

310T TRUCK AND COACH TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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. Which function does an engine compression brake perform during the compression stroke?**
 - A. Closes the intake valve on the power stroke.
 - B. Closes the exhaust valve on the power stroke.
 - C. Opens the intake valve on the compression stroke.
 - D. Opens the exhaust valve on the compression stroke.
- 2. What is the immediate action to take when a coolant spill occurs?**
 - A. Ignore it.
 - B. Notify a supervisor.
 - C. Refer to MSDS information.
 - D. Clean it with water.
- 3. What is the primary cause of concentrated tread wear in the center of a steering tire?**
 - A. Over-inflation.
 - B. Under inflation.
 - C. Excessive toe-in.
 - D. Excessive caster.
- 4. What exhaust smoke color indicates a leaking "Dosing" valve?**
 - A. Blue.
 - B. Black.
 - C. White.
 - D. Brown.
- 5. What should be inspected on a chain sling before the technician uses it?**
 - A. Length and size.
 - B. Bends and color.
 - C. Elongation and twist.
 - D. Date of manufacture and expiry date.

- 6. What should be done with a cracked fifth wheel plate?**
- A. Discarded/replaced.
 - B. Replace the kingpin.
 - C. Preheated and welded.
 - D. Install new jaws and bushings.
- 7. What is a sign of worn torque rod bushings in a vehicle?**
- A. Increased tire noise.
 - B. Excessive jouncing.
 - C. Limited turning capability.
 - D. Improper alignment of the rear axle.
- 8. What would happen if an exhaust brake failed to open after application?**
- A. Engine would stall
 - B. Ruptured exhaust tubing
 - C. Turbocharger over-speed
 - D. Elevated exhaust temperature
- 9. What is the procedure for checking charging system regulated voltage?**
- A. Use a carbon pile to control alternator output.
 - B. Measure system voltage with engine at 1000 rpm.
 - C. Turn on all electrical loads and run engine at 1000 rpm.
 - D. Measure system voltage while alternator output is below 1/3.
- 10. What would cause water leakage around the front windshield?**
- A. Cracked visor
 - B. GPS mounting
 - C. Clearance light gaskets
 - D. Cracked air deflector gaskets

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which function does an engine compression brake perform during the compression stroke?

- A. Closes the intake valve on the power stroke.
- B. Closes the exhaust valve on the power stroke.
- C. Opens the intake valve on the compression stroke.
- D. Opens the exhaust valve on the compression stroke.**

The engine compression brake performs a crucial function during the compression stroke by opening the exhaust valve. This process allows the engine to utilize its own compression to slow down the vehicle, effectively transforming the engine into a brake. When the exhaust valve is opened during the compression stroke, it releases the compressed air rather than allowing it to be used for power generation in the next power stroke. This braking mechanism is particularly useful for large vehicles, such as trucks and coaches, as it helps to manage speed on downhill grades, reducing reliance on the service brakes, which can heat up and become less effective over time. By allowing the compressed air to escape, it reduces power loss and creates a braking effect that enhances overall control and safety while driving. In contrast, options that mention closing the intake or exhaust valves during the power stroke don't align with the function of an engine compression brake, as they pertain to standard valve operations rather than the specific actions involved in employing compression for braking.

2. What is the immediate action to take when a coolant spill occurs?

- A. Ignore it.
- B. Notify a supervisor.
- C. Refer to MSDS information.**
- D. Clean it with water.

When a coolant spill occurs, consulting the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is crucial because it provides specific safety information regarding the hazardous properties of the coolant. The MSDS outlines the appropriate procedures for handling spills, including safety precautions, first aid measures, and recommended cleanup methods. This ensures that safety protocols are followed, and potential health risks are minimized for anyone exposed to the spill. Understanding the properties of the coolant, such as whether it is toxic or environmentally harmful, is essential for effective and safe cleanup. By referring to the MSDS, the technician can take the correct actions to contain and clean up the spill safely, ensuring compliance with safety regulations and protecting personal safety as well as that of others in the vicinity.

3. What is the primary cause of concentrated tread wear in the center of a steering tire?

- A. Over-inflation.**
- B. Under inflation.
- C. Excessive toe-in.
- D. Excessive caster.

