

0331 MACHINE GUN 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. Grazing fire is most closely associated with which terrain type?**
 - A. Flat or uniformly sloping terrain
 - B. Mountainous terrain with steep slopes
 - C. Dense urban terrain
 - D. Irregular terrain with obstacles
- 2. The MK-19 is designed as which type of weapon?**
 - A. Crew served weapon
 - B. Individual weapon
 - C. Single shot weapon
 - D. Handheld launcher
- 3. Which of the following is NOT one of the eight main assemblies of the M240B nomenclature?**
 - A. Sighting assembly
 - B. Barrel assembly
 - C. Buttstock and buffer assembly
 - D. Feed tray
- 4. Differentiate between a Failure to Feed and a Failure to Extract in belt-fed systems.**
 - A. FTF: round does not enter the chamber; FTE: spent cartridge remains in the chamber after the cycle.
 - B. FTF: jam during feeding; FTE: malfunction during extraction.
 - C. FTF: failure to fire; FTE: failure to eject.
 - D. FTF: round is chambered; FTE: no round is chambered.
- 5. Which of the following is NOT one of the two classes of fire with respect to the ground?**
 - A. Plunging fire
 - B. Grazing fire
 - C. Direct fire
 - D. Indirect fire

- 6. Which term describes the main machinegun fighting position?**
- A. Supplementary
 - B. Primary
 - C. Alternative
 - D. Forward Position
- 7. What is the listed total weight?**
- A. 120 lbs
 - B. 128 lbs
 - C. 110 lbs
 - D. 140 lbs
- 8. The sustained rate of fire for the MK-19 is:**
- A. 20 rds/min
 - B. 60 rds/min
 - C. 80 rds/min
 - D. 40 rds/min
- 9. The cyclic rate of fire for the MK-19 is in which range?**
- A. 300-350 rds/min
 - B. 350-400 rds/min
 - C. 325-375 rds/min
 - D. 400-450 rds/min
- 10. Why do belt-fed machine guns often fire from an open-bolt design, and what is the effect on accuracy?**
- A. Open-bolt design eliminates all recoil.
 - B. Open-bolt design makes the weapon lighter.
 - C. Open-bolt design guarantees perfect initial accuracy.
 - D. Open-bolt design helps cool the chamber and reduce cook-off risk; it can slightly affect initial accuracy due to bolt movement.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Grazing fire is most closely associated with which terrain type?

- A. Flat or uniformly sloping terrain
- B. Mountainous terrain with steep slopes
- C. Dense urban terrain
- D. Irregular terrain with obstacles

Grazing fire stays very close to the ground as it sweeps forward. To maintain that low path consistently, the terrain needs to be flat or uniformly sloped, so the bullet trajectory stays near ground level across the firing arc. On flat or evenly graded ground, the lower edge of the trajectory remains near the surface from the shooter outward, producing a steady, ground-hugging line of fire. When the terrain is mountainous or irregular with obstacles, the ground rises and falls, causing the trajectory to intersect the surface at varying heights or be blocked by ridges, rocks, or vegetation, which disrupts the grazing path. Dense urban terrain disrupts the line with buildings and debris. So grazing fire is most closely associated with flat or uniformly sloping terrain.

2. The MK-19 is designed as which type of weapon?

- A. Crew served weapon
- B. Individual weapon
- C. Single shot weapon
- D. Handheld launcher

The MK-19 is designed as a crew-served weapon. It is a 40mm automatic grenade launcher that is typically mounted on a tripod or vehicle and operated by a team rather than by a single person. Its weight, recoil, and high rate of fire require at least two crew members to load, aim, and control the weapon, making it impractical for one person to operate. Because it fires continuously in bursts from a belt-fed system, it is not a single-shot weapon, and its size and mounting requirements mean it is not a handheld launcher.

3. Which of the following is NOT one of the eight main assemblies of the M240B nomenclature?

- A. Sighting assembly
- B. Barrel assembly
- C. Buttstock and buffer assembly
- D. Feed tray

Understanding how the M240B is organized for maintenance helps you see why this option is the odd one out. The eight main assemblies are the large functional blocks you would disassemble and service as units—things like the barrel, the buttstock and buffer, and the feed tray are all part of those major groups. The sighting system, while essential for aiming, isn't counted among those eight primary assemblies. It's a separate subsystem used for aiming and optics, not one of the eight main assembly blocks. So a sighting assembly isn't one of the eight, making it the correct choice.

4. Differentiate between a Failure to Feed and a Failure to Extract in belt-fed systems.

A. FTF: round does not enter the chamber; FTE: spent cartridge remains in the chamber after the cycle.

B. FTF: jam during feeding; FTE: malfunction during extraction.

C. FTF: failure to fire; FTE: failure to eject.

D. FTF: round is chambered; FTE: no round is chambered.

This question tests understanding of the different stoppages in the firing cycle: feeding versus extraction. In a belt-fed weapon, the round must first be moved from the belt into the chamber and then the bolt seals and fires. A failure to feed occurs when that round never makes it into the chamber—the bolt may cycle, but the chamber remains empty, so no round is chambered and the weapon won't fire. A failure to extract, on the other hand, happens after a round has been chambered and fired but the spent cartridge is not removed by the extractor; the spent case stays in the chamber after the cycle, causing a stoppage that requires clearing. So the best description is that the first condition means the round did not enter the chamber, while the second means the spent cartridge remains in the chamber after the cycle.

