

Airman Leadership School Set C (ALS-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. What does COA Comparison involve?**
 - A. Drafting new military strategies from scratch.**
 - B. Publishing final orders without analysis.**
 - C. The selected courses of action refined, prioritized, and further analyzed.**
 - D. Immediate deployment of forces.**

- 2. Which chain of command runs from the President, through the Secretary of Defense, to the Combatant Commanders?**
 - A. Operational Chain of Command**
 - B. Administrative Chain of Command**
 - C. Strategic Chain of Command**
 - D. Joint Command Chain**

- 3. Which step involves staff briefs the commander on the COA comparison and the analysis and wargaming results?**
 - A. COA Development**
 - B. COA Approval**
 - C. COA Comparison**
 - D. Mission Analysis**

- 4. Which term involves deploying armed forces for defense, humanitarian missions, or peacekeeping operations?**
 - A. Military**
 - B. Economic**
 - C. Diplomatic**
 - D. Information**

- 5. Which level describes the process of turning national policy decisions into the development and promulgation of national, defense, and military strategies?**
 - A. Operational**
 - B. Strategic**
 - C. Tactical**
 - D. Administrative**

- 6. Who is a Stakeholder in the context of actions by the U.S. military?**
- A. a person, organization, or entity who affects or can be affected by actions of U.S military, not necessarily sharing goals with the USG or DOD**
 - B. a subordinate commander responsible for implementing orders**
 - C. a civilian contractor with no interest in military outcomes**
 - D. a military unit operating under direct command of the Joint Chiefs of Staff**
- 7. Unity Of Effort is best described as what in joint actions?**
- A. coordination and cooperation toward common objectives, even if participants are not of the same command organization (product of unified action)**
 - B. unified command under a single service hierarchy**
 - C. a one-time coordination plan among allies**
 - D. a ceremonial alignment of services during joint exercises**
- 8. What does JADO stand for?**
- A. Joint Adaptive Deployment Office**
 - B. Joint All Domain Operations**
 - C. Joint Allied Domain Operations**
 - D. Joint Air Defense Operations**
- 9. Which term refers to developing and evaluating potential courses of action?**
- A. COA Development**
 - B. Mission Analysis**
 - C. Planning Initiation**
 - D. COA Approval**
- 10. Which statement best defines Commander's Intent?**
- A. A lengthy tactical directive**
 - B. A schedule for daily tasks**
 - C. A verification checklist**
 - D. A concise statement of the operation's purpose and end state**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What does COA Comparison involve?

- A. Drafting new military strategies from scratch.
- B. Publishing final orders without analysis.
- C. The selected courses of action refined, prioritized, and further analyzed.**
- D. Immediate deployment of forces.

COA Comparison is the phase where you evaluate each feasible course of action against established criteria and the results of wargaming or analysis, so you can discriminate among options and identify the best path forward. The emphasis is on refining the top contenders, prioritizing them, and doing any needed deeper analysis to resolve uncertainties and expose risks. So you take the selected COAs, tighten assumptions, fill gaps, and compare them to see which option best meets the mission objectives while staying feasible and acceptable. That is exactly what the statement about refining, prioritizing, and further analyzing the chosen COAs describes. Drafting new strategies from scratch, publishing final orders without analysis, or deploying forces immediately skip or ignore this evaluative step.

2. Which chain of command runs from the President, through the Secretary of Defense, to the Combatant Commanders?

- A. Operational Chain of Command**
- B. Administrative Chain of Command
- C. Strategic Chain of Command
- D. Joint Command Chain

The essential idea here is how authority for carrying out military missions flows from civilian leadership to the field. The chain that runs from the President to the Secretary of Defense and then to the Combatant Commanders is the operational chain of command. It gives those commanders the authority to exercise command and control over forces in planning and conducting operations, directing how units maneuver, engage, and deploy in the field under day-to-day mission execution. Administrative matters like personnel, logistics, and support fall under a separate administrative line, which handles the non-operational side of keeping forces ready but does not authorize or direct battlefield actions. The other terms aren't used to describe this direct line of command for operations, so they don't fit as the formal path from the top civilian leaders to the field commanders.

3. Which step involves staff briefs the commander on the COA comparison and the analysis and wargaming results?

- A. COA Development**
- B. COA Approval**
- C. COA Comparison**
- D. Mission Analysis**

In planning, after the staff finishes analyzing and wargaming COAs and having them compared, the commander is briefed with the results to gain authorization to proceed. This briefing happens at the COA Approval step, when the commander reviews the COA comparison and the analysis to decide which course of action to adopt. The other steps are earlier or different: COA Development is about creating potential COAs; COA Comparison is the process of weighing them against criteria; Mission Analysis is the initial phase that defines the problem and constraints.

4. Which term involves deploying armed forces for defense, humanitarian missions, or peacekeeping operations?

- A. Military**
- B. Economic**
- C. Diplomatic**
- D. Information**

The main concept here is identifying the term that covers deploying armed forces for defense, humanitarian missions, or peacekeeping. The military is the organized national force responsible for defending the country and carrying out operations that can include disaster relief and peacekeeping under national or international mandates. In contrast, economic relates to money, trade, and resources; diplomatic focuses on managing relations and negotiations; and information covers messaging, intelligence, or information operations. Therefore, the term that fits these activities is the military.

