

Airman Leadership School (ALS) 26-C 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. Which of the following is a technique to improve active listening?**
 - A. Interrupting to confirm a point.**
 - B. Taking notes without feedback.**
 - C. Paraphrasing what the speaker said.**
 - D. Relying on memory instead of checking details.**

- 2. In JADO, what does the descriptor 'All' represent?**
 - A. Joint forces only**
 - B. Everybody**
 - C. International partners only**
 - D. Civilian agencies only**

- 3. Who sits at the Strategic Level?**
 - A. JCS (Joint Chiefs of Staff)**
 - B. The President**
 - C. The Secretary of Defense**
 - D. A Combatant Commander**

- 4. Which is not listed as an element of the Oath of Enlistment?**
 - A. Support the Constitution**
 - B. Remain Faithful / Loyal**
 - C. Within the US and Outside**
 - D. Respect**

- 5. What is an effective cadence for giving performance feedback and why?**
 - A. Annual feedback only.**
 - B. Regular, timely feedback close to observed behavior, not just annual; increases relevance and improvement likelihood.**
 - C. Feedback only when a problem occurs.**
 - D. Feedback after the next quarterly review.**

- 6. What is a basic principle of change management for leaders facing transition?**
- A. Maintain the status quo and avoid changes.**
 - B. Involve stakeholders early and communicate reasons, impacts, and benefits clearly.**
 - C. Implement changes secretly without feedback.**
 - D. Delay communication until plans are finalized.**
- 7. The Air Operation Center supports what capability?**
- A. Multiple missions at the same time**
 - B. Single mission at a time**
 - C. Only strategic missions**
 - D. Maintenance operations only**
- 8. What role does the chain of command play in decision making and communication within a squadron?**
- A. It defines authority, responsibility, and flow of information to ensure decisions go through proper channels.**
 - B. It determines technical specifications.**
 - C. It replaces all informal channels.**
 - D. It is irrelevant to communication.**
- 9. In risk management, what is a hazard assessment and how are likelihood and severity used?**
- A. Hazard assessment fixes all hazards automatically.**
 - B. Hazard assessment identifies potential sources of harm; likelihood and severity are evaluated to prioritize controls and resources.**
 - C. Hazard assessment analyzes past events without predicting future harm.**
 - D. Hazard assessment measures only financial risk.**
- 10. Which position was strengthened as the principal military advisor by Goldwater-Nichols?**
- A. The Secretary of Defense**
 - B. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff**
 - C. National Security Advisor**
 - D. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following is a technique to improve active listening?

- A. Interrupting to confirm a point.**
- B. Taking notes without feedback.**
- C. Paraphrasing what the speaker said.**
- D. Relying on memory instead of checking details.**

Paraphrasing what the speaker said—rephrasing their message in your own words and then checking if you understood it correctly—directly strengthens active listening. It confirms understanding, clarifies meaning, and shows you’re paying attention, which invites the speaker to correct anything misinterpreted and keeps both of you on the same page. Interrupting to confirm a point breaks the speaker’s flow and makes it harder to grasp the full message. Taking notes without feedback captures information but not whether you understood it, so gaps can remain. Relying on memory instead of checking details risks forgetting or misremembering what was said. Paraphrasing creates a live feedback loop that improves accuracy and engagement.

2. In JADO, what does the descriptor 'All' represent?

- A. Joint forces only**
- B. Everybody**
- C. International partners only**
- D. Civilian agencies only**

In JADO, the descriptor All means inclusion of every participant involved in the operation. It signals that no group is excluded—joint forces, international partners, and civilian agencies all are part of the plan and the communications network. That’s why “Everybody” is the best interpretation: it captures total inclusion across military, partner nations, and civilian entities. This broad scope helps ensure coordinated action and information sharing across all participants rather than operating in isolated groups. Limiting to just one category would miss other essential participants, which is exactly what All avoids.

3. Who sits at the Strategic Level?

- A. JCS (Joint Chiefs of Staff)**
- B. The President**
- C. The Secretary of Defense**
- D. A Combatant Commander**

Strategic level focuses on long-range policy, planning, and overall direction of the armed forces. The Joint Chiefs of Staff are the senior uniformed leaders who synthesize input from the services, shape military strategy, and advise the President and the Secretary of Defense. They sit at this level to translate political aims into military plans and to allocate resources across the force, coordinating with combatant commanders to ensure unity of effort. While the President and the Secretary of Defense set and authorize policy at the national level and Combatant Commanders execute operations within that framework, the military body that provides the strategic voice is the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

4. Which is not listed as an element of the Oath of Enlistment?

- A. Support the Constitution**
- B. Remain Faithful / Loyal**
- C. Within the US and Outside**
- D. Respect**

The Oath of Enlistment centers on pledging to defend the Constitution, stay loyal, and follow orders. Those commitments are explicit parts of the oath: you agree to support the Constitution, bear true faith and allegiance, and obey the orders of the President and officers. A stand-alone commitment to “Respect” isn’t part of that formal pledge, so it isn’t listed as an element of the oath. The other options map more directly to the oath’s stated duties, while the phrasing about location isn’t an official element either.

