ADCI Dive Supervisor Certification Practice Exam (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

1. Which person is primarily responsible for the safe handling of the diver's umbilical during a surface-supplied dive?

A. The diver

B. The tender

C. The supervisor

D. The safety officer

2. How should electrical hazards be controlled on a diving job site?

A. Lockout/Tagout, isolation of power, use intrinsically safe equipment, bonding/grounding, and follow permit-to-work requirements.

B. Leave electrical systems on for emergency use.

C. Use non-insulated tools near water.

D. Rely on PPE alone.

3. What is the purpose of a helmet purge?

A. Increase air supply

B. Clear water and stale air from the helmet

C. Filter contaminants

D. Ventilate the suit

4. In decompression risk management, which action is included?

A. Plan decompression stops, use appropriate breathing gas, and maintain controlled ascents.

B. Lift all decompression requirements

C. Increase ascent rate

D. Skip gas planning to save time

5. How should a Dive Supervisor ensure proper documentation after a dive?

A. Complete dive log, incident report if needed, sign off the PTD; archive records

B. Sign off the PTD only, without other records

C. Archive only dive plans

D. Submit a daily email report

6. Who should certify that diving equipment inspections meet ADCI requirements?

A. Competent persons should certify; maintain records.

B. Any crew member can certify.

C. Manufacturers' sales reps certify.

D. No certification needed.

7. Which weather and sea-state conditions would typically justify canceling or postponing a dive?

A. Conditions exceeding site-approved limits: high waves, strong currents, poor visibility, lightning, or forecasted bad weather that exceeds plan.

B. Any weather is fine if the dive plan is robust.

C. Gentle seas but high temperature is disqualifying.

D. Only lightning during night dives.

8. A dive operation should have a plan to ensure safety and compliance.

A. No

B. Depends on the client's requirements

C. Yes

D. Only for commercial dives

9. Why are dive plans required?

A. To reduce costs

B. To train the crew

C. To speed up operations

D. To ensure safety organization and compliance

10. What should be the outcome when a near-miss is investigated in the ADCI Dive Program?

A. Risk controls are updated and communicated; safety is maintained.

B. The incident is ignored

C. Only the diver involved should know

D. No changes to procedures

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Which person is primarily responsible for the safe handling of the diver's umbilical during a surface-supplied dive?

A. The diver

B. The tender

C. The supervisor

D. The safety officer

The tender is the person at the surface who physically manages the diver's umbilical. Their job is to guide the line, control slack and tension, and keep the umbilical clear of obstacles and snag risks as the diver moves in and out of the water. This hands-on responsibility ensures the diver can breathe, communicate, and receive any line-related assistance quickly, which is essential for safe ascent, descent, and emergency response. The diver relies on signals and operates underwater, while the supervisor oversees the operation and safety plan, and the safety officer ensures compliance and risk controls. But the actual safe handling of the umbilical during the dive falls to the tender, making them the primary person for this task.

2. How should electrical hazards be controlled on a diving job site?

A. Lockout/Tagout, isolation of power, use intrinsically safe equipment, bonding/grounding, and follow permit-to-work requirements.

B. Leave electrical systems on for emergency use.

C. Use non-insulated tools near water.

D. Rely on PPE alone.

Controlling electrical hazards on a diving job site relies on a layered approach that minimizes exposure to energized systems and fault currents. Lockout/Tagout and isolation of power physically prevent energization, ensuring circuits and equipment cannot be operated while work is being done. Using intrinsically safe equipment reduces risk by design, so equipment is unlikely to ignite or deliver dangerous energy in wet or hazardous environments. Bonding and grounding provide a safe fault path and stabilize potentials, decreasing the chance of electric shock if a fault occurs. Following permit-to-work requirements adds formal oversight, ensuring hazard assessment, approved procedures, and supervision for electrical tasks in challenging conditions. Relying on leaving systems energized for emergencies, using non-insulated tools near water, or relying on PPE alone do not adequately control the risk in a diving setting, as they either fail to prevent energy, can create dangerous conditions around water, or do not address the root cause of electrical hazards.

3. What is the purpose of a helmet purge?

A. Increase air supply

B. Clear water and stale air from the helmet

C. Filter contaminants

D. Ventilate the suit

The helmet purge is used to clear water and stale air from the helmet. When fresh air from the surface supply fills the helmet, any water that has seeped in and the breath that's been inside can accumulate. Opening the purge valve lets that water and the spent air escape, while the continuing air flow pushes out contaminants and moisture. This keeps the breathing space inside the helmet breathable, improves visibility, and prevents a buildup of uncomfortable or unsafe conditions. It's not about increasing overall air supply, filtering contaminants, or ventilating the suit—the purge specifically handles removing water and stale air from the helmet.

4. In decompression risk management, which action is included?

A. Plan decompression stops, use appropriate breathing gas, and maintain controlled ascents.

B. Lift all decompression requirements

C. Increase ascent rate

D. Skip gas planning to save time

Decompression risk management relies on giving your body time to offgas inert nitrogen as you ascend, which is achieved by three integrated actions: planning and executing decompression stops, using an appropriate breathing gas for the dive profile, and maintaining a slow, controlled ascent. Decompression stops provide scheduled pauses where offgassing can occur at safe depths, preventing rapid bubble formation. Choosing the right breathing gas ensures you stay within safe oxygen and inert gas partial pressures throughout the climb and deco phases, enabling effective offloading without oxygen toxicity or hypoxia. A controlled ascent rate prevents sudden pressure changes that could drive bubble growth and worsen decompression sickness risk. Skipping gas planning, ignoring decompression requirements, or ascending too quickly disrupts these safeguards and markedly increases the chance of decompression injuries.

