

# ALS Military Studies 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. National Security is best described as?**
  - A. The government's economic policy**
  - B. The nation's shield to protect from external threats and provide political and economic stability**
  - C. A domestic law enforcement plan**
  - D. A diplomatic strategy limited to trade**
  
- 2. Who designates a Combatant Command?**
  - A. The President through the Secretary of Defense with the advice and assistance of the CJCS**
  - B. Congress**
  - C. The National Security Council**
  - D. The Secretary of Defense alone**
  
- 3. The Joint Chiefs of Staff provide military advice through which channel?**
  - A. Directly to Combatant Commanders**
  - B. Direct to the President, the Secretary of Defense, or the NSC through the Chairman**
  - C. Only to Congress**
  - D. Only to the White House staff**
  
- 4. What does A2 stand for?**
  - A. Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR)**
  - B. Manpower, Personnel, and Services**
  - C. Air, Space & Information Operations**
  - D. Logistics**
  
- 5. How many enablers are listed for ACE?**
  - A. Two**
  - B. Three**
  - C. Four**
  - D. Five**

- 6. Which of the following is NOT a JADO principle?**
- A. Mission Command through centralized command, distributed control, and decentralized execution through MTO when appropriate**
  - B. Delegation of authority to lower echelons and to other component and Service leaders as required**
  - C. Information sharing**
  - D. Centralized budgeting and resource hoarding**
- 7. What does JADO do?**
- A. Separate planning by domain**
  - B. Actions by the joint force in multiple domains integrated in planning and synchronized in execution, at speed and scale needed to gain advantage and accomplish the mission.**
  - C. Focus only on air operations**
  - D. Rely solely on a single service**
- 8. Which command is responsible for planning and conducting military operations across the full spectrum of operations in the Indo-Pacific region?**
- A. US INDOPACOM**
  - B. US SOUTHCOM**
  - C. US AFRICOM**
  - D. US STRATCOM**
- 9. ACE is designed to increase resiliency and survivability while generating what?**
- A. Combat power**
  - B. Economic advantage**
  - C. Diplomatic leverage**
  - D. Public support**

**10. Which statement best describes the Functions of the Joint Chiefs of Staff?**

- A. They command all combat operations directly on the battlefield**
- B. They are military advisers who may respond to requests or voluntarily submit advice to the President, the Secretary of Defense, or the NSC**
- C. They draft international treaties**
- D. They operate as independent authorities with no oversight**

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## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. National Security is best described as?

- A. The government's economic policy
- B. The nation's shield to protect from external threats and provide political and economic stability**
- C. A domestic law enforcement plan
- D. A diplomatic strategy limited to trade

National security is about protecting a country from external threats while ensuring the government can maintain political and economic stability for its people. It isn't limited to military power; it includes deterrence and defense, intelligence, diplomacy, and the resilience of critical systems like infrastructure, energy, and communications. In practice, this means preparing to deter aggression, defend territory, manage crises, build alliances, and sustain the conditions that allow the state to function and citizens to live safely. That broader, protective role is why this description fits best. A focus only on economic policy misses the external threat and stability aspects; domestic law enforcement concentrates on internal crime rather than safeguarding the nation from outside danger; and a diplomatic strategy limited to trade leaves out defense, security coordination, and resilience that also matter for national security.

## 2. Who designates a Combatant Command?

- A. The President through the Secretary of Defense with the advice and assistance of the CJCS**
- B. Congress
- C. The National Security Council
- D. The Secretary of Defense alone

Designating a Combatant Command is a presidential responsibility carried out through the Secretary of Defense, with the advice and assistance of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The President, as Commander in Chief, has the authority to organize, train, and assign forces, and the Secretary of Defense implements that direction. The CJCS contributes by providing military advice, options, and assessments to inform the designation decision. Congress does not designate CCMDs, and while the National Security Council helps with policy coordination, it does not authorize or designate combatant commands. This structure ensures civilian control of the military while leveraging the Secretary of Defense's and the CJCS's expertise in shaping how unified commands are organized and commanded.

**3. The Joint Chiefs of Staff provide military advice through which channel?**

**A. Directly to Combatant Commanders**

**B. Direct to the President, the Secretary of Defense, or the NSC through the Chairman**

**C. Only to Congress**

**D. Only to the White House staff**

The main idea here is how military advice from the Joint Chiefs of Staff is formally channeled to civilian leaders. The Joint Chiefs provide their input through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who serves as the principal military advisor to the President, the Secretary of Defense, and the National Security Council. This arrangement is grounded in law and reinforced by policy, ensuring a single, clear line of military advice to those top civilian authorities. The Chairman reviews the Joint Chiefs' recommendations and then communicates them directly to the President, the Secretary of Defense, or the NSC. This central channel keeps civilian oversight intact and avoids sending formal advice straight to Combatant Commanders, Congress, or White House staff.

