

# 0621 Annex A Communications Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

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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 does suppression refer to?**
  - A. Scheduled or unscheduled replacement of COMSEC material**
  - B. Deletion of data from secure storage**
  - C. Transmission of unencrypted messages**
  - D. Initiation of a security briefing**
  
- 2. Which line shows the total number of patients?**
  - A. Line 1**
  - B. Line 2**
  - C. Line 3**
  - D. Line 5**
  
- 3. Which of the following is a rechargeable battery?**
  - A. A field charger**
  - B. Yellow Canary**
  - C. A Tactical Field Message Book**
  - D. BB-2590 battery**
  
- 4. In a SALUTE report, what does the 'S' stand for?**
  - A. Size**
  - B. Speed**
  - C. Security**
  - D. Schedule**
  
- 5. What is the purpose of ACEOI?**
  - A. Tracks vehicle maintenance and supply requests**
  - B. Schedules training events for the unit**
  - C. A communications security protocol for encrypting calls**
  - D. Provides call signs and frequency on call net, details required to control and coordinate communications**
  
- 6. In order, what are the ground-wave ranges for HF, VHF, and UHF?**
  - A. HF 0-50; VHF 0-30; UHF 0-50**
  - B. HF 0-60; VHF 0-30; UHF 0-50**
  - C. HF 0-50; VHF 0-30; UHF 0-30**
  - D. HF 0-50; VHF 0-50; UHF 0-30**

- 7. COC is defined as?**
- A. A maintenance depot for vehicles**
  - B. A field hospital**
  - C. A hub for command and control for USMC operations**
  - D. A training center**
- 8. Which description best defines a COMSEC incident?**
- A. Any occurrence that potentially jeopardized national security information**
  - B. Any event that compromises non-classified data only**
  - C. A routine device maintenance log**
  - D. A scheduled system upgrade**
- 9. Which frequency range corresponds to VHF?**
- A. 3-30 MHz**
  - B. 30-300 MHz**
  - C. 300 MHz-3 GHz**
  - D. 1-10 GHz**
- 10. What is the purpose of SL-3 Inventory?**
- A. Ensure all required items are present and maintained**
  - B. Document PMCS procedures**
  - C. Record initial inspections**
  - D. List unit training schedules**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. What does suppression refer to?

- A. Scheduled or unscheduled replacement of COMSEC material**
- B. Deletion of data from secure storage**
- C. Transmission of unencrypted messages**
- D. Initiation of a security briefing**

Suppression is the process of replacing COMSEC material with newer versions to keep communications secure. It covers both routine, scheduled replacements and unscheduled ones when there's a potential compromise. By updating keys, crypto materials, or related devices, older material becomes unusable and can't be exploited to decrypt messages. That's why describing it as the scheduled or unscheduled replacement of COMSEC material is the best fit. Deleting data from secure storage is about removing information, not updating or replacing materials. Transmitting unencrypted messages is a security lapse, not a material replacement, and initiating a security briefing is training, not the replacement of cryptographic materials.

## 2. Which line shows the total number of patients?

- A. Line 1**
- B. Line 2**
- C. Line 3**
- D. Line 5**

Think of the total number of patients as a running sum that accumulates over time. On a time-series chart, the line representing this total should move upward over time (or stay flat) because each new patient adds to the tally. It should not show decreases, since totals don't shrink as time progresses. The line that demonstrates this steady, non-decreasing rise is the one that corresponds to the total patients. Other lines in the chart usually reflect daily counts, admissions, or current census, which can go up and down, so they won't show the same consistent upward trend.

## 3. Which of the following is a rechargeable battery?

- A. A field charger**
- B. Yellow Canary**
- C. A Tactical Field Message Book**
- D. BB-2590 battery**

A rechargeable energy storage device is designed to hold electrical energy and be replenished by charging so it can power equipment again and again. The BB-2590 battery fits this role exactly: it's a battery designed to be charged, used, recharged, and reused to power field devices. A field charger, by contrast, is the device that supplies energy to recharge batteries; it itself does not store energy. The Yellow Canary and the Tactical Field Message Book are not energy storage items at all. So the BB-2590 battery is the only option that is a rechargeable battery.

**4. In a SALUTE report, what does the 'S' stand for?**

- A. Size**
- B. Speed**
- C. Security**
- D. Schedule**

In a SALUTE report, the S stands for the size of the element you've observed—the number of people or vehicles. This gives a quick sense of how large the potential threat or activity is, which helps decide how to respond. For example, spotting a single rifleman looks very different from a convoy or a squad-sized group, and the response would scale accordingly. The other options aren't part of SALUTE: Speed isn't a separate category, and Security and Schedule aren't SALUTE fields either. The elements you use are Size, Activity, Location, Uniform, Time, and Equipment.

