

ACS Airman Certification 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. Ice fog typically occurs under what temperature condition?**
 - A. Above freezing**
 - B. Below freezing**
 - C. At dew point**
 - D. Above 0 degrees Celsius**

- 2. In which scenario can a pilot use a special flight permit to exceed the maximum certificated takeoff weight?**
 - A. For routine flight training**
 - B. For demonstration flights of new production aircraft**
 - C. For private weather avoidance**
 - D. For maintenance checks**

- 3. What is the antidote for the hazardous attitude of resignation?**
 - A. I can make a difference**
 - B. I should ask for help**
 - C. I need to follow the rules**
 - D. I can take calculated risks**

- 4. What does a 'BIG blue H' symbolize in meteorology?**
 - A. Thunderstorm conditions**
 - B. High pressure system**
 - C. Low pressure system**
 - D. Windy conditions**

- 5. What are the three categories of aircraft recognized by the FAA?**
 - A. Airplane, glider, and drone**
 - B. Airplane, rotorcraft, and lighter-than-air**
 - C. Airplane, jet, and turbo-prop**
 - D. Helicopter, biplane, and seaplane**

- 6. What is the first step when operating with inoperative equipment according to FAR 91.213?**
- A. Discard or deactivate**
 - B. Verify equipment not required**
 - C. Make a PIC decision**
 - D. Notify maintenance staff**
- 7. What is indicated by a temperature decrease of 2 degrees Celsius at an altitude increase of 1000'?**
- A. A normal lapse rate**
 - B. An inversion layer**
 - C. A stable atmosphere**
 - D. Unstable weather conditions**
- 8. What is a key function of the landing gear in an aircraft?**
- A. Stability during flight**
 - B. Shock absorption during landing**
 - C. Fuel storage**
 - D. Weight distribution**
- 9. What is the typical usable fuel capacity listed for the aircraft?**
- A. 50 gallons**
 - B. 45 gallons**
 - C. 48 gallons**
 - D. 55 gallons**
- 10. What is the primary reason for wearing a seatbelt while flying?**
- A. To prevent weight shift**
 - B. For safety during turbulence and emergency situations**
 - C. To comply with legal requirements**
 - D. To maintain comfort during the flight**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Ice fog typically occurs under what temperature condition?

- A. Above freezing
- B. Below freezing**
- C. At dew point
- D. Above 0 degrees Celsius

Ice fog typically occurs when temperatures are below freezing, generally in conditions where the air is saturated with moisture. This phenomenon arises when the temperature is so low that water vapor in the air condenses directly into tiny ice crystals rather than forming liquid droplets, which creates the characteristic fog. Under these conditions, the air's capacity to hold moisture decreases, leading to the formation of ice particles suspended in the air. Ice fog is most commonly observed in very cold climates, where the combination of low temperatures and high humidity results in the formation of these ice crystals. The other temperature conditions described, such as being above freezing, at dew point, or above 0 degrees Celsius, do not support the formation of ice fog, as those scenarios would lead to the formation of liquid fog instead of ice.

2. In which scenario can a pilot use a special flight permit to exceed the maximum certificated takeoff weight?

- A. For routine flight training
- B. For demonstration flights of new production aircraft**
- C. For private weather avoidance
- D. For maintenance checks

A special flight permit, also known as a ferry permit, allows a pilot to operate an aircraft that may not meet all the airworthiness requirements for standard operations but is still safe to fly under specific conditions. One of the primary scenarios in which a pilot can use this permit is for demonstration flights of new production aircraft. When it comes to demonstration flights, particularly for manufacturers showing their aircraft to potential buyers or evaluators, the maximum certificated takeoff weight can be exceeded. This exemption is essential because manufacturers often need to showcase the aircraft's performance, and exceeding weight limits may be necessary for testing and demonstration purposes. The other scenarios mentioned, such as routine flight training, private weather avoidance, and maintenance checks, do not typically qualify for such permits. Routine training is expected to operate within regulatory limits, and while maintenance checks can involve some flexibility, they generally do not allow for exceeding the maximum certificated weight in the same way demonstration flights do.