Concentrated tread wear in the center of a steering tire is primarily caused by over-inflation. When a tire is over-inflated, it alters the shape of the tire and increases the contact area at the center of the tread. This results in more wear occurring along the center line, as that portion of the tire is making more contact with the road surface while the edges remain less engaged. In contrast, under-inflation typically leads to wear on the outside edges of the tire because the tire bulges outward. Excessive toe-in can cause uneven wear across the tire's surface but generally does not result in center tread wear specifically. Excessive caster affects the stability and handling characteristics of the vehicle but does not directly lead to concentrated wear on the tread of the tire in the manner over-inflation does. Thus, recognizing the relationship between tire pressure and tread wear patterns is essential for maintaining proper tire health and ensuring safety on the road.

4. What exhaust smoke color indicates a leaking "Dosing" valve?

- A. Blue.
- B. Black.**
- C. White.
- D. Brown.

When dealing with the exhaust smoke color that indicates a leaking dosing valve, black smoke is the key indicator. Black smoke is typically a sign of excessive fuel or incomplete combustion, which can occur when the dosing valve, responsible for injecting the correct amount of diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) into the exhaust stream, is malfunctioning or leaking. This excess fuel leads to a richer fuel mixture, resulting in black smoke as unburnt fuel exits the combustion chamber. In contrast, blue smoke generally indicates that oil is burning, which could suggest internal engine problems such as worn piston rings or valve seals. White smoke, on the other hand, is often associated with coolant entering the combustion chamber, which usually indicates a head gasket failure or a crack in the engine block. Brown smoke can signify an incomplete combustion process or an excessive amount of fuel, but it is not as directly linked to a dosing valve issue as black smoke is. Therefore, black smoke is the most reliable sign of a dosing valve issue, due to its connection with fuel richness and combustion efficiency.

5. What should be inspected on a chain sling before the technician uses it?

- A. Length and size.
- B. Bends and color.
- C. Elongation and twist.**
- D. Date of manufacture and expiry date.

When preparing to use a chain sling, inspecting for elongation and twist is crucial. Elongation refers to any lengthening of the links due to excessive load or fatigue. This can impair the sling's strength and reliability, making it unsafe for lifting operations. If the sling has elongated significantly, it may not be capable of supporting the intended load safely. Twist in the links can also impact how the load is distributed and can lead to uneven wear or potential failure during operation. A twisted chain sling is more likely to cause unpredictable movements during lifting, posing safety risks to operators and bystanders. While checking for length and size, bends, and even the manufacturing date are important maintenance practices, they don't specifically address immediate safety concerns related to the structural integrity and performance of the sling during its use. Hence, focusing on elongation and twist directly correlates with the operational safety of the chain sling.

6. What should be done with a cracked fifth wheel plate?

- A. Discarded/replaced.
- B. Replace the kingpin.
- C. Preheated and welded.
- D. Install new jaws and bushings.

A cracked fifth wheel plate signifies significant damage that compromises the structural integrity and safety of the entire coupling mechanism between the truck and trailer. The fifth wheel plate is critical for securely connecting the tractor to the trailer, and any cracks can lead to failure during operation, resulting in catastrophic incidents. Replacing or discarding the cracked plate is essential to ensure that the coupling system functions safely and reliably. This ensures that the weight distribution and the trailer's stability are maintained during transit, preventing potential accidents. Other methods, such as preheating and welding the plate or simply replacing components like the kingpin or jaws, do not adequately address the underlying issue. Welding can further compromise the strength of the material, and replacing parts without addressing the main component can lead to continued risk. Thus, the appropriate and safest course of action is to discard the cracked fifth wheel plate and replace it with a new, intact one.

7. What is a sign of worn torque rod bushings in a vehicle?

- A. Increased tire noise.
- B. Excessive jouncing.
- C. Limited turning capability.
- D. Improper alignment of the rear axle.