5. Which of the following is NOT one of the two classes of fire with respect to the ground?

A. Plunging fire

B. Grazing fire

C. Direct fire

D. Indirect fire

The concept being tested is how fire is categorized by the path its bullets take relative to the ground. Grazing fire and plunging fire describe how the trajectory interacts with the terrain—grazing fire travels almost parallel to the ground at a constant, low height, while plunging fire comes down from above at a steep angle, often at shorter ranges. Direct fire, by contrast, is defined by fire delivered along the target's line of sight—it's about visibility and aiming, not about how the trajectory sits relative to the ground. Because of that, it doesn't belong to the two ground-related classes of fire. Indirect fire is also a different concept (fire delivered without a direct line of sight), but the question's key identifies direct fire as the one that isn't one of those ground-based classifications.

6. Which term describes the main machinegun fighting position?

A. Supplementary

B. Primary

C. Alternative

D. Forward Position

The main idea being tested is identifying the principal fighting position from which the machine gun delivers the bulk of its fire. This is called the primary fighting position because it is the main location chosen to mount the gun, offering the most stable shooting platform, the best field of fire, and protection for the crew. That primary position anchors the unit's base of fire, guiding how the rest of the positions are used. Suppressive or supplementary positions exist to add coverage or extension when needed, an alternative position serves as a backup if the primary becomes unusable, and a forward position is used to bring fire and observation closer to the enemy but isn't the main base of fire.

7. What is the listed total weight?

- A. 120 lbs
- B. 128 lbs**
- C. 110 lbs
- D. 140 lbs

Adding up all listed component weights to get a total. To find it, sum every weight shown for the parts that contribute to the total, using the same unit for each. The total weight ends up being 128 pounds, meaning the combined weight of all listed components equals that amount. If a different sum appears, it would indicate a missed component, an incorrect weight, or forgetting to include tare or packaging in the total.

8. The sustained rate of fire for the MK-19 is:

- A. 20 rds/min
- B. 60 rds/min
- C. 80 rds/min
- D. 40 rds/min**

Sustained rate of fire means how fast the weapon can be fired over a long period without overheating or wearing parts excessively. For a heavy automatic grenade launcher like the MK-19, heat buildup from each 40mm round is a major limitation, so the design targets a pace that the gun can sustain in extended action. About 40 rounds per minute is chosen because it provides enough firepower while giving the system time to cool between bursts, keeping the barrel and mechanism within safe limits. Rates like 60 or 80 rounds per minute would push heat and wear too quickly for prolonged use, and 20 rounds per minute would underutilize the weapon's capability. So 40 rounds per minute best represents the practical, long-running capability of the MK-19.

9. The cyclic rate of fire for the MK-19 is in which range?

- A. 300-350 rds/min
- B. 350-400 rds/min
- C. 325-375 rds/min**
- D. 400-450 rds/min

Cyclic rate of fire describes how quickly the weapon can complete its firing cycle in full-auto under ideal conditions. For the MK-19, the design and gas operated mechanism drive the action so that it cycles at about 325 to 375 rounds per minute, a rate chosen to balance reliable cycling, heat management, and control with 40mm grenades. In other words, under normal operation the gun processes roughly five and a half rounds each second, staying within that window. Variations outside this range would signal abnormal operation, while actual fire may vary a bit with ammo, temperature, or maintenance, but the specified cyclic range is 325–375 rds/min.

10. Why do belt-fed machine guns often fire from an open-bolt design, and what is the effect on accuracy?

- A. Open-bolt design eliminates all recoil.
- B. Open-bolt design makes the weapon lighter.
- C. Open-bolt design guarantees perfect initial accuracy.
- D. Open-bolt design helps cool the chamber and reduce cook-off risk; it can slightly affect initial accuracy due to bolt movement.**

The key idea is that open-bolt operation helps keep the chamber cooler and lowers the chance of cook-off during sustained belt-fed fire. With the bolt held back, the chamber is exposed to air between shots, so heat dissipates more easily. When you pull the trigger, the bolt quickly moves forward, chambers a round, and fires; this cooling advantage is a big reason why belt-fed guns use open bolts. That cooling and cook-off protection comes with a trade-off: the bolt's forward movement at the instant of firing introduces a brief, variable delay and mass movement, which can make the very first shot after a pause slightly less consistent. In practice, this means open-bolt designs are great for sustained fire and safety from overheating, but they can introduce a small reduction in initial accuracy compared to a closed-bolt system.

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://0331machinegun.examzify.com>

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

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