

# 18B Mortar Employment & 81mm 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 is the primary purpose of the fuze on a mortar round?**
  - A. To detonate the round upon impact or at a preset time**
  - B. To stabilize the round in flight**
  - C. To enhance accuracy**
  - D. To serve as a safety mechanism**
  
- 2. What is the nomenclature of the M252 boresight?**
  - A. M45A1**
  - B. M45**
  - C. M45A2**
  - D. M45B1**
  
- 3. What is the main feature of the "fuse" used in mortar rounds?**
  - A. It determines the weight of the shell**
  - B. It determines the type of explosive**
  - C. It determines the detonation timing**
  - D. It adjusts the trajectory**
  
- 4. Which component is crucial to the safety and effectiveness of mortar operations?**
  - A. Proper training of personnel**
  - B. High altitude**
  - C. Automatic reloading systems**
  - D. Night vision capability**
  
- 5. What safety equipment should mortar crews wear during operations?**
  - A. Ballistic helmets and body armor**
  - B. Ear protection and goggles**
  - C. Crewman uniforms and gloves**
  - D. None of the above**

- 6. What is one characteristic of 'hasty' displacement in mortar operations?**
- A. Well-planned and coordinated movements**
  - B. Quick and often without much planning**
  - C. Utilizes cover and concealment**
  - D. Involves full squad movement**
- 7. What is the nominal caliber of the 81mm mortar?**
- A. 60mm**
  - B. 81mm**
  - C. 120mm**
  - D. 75mm**
- 8. In the context of mortars, what does 'by section' displacement involve?**
- A. All sections moving together**
  - B. One section stationary while others move**
  - C. Two sections sharing movement**
  - D. None of the above**
- 9. What is the minimum number of mortars in a Platoon?**
- A. 2**
  - B. 3**
  - C. 4 or more**
  - D. 1**
- 10. What type of round is the M819?**
- A. High Explosive**
  - B. Illumination**
  - C. Smoke, RP**
  - D. Training**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the primary purpose of the fuze on a mortar round?**

- A. To detonate the round upon impact or at a preset time**
- B. To stabilize the round in flight**
- C. To enhance accuracy**
- D. To serve as a safety mechanism**

The primary purpose of the fuze on a mortar round is to detonate the round upon impact or at a preset time. This functionality is critical for the effectiveness of the mortar, as it ensures that the explosive charge is activated at the right moment to achieve maximum impact on the target. The fuze is designed with specific mechanisms that allow it to sense when the round has either struck the ground or reached a predetermined altitude, depending on the type of fuze used. In combat scenarios, the choice between impact fuzes and timed fuzes can lead to varying tactical outcomes. For instance, a timed fuze might be used to create airbursts above a target, dispersing shrapnel over a wider area, while an impact fuze is designed to create a concentrated effect directly on impact. This versatility in detonation is key to the mortar's role on the battlefield as it enables effective engagement of different types of targets. The other options provided, while related to a mortar's operation, are not the primary purpose of the fuze. Stabilization is typically achieved through the projectile's design and fins, accuracy is influenced by a combination of factors including weapon alignment and environmental conditions, and while safety mechanisms are crucial, they serve to prevent accidental detonation.

**2. What is the nomenclature of the M252 boresight?**

- A. M45A1**
- B. M45**
- C. M45A2**
- D. M45B1**

The correct nomenclature of the M252 boresight is M45. This device is specifically designed to ensure the mortar tube is accurately aligned for effective firing. The M252 mortar system relies on the M45 boresight as a critical part of its setup to achieve optimal precision in targeting. Understanding this nomenclature is essential for proper equipment identification and usage during mortar operations. The other options refer to different variations or incorrect designations that are not associated with the M252 boresighting system, enhancing clarity on the unique identifier of the correct boresight model.

**3. What is the main feature of the "fuse" used in mortar rounds?**

- A. It determines the weight of the shell**
- B. It determines the type of explosive**
- C. It determines the detonation timing**
- D. It adjusts the trajectory**

The main feature of the fuse used in mortar rounds is to determine the detonation timing. Fuses are critical components that activate the explosive charge at the appropriate moment, ensuring that the round detonates at the desired altitude or upon impact with the target. This capability allows for effective engagement of different target types and can be adjusted based on tactical needs. For instance, certain types of fuses can be set for airburst detonation, which can be advantageous in targeting troops or soft-skinned vehicles over an area. This timing precision directly impacts the round's effectiveness and the overall success of the mission. Understanding the role and function of the fuse is vital for anyone involved with mortars, as it is integral to achieving the desired outcome in combat situations.

**4. Which component is crucial to the safety and effectiveness of mortar operations?**

- A. Proper training of personnel**
- B. High altitude**
- C. Automatic reloading systems**
- D. Night vision capability**

The crucial component to the safety and effectiveness of mortar operations is the proper training of personnel. Without thorough training, soldiers may not fully understand the intricacies of mortar systems, including how to operate, aim, and fire mortars safely. Understanding the technical aspects, such as the balancing of angles, calculations for range and trajectory, and the handling of ammunition, directly impacts the effectiveness of the mortar fire. Proper training also emphasizes safety protocols to prevent accidents, ensuring that both the crew and surrounding personnel remain safe during operations. While high altitude can affect how mortar rounds are fired and their accuracy due to atmospheric conditions, it is not a controllable factor like training. Automatic reloading systems and night vision capability can enhance mortar operations but do not replace the foundational requirement of having well-trained personnel to carry out the operations effectively. Ultimately, the personnel's readiness and competence will govern the success of the mission in any operational environment.

