

8TH THE SUN-EARTH-MOON SYSTEM (C20) PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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	15

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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 lunar feature are circular depressions formed by impacts?**
 - A. Craters
 - B. Maria
 - C. Highlands
 - D. Rilles
- 2. When the visible portion of the Moon is getting larger, the Moon is which phase?**
 - A. Third Quarter
 - B. New Moon
 - C. Waxing
 - D. Waning
- 3. The sun's path in the sky is highest during the summer ____.**
 - A. Equinox
 - B. Perigee
 - C. Aphelion
 - D. Solstice
- 4. Which phase is seen when the illuminated portion is one quarter of the Moon's disk?**
 - A. New Moon
 - B. First Quarter
 - C. Full Moon
 - D. Third Quarter
- 5. Which event is associated with the longest daylight hours?**
 - A. Winter Solstice
 - B. Equinox
 - C. Full Moon
 - D. Summer Solstice

- 6. Which event signals the longest daylight hours in the year?**
- A. Winter Solstice
 - B. Equinox
 - C. Moon Phase
 - D. Summer Solstice
- 7. During a solar eclipse, which object blocks sunlight from reaching Earth?**
- A. The Moon
 - B. The Sun
 - C. The International Space Station
 - D. The Earth
- 8. Which Moon phase follows the Third Quarter?**
- A. Waxing Crescent
 - B. New Moon
 - C. First Quarter
 - D. Waning Crescent
- 9. The sun's path in the sky is lowest during the winter ____.**
- A. Solstice
 - B. Equinox
 - C. Perihelion
 - D. Aphelion
- 10. Which phase is just before the Full Moon in the sequence?**
- A. Waning Crescent
 - B. Waxing Gibbous
 - C. New Moon
 - D. Third Quarter

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which lunar feature are circular depressions formed by impacts?

A. Craters

B. Maria

C. Highlands

D. Rilles

Circular depressions formed by impacts are craters. When a meteoroid or asteroid strikes the Moon, the enormous energy blasts material outward and upward, excavating a bowl-shaped pit and leaving a raised rim around the edge. The impact distributes energy in a roughly circular pattern from the point of contact, which is why the resulting feature is typically round. In larger craters you can even see a central peak formed as the ground rebounds after the initial excavation. This distinguishes craters from maria, which are smooth basaltic plains formed by ancient lava flows filling basins; from the Highlands, which are rugged, light-colored, heavily cratered highlands; and from rilles, which are long channels created by volcanic or tectonic processes rather than impacts.

2. When the visible portion of the Moon is getting larger, the Moon is which phase?

A. Third Quarter

B. New Moon

C. Waxing

D. Waning

Growing illumination is waxing. When more of the Moon's sunlit side becomes visible night after night, you're in the waxing phases, moving from New Moon toward Full Moon through waxing crescent, first quarter, and waxing gibbous. After the Full Moon the illuminated portion starts to shrink—that's waning—and New Moon is when it's not visible at all. Third Quarter is part of the waning period, while New Moon is invisible. So, if the visible portion is getting larger, the Moon is waxing.

3. The sun's path in the sky is highest during the summer ____.

A. Equinox

B. Perigee

C. Aphelion

D. Solstice

The height of the Sun in the sky is determined by Earth's tilt relative to the Sun as the year changes. At the summer solstice, the Northern Hemisphere is tilted most toward the Sun, so the Sun climbs highest in the sky at noon and the day is longest. This extreme tilt makes the Sun's noon altitude reach its maximum for the year, which is why that point marks the highest path across the sky. Equinoxes, by contrast, occur when the tilt is such that day and night are equal; the Sun is not at its highest point then. The terms perigee and aphelion describe the closest and farthest points in Earth's orbit (or the Moon's in its orbit) and affect distance a bit, not the Sun's height above the horizon in the sky. So the best fit for the statement about the Sun's highest path in the sky during summer is the solstice.

4. Which phase is seen when the illuminated portion is one quarter of the Moon's disk?

- A. New Moon
- B. First Quarter**
- C. Full Moon
- D. Third Quarter

As the Moon orbits Earth, the portion that is illuminated by the Sun visible from Earth changes, creating the Moon's phases. The halfway point in the cycle—about a quarter of the way from New Moon toward Full Moon—produces a phase where roughly half of the Moon's disk is lit. This is the First Quarter, which is why it's the correct choice: it represents the mid-point of the cycle with the near side showing a half-moon. In the Northern Hemisphere, you'll see the right half illuminated at this phase. The other options correspond to 0% illumination (New Moon), 100% illumination (Full Moon), and the opposite half-lit at the three-quarter point (Third Quarter).