3. What is the antidote for the hazardous attitude of resignation?

- A. I can make a difference**
- B. I should ask for help**
- C. I need to follow the rules**
- D. I can take calculated risks**

The antidote for the hazardous attitude of resignation is centered around the belief that individuals can influence outcomes and take proactive steps in their situations. When someone exhibits a resigned attitude, they may feel as though they have no control over their circumstances or that their actions won't make a difference. By asserting "I can make a difference," a person is reminded of their capability to effect change and take responsibility for their actions. This mindset encourages active participation in problem-solving and decision-making processes, which can lead to safer and more effective outcomes in aviation and other fields. The other statements, while potentially beneficial in certain contexts, do not specifically address the resignation mindset as effectively. Recognizing one's ability to influence situations fosters personal empowerment, contrasting with the feeling of helplessness associated with resignation.

4. What does a 'BIG blue H' symbolize in meteorology?

- A. Thunderstorm conditions**
- B. High pressure system**
- C. Low pressure system**
- D. Windy conditions**

The symbol of a 'BIG blue H' in meteorology specifically represents a high-pressure system. High-pressure systems are associated with descending air, which generally leads to clearer skies and stable weather conditions. This symbol is used on weather maps to indicate areas where the atmospheric pressure is higher than the surrounding areas. In high-pressure systems, the air pressure at the surface is elevated compared to lower surrounding pressure, resulting in sunny and dry weather conditions. Understanding this symbol is crucial for interpreting weather patterns, as high-pressure systems often correlate with fair weather, while the presence of low-pressure systems, represented by a different symbol, is typically associated with cloudiness and potential precipitation.

5. What are the three categories of aircraft recognized by the FAA?

- A. Airplane, glider, and drone**
- B. Airplane, rotorcraft, and lighter-than-air**
- C. Airplane, jet, and turbo-prop**
- D. Helicopter, biplane, and seaplane**

The three categories of aircraft recognized by the FAA are airplane, rotorcraft, and lighter-than-air. This classification is essential for regulatory purposes as it helps in determining the specific regulations, requirements, and standards applicable to different types of aircraft operations. Airplanes are fixed-wing aircraft that derive lift from their wings, while rotorcraft includes helicopters and other aircraft that use rotating blades to create lift. Lighter-than-air aircraft, such as balloons and airships, rely on buoyancy to achieve flight. This categorization by the FAA is fundamental for maintaining safety standards and ensuring that pilots are trained and certified appropriately for the aircraft they operate. In contrast, the other options provided do not encompass the recognized categories completely or accurately. While drones and other variations of aircraft do exist, they fall under broader categories rather than being standalone classifications. The mention of jet and turbo-prop aircraft also limits the scope to specific types of airplanes rather than the broader category. Moreover, helicopter, biplane, and seaplane represent specific variations or designs within the broader categories of rotorcraft and airplanes, rather than primary classifications.

6. What is the first step when operating with inoperative equipment according to FAR 91.213?

- A. Discard or deactivate**
- B. Verify equipment not required**
- C. Make a PIC decision**
- D. Notify maintenance staff**

When operating with inoperative equipment according to FAR 91.213, the first step is to verify whether the equipment is indeed required for the flight. This regulation outlines a systematic approach to managing inoperative instruments or equipment in an aircraft. Before taking any further action, it is essential to determine if the inoperative item is a required part of the aircraft's configuration for the intended operation. This verification ensures that safety standards are maintained and that legal requirements for the operation of the aircraft are fulfilled. If the equipment is determined to be non-essential for the specific flight, the pilot in command can then proceed through additional steps, such as making maintenance notifications or adjusting operational procedures, as indicated by the regulations. Understanding this step is critical, as it lays the groundwork for ensuring that all necessary safety measures are observed, and it allows for proper compliance with federal aviation regulations. Recognizing the significance of confirming the necessity of equipment before taking further action can prevent unnecessary complications in flight operations.

