

5-20 INFANTRY BOARD PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

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

<https://520infantryboard.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	16

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.

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

SAMPLE

- 1. How is information typically disseminated in command and control?**
 - A. Through visual signals alone
 - B. Using social media updates
 - C. Through effective communication using established methods
 - D. Only through written reports
- 2. In an operations order (OPORD), which paragraph often details the mission?**
 - A. Execution
 - B. Situation
 - C. Command
 - D. Admin and Logistics
- 3. What does the acronym COIN stand for in military operations?**
 - A. Conventional Operations in Network
 - B. Counterinsurgency
 - C. Combined Offensive Interior Network
 - D. Critical Operations in Intelligence Networks
- 4. Which of the following is a component of an effective risk assessment?**
 - A. Creating a mission statement
 - B. Identifying hazards
 - C. Developing public relations strategies
 - D. Conducting exit interviews
- 5. How does teamwork enhance infantry success?**
 - A. By increasing competition among soldiers
 - B. By enhancing unit cohesion and improving communication
 - C. By allowing for independent actions
 - D. By reducing the need for a chain of command
- 6. What does PMI stand for in a military training context?**
 - A. Preliminary Marksmanship Instruction
 - B. Personal Military Initiative
 - C. Performance Management Initiative
 - D. Planned Military Inspection

- 7. What is the weight of an M4A1 without a magazine?**
- A. 6.5 lbs
 - B. 7.5 lbs
 - C. 8.5 lbs
 - D. 9.5 lbs
- 8. What type of firepower does a squad automatic weapon (SAW) primarily provide?**
- A. Long-range sniper support
 - B. Suppressive fire for infantry maneuvers
 - C. Close-quarters combat effectiveness
 - D. Heavy artillery support
- 9. What skill is essential for the success of a squad leader?**
- A. Technical writing skills
 - B. Ability to lead and direct squad members
 - C. Expertise in advanced weaponry
 - D. Mastery of logistics management
- 10. What does the acronym LNO stand for in military terms?**
- A. Liaison Officer
 - B. Logistics Navigation Officer
 - C. Land Navigation Observer
 - D. Lethality Negation Operator

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. How is information typically disseminated in command and control?

- A. Through visual signals alone
- B. Using social media updates
- C. Through effective communication using established methods**
- D. Only through written reports

Information is typically disseminated in command and control through effective communication using established methods because this approach ensures clarity, reliability, and comprehensiveness in relaying crucial information among commanders and subordinates. Established methods can include face-to-face communication, radio transmissions, secure messaging systems, and structured reports—all of which are designed to provide timely and accurate information necessary for decision-making and operational effectiveness. In command and control environments, the importance of using established communication methods cannot be overstated, as these methods help to minimize misunderstandings and provide a standardized way of reporting and receiving information, which is vital in high-stakes scenarios. This systematic approach is essential for maintaining operational integrity and ensuring that all parties involved have access to the same critical information. Other options like visual signals, social media updates, or solely relying on written reports do not encompass the comprehensive, reliable, and multi-faceted communication that effective command and control necessitate. While visual signals and written reports play a role, they do not cover all necessary methods. Social media, on the other hand, lacks the security and control required in military operations, making established communication methods far more essential for command and control.

2. In an operations order (OPORD), which paragraph often details the mission?

- A. Execution**
- B. Situation
- C. Command
- D. Admin and Logistics

In an operations order (OPORD), the paragraph that often details the mission is the Execution paragraph. This section outlines how the unit is expected to accomplish the mission, providing detailed instructions and guidance on the execution of operations. It typically includes specific tasks and responsibilities, coordination measures, and timelines, all of which are essential for effective mission planning and execution. The Execution paragraph serves as a critical tool for leaders and soldiers to understand their roles and the overall objective, ensuring that everyone is aligned in their efforts. This allows for a coherent approach to achieving mission success by clearly articulating the desired outcome and how to achieve it. While the Situation paragraph provides contextual information about the environment in which the operation takes place, such as enemy forces, weather, and terrain, it does not lay out the mission details. The Command paragraph typically addresses command structure and reporting relationships rather than specifics on mission execution. Lastly, the Admin and Logistics paragraph deals with support and resources needed for the operation, but it does not focus on how the mission will be conducted.