5. Which event is associated with the longest daylight hours?

- A. Winter Solstice
- B. Equinox
- C. Full Moon
- D. Summer Solstice**

The changing length of daylight comes from the tilt of Earth's axis. When the Sun reaches its highest point in the sky during summer, the Sun's path is longest and daylight lasts the longest in that hemisphere. That event is the Summer Solstice, which marks the longest day of the year. In contrast, the Winter Solstice has the shortest day, and the Equinoxes have roughly equal day and night. The Full Moon is about the Moon's phase and does not determine how long daylight lasts.

6. Which event signals the longest daylight hours in the year?

- A. Winter Solstice
- B. Equinox
- C. Moon Phase
- D. Summer Solstice**

Longer daylight hours come from the tilt of Earth's axis interacting with its orbit around the Sun. The Summer Solstice is the point when the Northern Hemisphere is tilted closest toward the Sun, so the Sun climbs higher in the sky and its path across the sky is the longest for the year. That extended arc equals more hours of daylight. The equinox marks a roughly equal day and night, and the Winter Solstice has the shortest day. The Moon Phase doesn't determine how long the Sun is above the horizon.

7. During a solar eclipse, which object blocks sunlight from reaching Earth?

- A. The Moon**
- B. The Sun
- C. The International Space Station
- D. The Earth

During a solar eclipse, the Moon moves directly between the Sun and the Earth, so it blocks the Sun's light from reaching the Earth. The Sun is the light source, so it doesn't block its own light in this setup; the Moon is the object that sits in the line of sight and casts a shadow on Earth. Sometimes that shadow is a full umbra, giving a total eclipse, or a partial shadow in the penumbra, giving a partial eclipse. The other options don't fit this scenario: the Sun is what provides the light, the International Space Station is far too small and not in the right position to cast a significant shadow on Earth, and the Earth would be the receiver of light, not the blocker, in this arrangement.

8. Which Moon phase follows the Third Quarter?

- A. Waxing Crescent
- B. New Moon
- C. First Quarter
- D. Waning Crescent**

As the Moon orbits Earth, the visible illumination changes in a regular cycle, with waxing meaning increasing light and waning meaning decreasing light. After the Last Quarter (Third Quarter), the illuminated portion is shrinking, so the next phase is Waning Crescent. This crescent phase comes before New Moon, when the Moon is between the Sun and Earth and not visible. The other options don't fit because Waxing Crescent occurs earlier in the cycle when illumination is increasing, First Quarter comes midway through the cycle after Waxing Crescent, and New Moon marks the start of the cycle, before any waning phases.

9. The sun's path in the sky is lowest during the winter ____.

- A. Solstice**
- B. Equinox
- C. Perihelion
- D. Aphelion

The height of the Sun in the sky depends on Earth's tilt and the Sun's seasonal declination. At the winter solstice, the Sun's declination is at its southernmost point, about -23.5° . That makes the noonday Sun sit lowest in the sky for observers in the Northern Hemisphere, producing the shortest day and a low, short arc across the sky. As the year progresses toward spring, the Sun's declination moves toward zero and then positive, so the Sun climbs higher each day. The equinoxes involve equal day and night with a higher noon Sun than at the solstice, while perihelion and aphelion describe Earth's distance from the Sun—distance changes energy received but not the Sun's path height in the sky.

10. Which phase is just before the Full Moon in the sequence?

- A. Waning Crescent
- B. Waxing Gibbous**
- C. New Moon
- D. Third Quarter

The phase just before the Full Moon is the Waxing Gibbous. After the New Moon, the illuminated portion of the Moon grows larger through the Waxing Crescent, then First Quarter, and then Waxing Gibbous, until it becomes a Full Moon. "Waxing" means the lit area is increasing, and "Gibbous" means more than half of the Moon's disk is lit. So Waxing Gibbous is the stage right before Full Moon. The other phases fit different parts of the cycle: Waning Crescent comes after the Full Moon, as illumination decreases toward a New Moon; the New Moon is when hardly any of the Moon is lit; and the Third Quarter is the half-lit stage on the opposite side that occurs after the Full Moon.

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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://8thsunearthmoonsyste.examzify.com>

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

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