7. What is indicated by a temperature decrease of 2 degrees Celsius at an altitude increase of 1000'?

- A. A normal lapse rate**
- B. An inversion layer**
- C. A stable atmosphere**
- D. Unstable weather conditions**

A temperature decrease of 2 degrees Celsius with an altitude increase of 1,000 feet suggests a normal lapse rate. In the atmosphere, the normal lapse rate occurs when air temperature decreases as altitude increases, typically at a rate of about 6.5 degrees Celsius for every 1,000 meters (or approximately 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit for every 1,000 feet). A decrease of 2 degrees Celsius for every 1,000 feet aligns closely with this expected range, indicating that the atmosphere is behaving in a typical manner. This normal lapse rate is indicative of stable atmospheric conditions where vertical movements of air are limited, although specific stability judgments would require additional information about humidity and other factors. In contrast, an inversion layer would show an increase in temperature with altitude, which would not fit the scenario presented. Similarly, a stable atmosphere or unstable weather conditions typically reflect different patterns of temperature change and air movement, adding another layer of context that the given temperature change does not exhibit. Thus, the observed temperature decrease aligns with the definition of a normal lapse rate.

8. What is a key function of the landing gear in an aircraft?

- A. Stability during flight**
- B. Shock absorption during landing**
- C. Fuel storage**
- D. Weight distribution**

The landing gear plays a crucial role in shock absorption during landing. When an aircraft descends and ultimately touches down on the runway, the abrupt change in speed and the forces exerted on the aircraft can create significant stress. The landing gear is designed with shock absorbing systems, often utilizing struts that contain hydraulic fluid or air, to cushion this impact. This helps to protect the structure of the aircraft and ensures a smoother transition from flight to ground. Stability during flight, fuel storage, and weight distribution are indeed important aspects of aircraft design, but they do not specifically relate to the primary purpose of the landing gear. While stability during flight is influenced by factors such as the aircraft's design and control surfaces, it is not a function of the landing gear. Fuel storage is typically associated with fuel tanks located in the wings or fuselage, not in the landing gear structure. Weight distribution involves how the aircraft's weight is balanced during flight and landing, but effectively managing shock loads during landing is a key mechanical function of the landing gear itself.

9. What is the typical usable fuel capacity listed for the aircraft?

- A. 50 gallons**
- B. 45 gallons**
- C. 48 gallons**
- D. 55 gallons**

The typical usable fuel capacity for an aircraft is crucial as it directly impacts the range, endurance, and overall performance of the aircraft. In this case, 48 gallons is recognized as the correct answer because it reflects the standard measurement for usable fuel that various models of the aircraft can effectively carry and utilize during flight operations. This figure represents the portion of the total fuel capacity that can be drawn upon without risking fuel system issues, maintaining balance, or encountering unusable fuel quantities that may be trapped in the tank. Factors influencing this number include the design of the fuel system, weight and balance considerations, and manufacturer specifications. Therefore, having a clear understanding of the usable fuel capacity is important for flight planning, calculating weight, and ensuring that the aircraft operates efficiently and safely within its designed parameters. The other capacities, though provided, do not align with standard specifications for usable fuel in this aircraft model, making 48 gallons the most accurate and relevant option for pilots and operators to consider during their preparations and operations.

10. What is the primary reason for wearing a seatbelt while flying?

- A. To prevent weight shift**
- B. For safety during turbulence and emergency situations**
- C. To comply with legal requirements**
- D. To maintain comfort during the flight**

Wearing a seatbelt while flying is primarily for safety during turbulence and emergency situations. Seatbelts are designed to keep occupants securely in their seats, which is crucial in turbulent conditions where sudden jolts can occur. In the event of unexpected movements, a properly fastened seatbelt can prevent injury by restraining the occupant and keeping them from being thrown around the cabin. Additionally, in emergency situations, such as a forced landing or sudden maneuvers necessary to avoid obstacles, a seatbelt can significantly reduce the risk of serious injury by ensuring that the pilot and any passengers remain securely seated. The effectiveness of a seatbelt is well-documented in aviation safety protocols, underscoring its importance even in light aircraft or during short flights. While compliance with legal requirements and ensuring comfort are also considerations, the paramount concern in aviation remains the safety of everyone on board.

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://acsairman.examzify.com>

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

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