3. What does the acronym COIN stand for in military operations?

- A. Conventional Operations in Network
- B. Counterinsurgency**
- C. Combined Offensive Interior Network
- D. Critical Operations in Intelligence Networks

The acronym COIN stands for Counterinsurgency, which is a comprehensive approach used by military forces to combat insurgent movements. This concept encompasses not only military tactics but also political, economic, and social strategies aimed at winning the support of the local population and undermining the insurgents' influence. The focus of counterinsurgency is on addressing the underlying grievances that fuel insurgency, improving governance, and providing security for civilians. This definition emphasizes the multi-faceted nature of counterinsurgency operations, which often require collaboration with local governments and civilian agencies. It highlights the importance of understanding the environment in which military operations are conducted and adapting strategies accordingly to achieve long-term stability.

4. Which of the following is a component of an effective risk assessment?

- A. Creating a mission statement
- B. Identifying hazards**
- C. Developing public relations strategies
- D. Conducting exit interviews

Identifying hazards is a fundamental component of an effective risk assessment. This process involves systematically recognizing and analyzing potential sources of harm or adverse effects that could impact personnel, equipment, and operations. By identifying hazards, leaders can prioritize risks based on their likelihood and impact, ensuring that appropriate measures are taken to mitigate or manage them. This step is crucial in establishing a comprehensive understanding of the risks associated with a mission or operational environment. While creating a mission statement, developing public relations strategies, and conducting exit interviews are important activities within an organization, they do not directly contribute to the specific process of assessing risks. A mission statement primarily outlines the organization's purpose and values, while public relations strategies focus on communication and reputation management. Conducting exit interviews is generally aimed at gathering feedback from departing personnel to improve workplace practices. None of these activities address the identification and management of hazards, which is essential for maintaining safety and operational effectiveness.

5. How does teamwork enhance infantry success?

- A. By increasing competition among soldiers
- B. By enhancing unit cohesion and improving communication**
- C. By allowing for independent actions
- D. By reducing the need for a chain of command

Teamwork enhances infantry success primarily by fostering unit cohesion and improving communication among soldiers. In a military context, effective teamwork is crucial for operational effectiveness. When soldiers work together harmoniously, they build trust and mutual understanding, which are vital for executing complex maneuvers and making split-second decisions on the battlefield. Cohesion within a unit allows members to rely on one another during high-pressure situations, increasing overall efficiency and effectiveness. Improved communication ensures that all members are on the same page about strategies, tactics, and roles during missions, which is essential for achieving objectives and maintaining safety. Through teamwork, soldiers can coordinate their actions seamlessly, respond to evolving situations quickly, and create a supportive environment that enhances morale and motivation. While independent actions might seem advantageous in some scenarios, they can lead to disorganization and reduced effectiveness when operating as part of a larger unit. Similarly, competition among soldiers could foster individual achievement but ultimately detracts from the collective goal of the unit. Additionally, teamwork does not eliminate the need for a clear chain of command; rather, it often facilitates respect for leadership and adherence to orders within the framework of cooperation. Thus, the emphasis on unit cohesion and communication is fundamental for the success of infantry operations.

6. What does PMI stand for in a military training context?

- A. Preliminary Marksmanship Instruction**
- B. Personal Military Initiative
- C. Performance Management Initiative
- D. Planned Military Inspection

PMI in a military training context stands for Preliminary Marksmanship Instruction. This term refers to the foundational training provided to soldiers to prepare them for marksmanship. It involves teaching the basic principles of shooting, including sight alignment, trigger control, and breathing techniques. The focus is on developing the fundamental skills and knowledge necessary for effective shooting performance before soldiers advance to more complex drills and live-fire exercises. Preliminary Marksmanship Instruction is vital as it builds the groundwork for more advanced marksmanship training and ultimately contributes to a unit's overall readiness and effectiveness in combat situations. Understanding and mastering these basic skills are crucial for both individual soldiers and operational success as the military relies heavily on precision and accuracy in marksmanship.