**5. What is the purpose of ACEOI?**

- A. Tracks vehicle maintenance and supply requests**
- B. Schedules training events for the unit**
- C. A communications security protocol for encrypting calls**
- D. Provides call signs and frequency on call net, details required to control and coordinate communications**

The key idea is that ACEOI is a tool for managing radio net operations by providing the essential identifiers and channels needed to control and coordinate communications. It lists the call signs used on the net, the assigned frequencies or channels, and the procedures or details required to route and coordinate traffic effectively. This enables everyone on the net to know who is transmitting, where to reach them, and how to manage communications without interference. This is not about tracking vehicle maintenance or supply requests, nor about scheduling training events. It isn't a communications security protocol for encrypting calls. The purpose is specifically to establish and relay the net parameters and control details that keep radio communications organized and reliable.

**6. In order, what are the ground-wave ranges for HF, VHF, and UHF?**

- A. HF 0-50; VHF 0-30; UHF 0-50**
- B. HF 0-60; VHF 0-30; UHF 0-50**
- C. HF 0-50; VHF 0-30; UHF 0-30**
- D. HF 0-50; VHF 0-50; UHF 0-30**

Ground-wave propagation travels along the Earth's surface and is strongly affected by frequency and ground conductivity. Lower frequencies (like HF) have longer wavelengths that can hug the ground and cover longer distances, while higher frequencies (VHF and UHF) lose most of that surface propagation, making the practical range shorter—though under some conditions UHF can still show notable surface-wave reach. In the standard references used for this material, the practical ceiling for ground-wave reach is about 50 miles for HF, about 30 miles for VHF, and about 50 miles for UHF. That's why the order is HF 0-50, VHF 0-30, UHF 0-50. Other options either extend or reduce the ranges in a way that doesn't align with these common reference figures, which is why they aren't chosen.

## 7. COC is defined as?

- A. A maintenance depot for vehicles
- B. A field hospital
- C. A hub for command and control for USMC operations**
- D. A training center

COC is the Command Operations Center, the central hub where command and control for Marine Corps operations happens. It brings together real-time intelligence, unit status, logistics, and communications so leaders can plan, direct, and adjust actions as the situation evolves. This nerve-center role is what sets it apart from a maintenance depot (focused on keeping vehicles running), a field hospital (providing medical care), or a training center (focused on instruction). In short, the COC coordinates and oversees the execution of operations, making it the best description of a hub for command and control.

## 8. Which description best defines a COMSEC incident?

- A. Any occurrence that potentially jeopardized national security information
- B. Any event that compromises non-classified data only**
- C. A routine device maintenance log
- D. A scheduled system upgrade

A COMSEC incident is any event that could jeopardize the security of communications, including the protection of cryptographic keys, devices, and the processes that safeguard classified or controlled information. It isn't limited to non-classified data; the scope includes any breach or potential breach of the security of communications systems and materials. Routine maintenance logs or scheduled upgrades aren't incidents by themselves unless they involve or reveal a security breach. So the idea is that a COMSEC incident covers broader security concerns around how we protect cryptographic systems and classified communications, not just data that isn't classified.

## 9. Which frequency range corresponds to VHF?

- A. 3-30 MHz
- B. 30-300 MHz**
- C. 300 MHz-3 GHz
- D. 1-10 GHz

VHF covers the frequency range of 30 to 300 megahertz. This band sits above HF (3-30 MHz) and below UHF (300 MHz-3 GHz), with wavelengths roughly from 10 meters down to 1 meter. Because of these wavelengths, VHF signals propagate mainly by line of sight, making them ideal for applications like FM radio, television, and aviation communications. The other options map to different bands: 3-30 MHz is HF, 300 MHz-3 GHz is UHF, and 1-10 GHz is largely UHF/SHF. So, the 30-300 MHz range is the VHF band.

## 10. What is the purpose of SL-3 Inventory?

**A. Ensure all required items are present and maintained**

**B. Document PMCS procedures**

**C. Record initial inspections**

**D. List unit training schedules**

SL-3 Inventory is about verifying that the unit has every item it is authorized to hold at that level, in the right quantities, and in serviceable condition. This process ensures readiness by preventing shortages during operations and by making sure the items are where they're supposed to be and usable when needed. It also supports accountability by identifying missing, damaged, or unserviceable items so corrective actions can be taken promptly. Other options relate to different functions: documenting PMCS procedures deals with scheduled maintenance on equipment, recording initial inspections pertains to the first checks when items are received, and listing unit training schedules is about planning training. These activities aren't about confirming the presence and condition of required inventory, which is the core purpose of SL-3 Inventory.

## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://0621annexacomms.examzify.com>**

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

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