**5. What safety equipment should mortar crews wear during operations?**

- A. Ballistic helmets and body armor**
- B. Ear protection and goggles**
- C. Crewman uniforms and gloves**
- D. None of the above**

Mortar crews must prioritize their safety due to the inherent risks associated with operating artillery in combat situations. Wearing ballistic helmets and body armor is essential as it offers protection against shrapnel, falling debris, and potential enemy fire. These forms of body armor are designed to minimize injuries from projectiles and explosive blasts, which are risks faced in the vicinity of mortar systems. Ballistic helmets provide head protection from impacts and shrapnel, while body armor protects vital organs and reduces the chances of severe injuries. Given the explosive nature of mortar operations, this level of protective equipment is crucial for safeguarding personnel and ensuring they can continue their mission effectively in hazardous environments. While ear protection and goggles are also important components of safety gear, they do not offer the same level of overall protection as ballistic helmets and body armor in a direct military engagement context. Crewman uniforms and gloves do not provide specific protective capabilities against the types of threats faced during mortar operations. Thus, ballistic helmets and body armor are the most appropriate choices for ensuring the safety of mortar crews.

**6. What is one characteristic of 'hasty' displacement in mortar operations?**

- A. Well-planned and coordinated movements**
- B. Quick and often without much planning**
- C. Utilizes cover and concealment**
- D. Involves full squad movement**

In mortar operations, 'hasty' displacement refers to the rapid relocation of mortar teams from one firing position to another in response to changing tactical situations or threats. The defining characteristic of hasty displacement is that it is performed quickly and often without much prior planning. This allows mortar units to avoid detection by the enemy and maintain flexibility in their operations. The nature of hasty displacement often entails making swift decisions based on the immediate battlefield context, which can lead to a less coordinated movement compared to more premeditated displacement strategies. While tactics like utilizing cover and concealment can play a role in hasty displacements, the emphasis is primarily on speed and responsiveness. Therefore, the quick execution of movement without the luxury of thorough planning is what distinctly marks hasty displacement in mortar operations.

**7. What is the nominal caliber of the 81mm mortar?**

- A. 60mm
- B. 81mm**
- C. 120mm
- D. 75mm

The nominal caliber of the mortar is defined by the measurement of its bore diameter, which is directly linked to the type of ammunition it fires. In this case, the 81mm mortar is designated as such because its bore diameter measures 81 millimeters. This measurement is significant as it categorizes the mortar within a specific class of indirect fire weapons, allowing for certain operational capabilities and the type of munitions that can be utilized. Understanding the nominal caliber is important for recognizing the mortar's effective range, firepower, and versatility on the battlefield. In military terminology, the caliber directly impacts the projectile's trajectory, potential explosive yield, and the tactical engagements that can be executed. Therefore, recognizing the 81mm designation is essential for those training on this system, as it directly relates to the mortar's operational use and effectiveness.

**8. In the context of mortars, what does 'by section' displacement involve?**

- A. All sections moving together
- B. One section stationary while others move**
- C. Two sections sharing movement
- D. None of the above

In the context of mortars, 'by section' displacement refers to a technique where one section remains stationary while other sections are repositioned. This method allows for a more coordinated and strategic movement of mortar units during operations. By keeping one section in place, it can continue to provide fire support or observe the battlefield, which maintains operational effectiveness even while other sections move to adjust their positions for better engagement angles or to evade targeting. This tactic is particularly useful in dynamic combat environments where maintaining a consistent firing capability is critical. The stationary section can assess the effectiveness of the fire and provide valuable feedback while the other sections maneuver to safer or more advantageous locations. This allows for flexibility in positioning without losing the capability to support ongoing combat operations.

**9. What is the minimum number of mortars in a Platoon?**

- A. 2
- B. 3
- C. 4 or more**
- D. 1

A mortar platoon typically consists of a minimum of four mortars. This configuration allows for adequate fire support and ensures that the unit can maintain effective rates of fire while also providing redundancy in case one or more mortars become inoperable. Having a minimum of four mortars enables the platoon to execute various fire missions with varying levels of intensity and requirements, ensuring that there is enough firepower to support the infantry or other units in combat operations. This structure also reflects common military organization principles, where having more assets in a unit allows for a broader range of tactical flexibility and operational readiness. With at least four mortars, the platoon can effectively coordinate and execute synchronized fire support, which is essential for successful mission objectives.

**10. What type of round is the M819?**

- A. High Explosive
- B. Illumination
- C. Smoke, RP**
- D. Training

The M819 is classified as a training round, specifically designed for use in training exercises. This type of round simulates the performance of a high-explosive round without the associated risks and lethality of actual munitions. It is crucial for developing the skills necessary for mortar operators to handle the weapon system effectively while ensuring safety during training scenarios. The design of training rounds like the M819 allows soldiers to practice various mortar firing techniques, conduct drills, and become proficient in target engagement without the potential consequences of live fire. Using training rounds enables units to perform essential tasks like adjusting fire, coordinating mortar support, and understanding firing data under conditions that replicate real combat situations but with safety as a priority.

## 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://18bmortaremployment81mm.examzify.com>**

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

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