**4. What does A2 stand for?**

**A. Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR)**

**B. Manpower, Personnel, and Services**

**C. Air, Space & Information Operations**

**D. Logistics**

A2 designates the intelligence directorate on a military staff, and its focus is Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance. This cell plans and directs intelligence activities, manages collection assets (like sensors and reconnaissance platforms), analyzes the gathered information, and delivers timely ISR products to commanders to inform decisions and operations. It coordinates closely with other staff sections to ensure intelligence needs are understood and met, supporting target development, threat assessments, and security. The other domains listed map to different staff functions—personnel and support, logistics, or broader information/operational areas—not the intelligence cell represented by A2. So when you see A2, think ISR: the ongoing cycle of collecting, analyzing, and sharing intelligence to shape and support mission execution.

**5. How many enablers are listed for ACE?**

**A. Two**

**B. Three**

**C. Four**

**D. Five**

Enablers are the conditions that let ACE function, the supporting areas that must be in place beyond the core activities. In the ACE framework used here, three distinct enabler elements are listed. Because each enabler is counted as a separate element and the material names exactly three, the total is three. This is why the count aligns with the source—the model explicitly enumerates three enablers. If another reference shows a different number, it reflects a different framework, but for this item the count is three.

**6. Which of the following is NOT a JADO principle?**

- A. Mission Command through centralized command, distributed control, and decentralized execution through MTO when appropriate**
- B. Delegation of authority to lower echelons and to other component and Service leaders as required**
- C. Information sharing**
- D. Centralized budgeting and resource hoarding**

Joint All-Domain Operations rely on guiding intent from the top, while allowing lower echelons and other services to act with autonomy and speed. Centralized direction sets priorities, but control is distributed and execution is decentralized through mechanisms like Mission Type Orders when appropriate. Information is shared across the force to keep everyone aligned and to enable synchronized action across domains. This balance is what makes the approach effective. Information sharing, delegation of authority, and the ability for units to maneuver under that shared intent all fit neatly with JADO principles. Centralized budgeting and resource hoarding, however, run counter to this mindset. Hoarding resources at higher levels slows decision-making, limits cross-domain flexibility, and undermines the rapid, collaborative execution that JADO aims to achieve.

**7. What does JADO do?**

- A. Separate planning by domain**
- B. Actions by the joint force in multiple domains integrated in planning and synchronized in execution, at speed and scale needed to gain advantage and accomplish the mission.**
- C. Focus only on air operations**
- D. Rely solely on a single service**

Joint All-Domain Operations coordinates the joint force across multiple domains—such as land, sea, air, space, cyber, and information—so planning and execution are integrated and synchronized. The emphasis is on acting at the speed and scale required to gain an advantage and accomplish the mission, rather than operating domain by domain or service by service. This approach breaks down silos, enabling shared awareness, cross-domain targeting, and coordinated fires and effects from a unified command and control system. It isn't limited to one domain (like air) and isn't done by a single service alone; it uses all available capabilities across the forces to create a stronger, cohesive effect.

**8. Which command is responsible for planning and conducting military operations across the full spectrum of operations in the Indo-Pacific region?**

- A. US INDOPACOM**
- B. US SOUTHCOM**
- C. US AFRICOM**
- D. US STRATCOM**

Understanding who plans and conducts operations across the full spectrum in a region comes down to the geographic combatant commands. United States Indo-Pacific Command is the unified command responsible for the Indo-Pacific region, covering areas from the western Pacific to the Indian Ocean and encompassing East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific islands. It plans and executes military activities across the full spectrum of operations—deterrence, crisis response, warfighting, and stability operations—while working with partners and allies to maintain readiness and influence in the region. The other commands serve different regions or missions: SOUTHCOM focuses on the Western Hemisphere; AFRICOM on Africa; STRATCOM handles strategic-level responsibilities like nuclear deterrence, space, and cyberspace on a global scale rather than directing regional operations.

**9. ACE is designed to increase resiliency and survivability while generating what?**

- A. Combat power**
- B. Economic advantage**
- C. Diplomatic leverage**
- D. Public support**

ACE aims to keep forces alive and able to fight, delivering force on the battlefield. Building resiliency and survivability means units can endure damage, recover quickly, and maintain operations under stress. When you combine that durability with the ability to apply firepower, maneuver, and sustain operations, you generate combat power—the overall capability to conduct and win military actions. Economic advantage, diplomatic leverage, and public support, while important in broader strategy, do not directly describe the battlefield fighting capacity ACE is designed to produce.

**10. Which statement best describes the Functions of the Joint Chiefs of Staff?**

- A. They command all combat operations directly on the battlefield**
- B. They are military advisers who may respond to requests or voluntarily submit advice to the President, the Secretary of Defense, or the NSC**
- C. They draft international treaties**
- D. They operate as independent authorities with no oversight**

The main idea is that the Joint Chiefs of Staff serve as senior military advisers to civilian leaders, not as battlefield commanders. They may respond to requests for input or voluntarily submit advice to the President, the Secretary of Defense, or the National Security Council. This advisory role is central: they analyze issues, provide options, and recommend courses of action to help civilian decision-makers shape policy and planning. They do not directly command troops in combat; operational command rests with Combatant Commanders under civilian leadership. They also don't draft international treaties—treaty work is handled by diplomats and political leaders, with military input as needed. And they aren't independent authorities; civilian oversight, through the President and Secretary of Defense, guides their work and decisions.

## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://alsmilitarystudies.examzify.com>**

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

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