5. How should a Dive Supervisor ensure proper documentation after a dive?

A. Complete dive log, incident report if needed, sign off the PTD; archive records

B. Sign off the PTD only, without other records

C. Archive only dive plans

D. Submit a daily email report

After a dive, the key step is to formally close the operation with official authorization. The Permit to Dive is the formal record that the dive occurred under the approved plan, safety checks were satisfied, and any conditions were addressed. By signing off the PTD, the Dive Supervisor creates an auditable, authoritative closure of the dive, establishing accountability and a clear record that the dive is complete. Other records, such as a dive log or incident report, may be required in response to specific events, and archiving records is part of overall recordkeeping, but the essential immediate action to finalize documentation is the PTD sign-off.

6. Who should certify that diving equipment inspections meet ADCI requirements?

A. Competent persons should certify; maintain records.

B. Any crew member can certify.

C. Manufacturers' sales reps certify.

D. No certification needed.

The important point is that a competent person—someone with the proper training, experience, and authority to judge equipment condition—must certify that diving equipment inspections meet ADCI requirements. This person is responsible for evaluating the gear, confirming it complies with the standards, and signing off on the inspection. Keeping written records of these inspections is essential for accountability, traceability, and compliance, and it helps during audits or safety reviews. Why the other options don't fit: casual crew members typically lack the training to assess equipment safety to ADCI standards, so their certification wouldn't be reliable. Manufacturers' sales reps aren't the designated independent verifier for field inspections and may have conflicts of interest. And skipping certification entirely would leave safety documentation incomplete and could violate safety and regulatory expectations.

7. Which weather and sea-state conditions would typically justify canceling or postponing a dive?

A. Conditions exceeding site-approved limits: high waves, strong currents, poor visibility, lightning, or forecasted bad weather that exceeds plan.

B. Any weather is fine if the dive plan is robust.

C. Gentle seas but high temperature is disqualifying.

D. Only lightning during night dives.

Diving safely depends on keeping weather and sea-state within the site's approved limits. When conditions exceed those limits—high waves, strong currents, poor visibility, lightning, or forecasted bad weather—the hazards become unacceptable and the prudent action is to cancel or postpone. A dive plan can't remove these physical dangers, and certain factors like heat alone don't automatically justify cancellation. Lightning is a serious risk at any time, but the key decision is whether the overall conditions exceed the established safety limits for the site.

8. A dive operation should have a plan to ensure safety and compliance.

A. No

B. Depends on the client's requirements

C. Yes

D. Only for commercial dives

A written plan for safety and compliance is essential in any dive operation. It sets up a systematic approach to identify hazards, assess risk, and apply consistent procedures, roles, and communications to keep everyone safe. The plan covers pre-dive checks, equipment and gas management, site and environmental assessment, and clear emergency actions, including rescue and medical procedures and how incidents are reported and reviewed. It also ensures adherence to relevant laws, standards, and regulatory requirements, providing a framework for training, qualifications, and surface support. Dive operations face inherent risks—from equipment failures to changing conditions and medical emergencies—so having a documented plan is necessary across all types of dives and client scenarios, not something optional or limited to a particular situation.

9. Why are dive plans required?

A. To reduce costs

B. To train the crew

C. To speed up operations

D. To ensure safety organization and compliance

Dive plans are required to maintain safety, organization, and regulatory compliance. By laying out the what, how, where, and when of a dive, the plan defines objectives, site conditions, identified hazards, and the specific procedures to be followed. It details depth targets, bottom time, gas plans, decompression requirements, and contingencies, so the team knows exactly how to operate and what to do if something goes wrong. A dive plan also assigns roles and responsibilities, establishes the communication and surface support arrangements, and describes emergency procedures and rescue steps. This creates a coordinated, predictable routine for both underwater and surface teams, which is crucial when conditions change or an incident occurs. The plan serves as a documented record for safety review, training, and regulatory or employer compliance, ensuring that the operation meets required standards and that every team member understands how risk is being controlled. While planning can indirectly improve efficiency or training, the primary purpose is to safeguard people and the operation by providing a clear, approved framework for how the dive will be conducted and how to respond to emergencies.

10. What should be the outcome when a near-miss is investigated in the ADCI Dive Program?

A. Risk controls are updated and communicated; safety is maintained.

B. The incident is ignored

C. Only the diver involved should know

D. No changes to procedures

In safety practice, near-miss investigations aim to identify underlying causes and put preventive actions in place so the same situation doesn't recur. The best outcome is to update risk controls based on what's learned and to communicate these changes to the entire team, ensuring everyone understands new procedures, additional checks, or training requirements. This keeps the operation safer by reducing the likelihood of a repeat event and fostering a proactive safety culture. Ignoring the incident misses learning opportunities and leaves hazards unaddressed. Keeping the information confined to the diver prevents others from benefiting from the lessons learned, weakening overall safety. No changes to procedures mean the root causes aren't addressed, so the same risks persist.

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://adcidivesupervisor.examzify.com

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