7. What is the weight of an M4A1 without a magazine?

- A. 6.5 lbs
- B. 7.5 lbs**
- C. 8.5 lbs
- D. 9.5 lbs

The weight of the M4A1 rifle without a magazine is approximately 7.5 pounds. This specification is important for understanding the weapon's handling and operational characteristics. Knowing the weight helps soldiers manage the rifle during extended periods of use and ensures they can effectively maneuver and operate the firearm in various combat scenarios. The M4A1 is designed to be lightweight yet durable, making it suitable for infantry operations while allowing for easier transport and handling compared to heavier rifles. Understanding this detail is crucial for troops to optimize their loading and unloading procedures and maintain efficacy in the field.

8. What type of firepower does a squad automatic weapon (SAW) primarily provide?

- A. Long-range sniper support
- B. Suppressive fire for infantry maneuvers**
- C. Close-quarters combat effectiveness
- D. Heavy artillery support

A squad automatic weapon (SAW) primarily provides suppressive fire for infantry maneuvers. This capability is essential in a combat environment, as it allows the squad to maintain control of the battlefield by keeping enemy forces suppressed and unable to effectively return fire. The continuous stream of fire provided by the SAW creates a psychological and physical barrier that protects maneuvering infantry units and enables them to advance, maneuver, or reposition without being exposed to enemy fire. While the other options may describe different functions of various weapons, they do not align with the primary role of a SAW. Long-range sniper support, for example, is more suited to precision rifles designed for one-shot engagements from a distance. Close-quarters combat effectiveness is typically the domain of smaller caliber firearms or personal defense weapons that allow for quick maneuvering and rapid target engagement in confined spaces. Heavy artillery support pertains to larger, indirect fire systems capable of delivering destructive firepower over long distances, but it does not offer the direct, sustained suppressive fire that a SAW provides. Thus, the correct answer highlights the SAW's critical role in enabling infantry maneuvers through effective suppressive fire.

9. What skill is essential for the success of a squad leader?

- A. Technical writing skills
- B. Ability to lead and direct squad members**
- C. Expertise in advanced weaponry
- D. Mastery of logistics management

The ability to lead and direct squad members is essential for the success of a squad leader because it directly impacts the effectiveness and cohesion of the team. A squad leader must be able to inspire, motivate, and guide their squad through challenges and missions, ensuring that each member understands their roles and responsibilities. This leadership skill encompasses communication, decision-making, and problem-solving abilities, all of which are vital in military operations. A strong leader fosters trust and respect within the squad, which enhances team dynamics and encourages collaboration. The leader's ability to maintain morale and maintain discipline is also crucial for operational success. This human element of leadership is paramount, as it can significantly influence the squad's performance in high-pressure situations. While technical writing skills, expertise in advanced weaponry, and mastery of logistics management are valuable, they serve as supplementary skills rather than primary ones for a squad leader. The core function of leadership drives overall mission success, making the ability to lead and direct squad members the most critical skill in this context.

10. What does the acronym LNO stand for in military terms?

- A. Liaison Officer**
- B. Logistics Navigation Officer**
- C. Land Navigation Observer**
- D. Lethality Negation Operator**

The acronym LNO stands for Liaison Officer in military terms. A Liaison Officer plays a crucial role in facilitating communication and cooperation between different military units, branches, or allied forces. Their primary responsibilities include ensuring that vital information is shared, coordinating activities, and serving as a point of contact to smooth operations and enhance collaboration. Liaison Officers are essential in joint operations where units from various services or even allied nations work together, as they help bridge gaps in communication and operational understanding. They often attend planning sessions, relay instructions, and keep units informed about changes in strategy or movements, thus contributing to the overall effectiveness and efficiency of military operations.

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://520infantryboard.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE