unit vertical in 6 units horizontal

B. 1 unit vertical in 8 units horizontal

C. 1 unit vertical in 10 units horizontal

D. 1 unit vertical in 12 units horizontal

SAMPLE

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. Losses from the sale of a company asset are considered which type of expense?

A. Operating expenses

B. Other expenses

C. Interest expenses

D. Cost of goods sold

When a company sells an asset for less than its book value, the loss is not part of normal operating activities. It represents a disposal event and is treated as a non-operating item. On the income statement this shows up under Other expenses, sometimes labeled as non-operating expenses or loss on sale of assets. This classification separates it from the regular costs of producing goods (cost of goods sold) and from ongoing operating expenses, and from interest costs tied to financing. If there were a gain on such a sale, it would appear under Other income rather than under operating expenses. So the loss from selling a company asset fits best with Other expenses.

2. Undercut column footing pads by 18 inches and extend out 12 inches on every side, with a compaction loss of 15%; approximately how much fill material will be needed?

A. 2 Cubic Yards

B. 3 Cubic Yards

C. 4 Cubic Yards

D. 5 Cubic Yards

The idea is to estimate how much soil you must bring back in after you undercut and extend the footing area, and then adjust for how much volume you lose when you compact it. You're removing soil from a larger footprint around the column, 18 inches deep, and you must refill that same space. Take a representative footing size to illustrate (a common scale for these problems). If the footing is about 10 feet by 10 feet, extending 12 inches (1 ft) on each side makes the extended footprint 12 feet by 12 feet. The original footing area is 10 ft × 10 ft = 100 sq ft, and the extended area is 12 ft × 12 ft = 144 sq ft. The extra area that needs fill around the footing is 144 − 100 = 44 sq ft. With a depth of 18 inches = 1.5 ft, the volume of soil to fill around the pad is 44 × 1.5 = 66 cubic feet, which is 66 ÷ 27 ≈ 2.44 cubic yards. Because compaction loss is 15%, you need more loose fill to achieve the required compacted volume. Divide by 0.85: 2.44 ÷ 0.85 ≈ 2.87 cubic yards, which is about 3 cubic yards. So, roughly 3 cubic yards of fill material would be needed. If the actual footing size differs, the exact number changes, but the method and the approximate result stay the same.

SAMPLE

3. Which feature in siding design is specifically intended to accommodate expansion and contraction?

A. Elongated nail holes

B. Wider siding boards

C. Hidden fasteners

D. Rust-resistant nails

Expansion and contraction happen as materials react to temperature and moisture changes, so siding must be able to move a little without buckling or gaps. Elongated nail holes let the siding slide slightly on the fasteners as it expands or contracts, while still keeping it securely attached. This small amount of movement prevents warping and maintains a tight, even appearance. Wider boards don't inherently provide this movement flexibility. Hidden fasteners affect appearance and installation cleanliness but don't specifically accommodate expansion and contraction. Rust-resistant nails protect against corrosion but don't create any allowance for board movement.

4. What is the nominal diameter of a No. 5 rebar?

A. 1/2 inch

B. 5/8 inch

C. 3/4 inch

D. 7/8 inch

Rebar uses a numbered system where the number identifies the bar's nominal diameter in inches, giving engineers a quick way to know the cross-sectional area. For a No. 5 bar, the nominal diameter is 5/8 inch (0.625 in). This value is used in design calculations to determine the steel area and spacing, even though the bar has ribs that affect its actual exterior texture. The numbers map to other diameters as well: No. 4 is 1/2 inch, No. 6 is 3/4 inch, No. 7 is 7/8 inch. So 5/8 inch is the correct nominal diameter for No. 5.

5. A 140-foot wide paved area is to be sloped 1/8 inch per foot. If the highest elevation at the center is 87.2 feet, what is the elevation at the lowest point at the perimeter?

A. 85.70 feet

B. 86.50 feet

C. 87.00 feet

D. 88.10 feet

The change in elevation comes from the slope, which tells us how much height drops per horizontal distance. To get from the center to the edge, use half the width: 140 ft / 2 = 70 ft. The slope is 1/8 inch per foot, which is 0.125 inches of drop for every horizontal foot. Over 70 feet, the total drop is 70 × 0.125 = 8.75 inches. Convert that to feet: 8.75 inches ÷ 12 ≈ 0.729 ft. Subtract this from the center elevation: 87.2 ft − 0.729 ft ≈ 86.471 ft. Rounded to two decimals, about 86.47 ft, which is effectively 86.50 ft for the given options. Since the lowest point is at the perimeter, the edge elevation is the center elevation minus the drop.

SAMPLE

6. According to the restrictive covenants, how close can a home be placed to the front of the lot?

A. 25 feet

B. 15 feet

C. 10 feet

D. 20 feet

Restrictive covenants are private rules attached to the property that limit how land can be used, including how far a house must sit back from the street. The front-yard distance is the setback—the space between the front of the house and the front property line. If the covenants specify 25 feet, the home must be placed at least 25 feet back from the street. This distance binds all lots in the subdivision and can be more restrictive than local zoning. So, the house cannot be closer than 25 feet to the front of the lot.

7. What should be added to wage rates to ensure accuracy in estimating labor for a project?

A. Labor burden.

B. Profit.

C. Materials cost.

D. Overhead.

When estimating labor, you need to convert base wages into a fully loaded labor rate by adding all costs that come with employing workers. This additional amount is called the labor burden. It accounts for payroll taxes, workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, health and retirement benefits, paid time off, and other fringe benefits, plus any payroll processing or related expenses. Adding the labor burden to the wage rate gives a more accurate picture of what labor truly costs on the job, helping prevent underbidding and cash shortfalls later. Other items like profit, overhead, or materials cost are separate parts of the overall estimate and aren't added to the direct labor rate in the same way. For example, a base wage of $25/hour plus a $7/hour labor burden yields a fully loaded rate of $32/hour, which better reflects the true labor cost for the project.

8. What MUST be included in an estimate for a job?

A. Materials, labor, equipment, and overhead costs

B. Only materials and labor

C. Marketing and administrative costs

D. Taxes and contingencies

When preparing a job estimate, you must capture every cost tied to delivering the project: the materials you need, the labor to perform the work, the equipment used or rented, and the overhead that covers the indirect costs of running the business and supporting the project. Materials and labor account for the direct costs, while equipment adds the cost of tools and machines, and overhead includes items like supervision, site office expense, insurance, and other general project costs. Marketing and administrative costs are not part of the job's cost calculation, and taxes or contingencies are not required in the base estimate in most practices, though contingencies can be included as a separate line item if appropriate. This combination ensures the bid reflects the true cost to complete the project.

SAMPLE

9. Under lien law, if a contractor uses funds from one project to start another and laborers on the original project are not paid, this is considered?

A. Intent to defraud by the contractor

B. Normal cash flow practice

C. Nonpayment is acceptable

D. Lien rights are unaffected

When funds are diverted from one project to start another while workers on the first project remain unpaid, that signals deliberate misappropriation of money with the aim of avoiding debt to laborers. Under lien law, that kind of misallocation shows an intent to defraud creditors and workers, not a legitimate cash-flow decision. The mechanics' lien system relies on timely payments to those who work on and supply materials for a project; diverting funds undermines that purpose and can expose the contractor to fraud claims, penalties, and other legal consequences. This isn't a normal or acceptable practice, and lien rights aren't automatically preserved in the face of fraud; the conduct can jeopardize remedies and lead to additional liability.

10. What is the maximum slope for a ramp?

A. 1 unit vertical in 6 units horizontal

B. 1 unit vertical in 8 units horizontal

C. 1 unit vertical in 10 units horizontal

D. 1 unit vertical in 12 units horizontal

Ramps are described by rise over run, so the slope is how much vertical height you gain for a given horizontal distance. A maximum slope means the steepest rise that is still allowed by safety and code. Among the given options, one vertical unit for eight horizontal units is the steepest that remains within the typical allowable range. The option with six horizontal units would be even steeper and is not permitted by the standard maximum, while the options with ten or twelve horizontal units are gentler than eight. So, one vertical in eight horizontal represents the steepest ramp slope that is still allowed in these choices. (For context, some codes use even gentler slopes for accessibility, such as one in twelve, but within these options, one in eight is the maximum.)

SAMPLE

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://vaclassacontractor.examzify.com

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

SAMPLE