Worn torque rod bushings are critical components that help maintain the position of the axle in relation to the vehicle's frame. When these bushings become worn, they can lead to a loss of proper alignment of the rear axle. This misalignment can manifest as uneven tire wear, handling issues, and overall instability while driving. Proper alignment is essential for ensuring that the vehicle tracks straight and handles as intended. When the torque rod bushings are worn, the axle may shift or wander due to the lack of secure connection between the axle and the frame, causing alignment problems. Therefore, observing signs of misalignment, such as uneven tire wear or odd handling characteristics, indicates that the torque rod bushings may need to be inspected and potentially replaced. While increased tire noise, excessive jouncing, and limited turning capability can result from various factors, they do not directly link to the immediate effects of worn torque rod bushings in the same way that improper alignment does. Thus, identifying improper alignment of the rear axle as a sign of worn torque rod bushings is essential for maintaining the vehicle's safety and performance.

8. What would happen if an exhaust brake failed to open after application?

- A. Engine would stall
- B. Ruptured exhaust tubing
- C. Turbocharger over-speed
- D. Elevated exhaust temperature**

When an exhaust brake fails to open after application, the most likely outcome is elevated exhaust temperature. An exhaust brake is designed to help slow down a vehicle by restricting the flow of exhaust gases, which in turn generates back pressure and helps to lower engine speed. If the exhaust brake fails to disengage, the flow of exhaust gases will remain restricted even when it should be open, causing an increase in exhaust temperature. This elevated temperature occurs because the engine may continue producing power without the exhaust brake opening to relieve the pressure. The build-up of heat within the exhaust system can lead to various issues, such as potential damage to the engine or exhaust components due to excessive heat. In contrast, other outcomes like the engine stalling or the turbocharger experiencing over-speed are less likely to occur specifically due to the failure of the exhaust brake to release. Stalling would typically require complete fuel cutoff or a severe malfunction, while turbocharger over-speed is more related to excessive boost pressure rather than a failure in the exhaust brake mechanism itself. Ruptured exhaust tubing could happen from high temperatures but is not a direct consequence of the exhaust brake sticking. Thus, the primary concern in this scenario would be the elevated exhaust temperature resulting from the malfunctioning exhaust brake.

9. What is the procedure for checking charging system regulated voltage?

- A. Use a carbon pile to control alternator output.
- B. Measure system voltage with engine at 1000 rpm.
- C. Turn on all electrical loads and run engine at 1000 rpm.
- D. Measure system voltage while alternator output is below 1/3.**

The procedure for checking the charging system regulated voltage involves measuring system voltage under specific conditions to ensure the alternator is functioning correctly. The correct choice highlights that measuring system voltage while the alternator output is below 1/3 provides a controlled environment where fluctuations in output can be effectively monitored. Measuring the voltage when the alternator is not operating at its maximum capacity allows you to see how well the system operates under less demanding conditions. This is crucial for diagnosing potential issues with regulation and ensuring that the alternator can maintain proper voltage levels when the electrical load increases. In contrast, using a carbon pile to control alternator output might not accurately reflect actual system conditions as it doesn't simulate the operational load of a vehicle. Measuring system voltage with the engine at 1000 rpm is part of the procedure, but it does not specify the alternator's output condition, which is essential for an accurate assessment. Turning on all electrical loads and running the engine at 1000 rpm could provide insights into system performance, but it may not effectively demonstrate regulated voltage under lower operational conditions. Understanding the context of each step in the procedure helps in diagnosing charging system performance accurately.

10. What would cause water leakage around the front windshield?

- A. Cracked visor
- B. GPS mounting
- C. Clearance light gaskets**
- D. Cracked air deflector gaskets

Water leakage around the front windshield can often be attributed to issues with the gaskets that seal the windshield in place. In this case, clearance light gaskets are specifically designed to help seal the area around the lights mounted on the truck's roof or cab. If these gaskets are worn out, damaged, or improperly installed, they can fail to provide an effective barrier against water intrusion. When rain or moisture accumulates, it can find its way into the cabin area, leading to water leakage around the front windshield. The other choices focus on different components that are less directly related to the windshield's sealing system. A cracked visor can create other issues, but it does not typically interact with the windshield seal itself. GPS mounts, while they can be located near the windshield, do not contribute to the integrity of the windshield seal. Similarly, cracked air deflector gaskets have a role in airflow management and aerodynamics but do not directly affect water sealing at the windshield. Ultimately, the integrity of gaskets directly associated with the windshield, such as those around clearance lights, plays a crucial role in preventing leaks and maintaining a dry cabin environment.

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:

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

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