5. What is an effective cadence for giving performance feedback and why?

- A. Annual feedback only.**
- B. Regular, timely feedback close to observed behavior, not just annual; increases relevance and improvement likelihood.**
- C. Feedback only when a problem occurs.**
- D. Feedback after the next quarterly review.**

Giving feedback regularly and soon after you observe the behavior keeps it relevant and actionable. When feedback is timely, the details are fresh, mistakes or successes are clearly linked to what was done, and the person can adjust right away, increasing the chance of real improvement. If feedback only comes once a year or only after a problem surfaces, important details fade, opportunities to reinforce good habits are missed, and corrective actions are delayed. A steady cadence—brief, specific, and tied to observed performance—helps set clear expectations, reinforces what good performance looks like, and supports ongoing development. This approach also builds trust and keeps development moving forward rather than waiting for the next formal review.

6. What is a basic principle of change management for leaders facing transition?

- A. Maintain the status quo and avoid changes.**
- B. Involve stakeholders early and communicate reasons, impacts, and benefits clearly.**
- C. Implement changes secretly without feedback.**
- D. Delay communication until plans are finalized.**

Engaging stakeholders early and clearly explaining why the change is happening, how it will affect people, and the expected benefits sets the stage for a smooth transition. When leaders bring those who will be affected into the conversation from the start, they can surface concerns, gather useful input, and shape the plan with real-world insights. This early involvement builds trust, reduces uncertainty, and creates a sense of ownership, so teams are more likely to commit to and sustain the change. Clear articulation of the reasons, the personal and team impacts, and the benefits helps everyone see value, stay aligned, and work through challenges together. Maintaining the status quo avoids necessary progress and leaves people unprepared for evolving demands. Implementing changes secretly without feedback damages trust and leaves others blindsided, fostering resistance. Delaying communication until plans are finalized invites rumors and uncertainty, making it harder to gain support and adapt the plan effectively.

7. The Air Operation Center supports what capability?

- A. Multiple missions at the same time**
- B. Single mission at a time**
- C. Only strategic missions**
- D. Maintenance operations only**

The Air Operations Center is built to coordinate and execute more than one mission at the same time. It acts as the central hub for planning, directing, and assessing air operations, bringing together assets from fighters, bombers, ISR, air mobility, and support units across different theaters. By consolidating intelligence, plans, and execution in one place, the AOC can assign resources to multiple tasks simultaneously and adjust as the situation evolves, giving joint commanders a coherent, integrated picture. This isn't limited to a single mission, nor restricted to strategic tasks alone, and it isn't about maintenance operations. The strength lies in managing several missions in parallel to maximize airpower effectiveness.

8. What role does the chain of command play in decision making and communication within a squadron?

- A. It defines authority, responsibility, and flow of information to ensure decisions go through proper channels.**
- B. It determines technical specifications.**
- C. It replaces all informal channels.**
- D. It is irrelevant to communication.**

Authority, responsibility, and the flow of information are defined by the chain of command, guiding how decisions are made and how messages move through a squadron. With this structure, the right person has the authority to decide, the right people know what they must do, and information travels along a clear path from the level that identifies a need or issue to the level that approves a course of action and then down to those who will execute it. This creates accountability, reduces confusion, and helps responses stay organized and timely, especially in fast-moving or high-pressure situations. It also prevents important messages from getting lost or bypassed, because everyone knows who needs to receive updates and who must grant authorization. Technical specifications and other details outside leadership authority are typically handled by specialists, so the chain of command isn't about who designs or dictates every technical point. And while informal channels exist, they don't replace the formal structure; they supplement it for speed or camaraderie, but important decisions and official communications still follow the proper channels to maintain consistency and control.

9. In risk management, what is a hazard assessment and how are likelihood and severity used?

- A. Hazard assessment fixes all hazards automatically.**
- B. Hazard assessment identifies potential sources of harm; likelihood and severity are evaluated to prioritize controls and resources.**
- C. Hazard assessment analyzes past events without predicting future harm.**
- D. Hazard assessment measures only financial risk.**

A hazard assessment starts with identifying things or conditions that could cause harm and then evaluating how likely they are to cause harm and how severe the consequences could be. By measuring both likelihood and severity, you create a risk picture that helps you decide where to focus controls and resources. If a hazard could happen often and would lead to serious injury, it's a high-priority risk and should drive the most effective controls and resources. If a hazard is unlikely or would cause only minor harm, it requires less urgent action. In practice, you identify the hazards, rate the probability of occurrence, and estimate the potential impact. Those two factors combine to determine the risk level, guiding which controls to implement first—prefer engineering or design changes, then administrative measures, and finally protective equipment. For example, a floor that stays slick after cleaning (high likelihood) and could cause a severe fall (high severity) demands quick corrective action, whereas a rare, minor nuisance would be lower priority.

10. Which position was strengthened as the principal military advisor by Goldwater-Nichols?

- A. The Secretary of Defense**
- B. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff**
- C. National Security Advisor**
- D. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff**

Goldwater-Nichols Act strengthened the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as the principal military advisor to the President and to the Secretary of Defense. This change made the Chairman the key conduit for military options and advice, ensuring a unified military approach and clearer command relationships across the services. The National Security Advisor is a White House staff role not focused on military advice, and the Secretary of Defense, while the civilian head of the department, is not the primary military adviser. So the position that was strengthened is the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

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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://als26c.examzify.com>

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

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