5. Which level describes the process of turning national policy decisions into the development and promulgation of national, defense, and military strategies?

- A. Operational**
- B. Strategic**
- C. Tactical**
- D. Administrative**

Translating broad national policy decisions into the development and promulgation of national, defense, and military strategies happens at the strategic level. This level sets long-range aims, decides what forces and capabilities are needed, and determines how resources are organized to meet national security objectives. It focuses on direction and policy implementation for the entire armed forces, rather than on executing specific battles or campaigns. The operational level takes those strategies and turns them into campaigns and major operations, while the tactical level handles the specifics of battles and engagements. Administrative concerns cover day-to-day management and support. So the process described is the strategic level.

6. Who is a Stakeholder in the context of actions by the U.S. military?

- A. a person, organization, or entity who affects or can be affected by actions of U.S military, not necessarily sharing goals with the USG or DOD**
- B. a subordinate commander responsible for implementing orders**
- C. a civilian contractor with no interest in military outcomes**
- D. a military unit operating under direct command of the Joint Chiefs of Staff**

Stakeholders are anyone who can be affected by or can influence the actions of the U.S. military. This includes civilians in conflict zones, local and host-nation governments, partner nations, international organizations, NGOs, the media, and even private companies with interests tied to the outcome. The important part is that they may not share the U.S. government's goals, yet their well-being, opinions, or actions can shape how operations are planned, conducted, and received. Recognizing stakeholders helps ensure legitimacy, reduce harm, and anticipate reactions that could affect mission success or post-conflict stability. The other descriptions describe roles within the military or scenarios with minimal external impact. A subordinate commander is part of the chain of command and tasked with carrying out orders, not an external actor affected by or shaping the action. A civilian contractor with no interest in military outcomes is not realistic, since contractors generally have financial or operational stakes connected to outcomes. A military unit under direct command of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is an internal asset, not an external party whose actions and interests define the stakes of the operation.

7. Unity Of Effort is best described as what in joint actions?

- A. coordination and cooperation toward common objectives, even if participants are not of the same command organization (product of unified action)**
- B. unified command under a single service hierarchy**
- C. a one-time coordination plan among allies**
- D. a ceremonial alignment of services during joint exercises**

Unity of effort means different forces or organizations work together toward the same goal, even if they come from different commands or services. It rests on a shared purpose and synchronized actions—the product of unified action. In practice, air, land, sea, and allied partners plan, execute, and adjust operations together toward a collective objective, coordinating to avoid duplication and gaps rather than trying to command everything through one hierarchy. It requires open communication, information sharing, and mutual support to align diverse players toward a common objective. This differs from relying on a single service's command structure, which would impose one chain of command rather than true joint collaboration. It also isn't just a one-time plan or a ceremonial alignment; unity of effort is about ongoing, integrated action across organizations toward a common mission.

8. What does JADO stand for?

- A. Joint Adaptive Deployment Office
- B. Joint All Domain Operations**
- C. Joint Allied Domain Operations
- D. Joint Air Defense Operations

JADO stands for Joint All Domain Operations. The key idea here is a unified, services-spanning approach to warfare that uses every environment where we can project power—air, land, sea, space, cyberspace, and the information/cognitive space—working together as one joint force. The word Joint emphasizes collaboration across the military services, not a single service. All Domain signals that we're coordinating effects across every possible domain, creating synchronized actions that complicate the adversary's decision-making and exploit opportunities more quickly than an isolated, single-domain effort. Think of it as weaving capabilities from air power, sea control, land maneuver, space operations, cyber operations, and influence/disinformation work into a single, rapid, integrated campaign rather than treating each domain in isolation. The other options miss that breadth or imply something narrower. An Adaptive Deployment Office would imply a logistics or bureaucratic group rather than a cross-domain warfare concept. Allied Domain Operations would suggest a focus on domains used by allied partners rather than all domains. Air Defense Operations centers on protecting against air threats alone, which is far narrower than the all-domain scope JADO represents.

9. Which term refers to developing and evaluating potential courses of action?

- A. COA Development**
- B. Mission Analysis
- C. Planning Initiation
- D. COA Approval

COA Development is the phase where planners create multiple potential actions and screen them against criteria to decide which deserve deeper analysis. After Mission Analysis defines the problem and constraints, a range of courses of action are brainstormed, and each COA is evaluated for feasibility, suitability, acceptability, and risk. This combination of generating options and performing initial evaluation is what this term captures. The other steps refer to different parts of the process: Mission Analysis focuses on understanding the mission and situation; Planning Initiation is about starting the planning effort; COA Approval is the decision to authorize the chosen COA for execution. So, developing and evaluating potential courses of action aligns with COA Development.

10. Which statement best defines Commander's Intent?

- A. A lengthy tactical directive**
- B. A schedule for daily tasks**
- C. A verification checklist**
- D. A concise statement of the operation's purpose and end state**

Commander's Intent is a concise statement of the operation's purpose and the end state, designed to guide actions even when plans change. It communicates why the mission matters and what success looks like, so subordinates can exercise initiative and adapt while still aligning with the overall goal. This differs from a lengthy tactical directive, which would spell out exact steps; a schedule for daily tasks, which focuses on timing and activities; or a verification checklist, which is about confirming completion. In practice, grasping the purpose and the desired end state helps leaders make decisions on the fly that support the mission even when details shift.

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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://alsc.examzify.com>

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

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