

Amateur Technician License 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

- 1. Which of the following entities recommends transmit/receive channels and other parameters for auxiliary and repeater stations?**
 - A. Frequency Spectrum Manager appointed by the FCC**
 - B. Volunteer Frequency Coordinator recognized by local amateurs**
 - C. FCC Regional Field Office**
 - D. International Telecommunication Union**
- 2. Which of the following actions can reduce exposure to RF radiation?**
 - A. Relocate antennas**
 - B. Relocate the transmitter**
 - C. Increase the duty cycle**
 - D. All these choices are correct**
- 3. Which type of modulation is generally more efficient in terms of bandwidth used?**
 - A. FM**
 - B. AM**
 - C. SSB**
 - D. ASM**
- 4. What is the voltage across a 10-ohm resistor if a current of 1 ampere flows through it?**
 - A. 1 volt**
 - B. 10 volts**
 - C. 11 volts**
 - D. 9 volts**
- 5. What electrical component stores energy in an electric field?**
 - A. Varistor**
 - B. Capacitor**
 - C. Inductor**
 - D. Diode**

- 6. Which of the following describes electrical resistance?**
- A. The flow of electric charge**
 - B. The opposition to the flow of current**
 - C. The potential difference in a circuit**
 - D. The rate of energy consumed**
- 7. Which of the following conductors is preferred for bonding at RF?**
- A. Copper braid removed from coaxial cable**
 - B. Steel wire**
 - C. Twisted-pair cable**
 - D. Flat copper strap**
- 8. What is the role of the control operator at an amateur station?**
- A. To establish contact with all amateur operators**
 - B. To ensure compliance with FCC regulations for transmissions**
 - C. To maintain equipment operational status**
 - D. All of the above**
- 9. What is component 3 in figure T-3?**
- A. Connector**
 - B. Meter**
 - C. Variable capacitor**
 - D. Variable inductor**
- 10. What is the voltage across a 2-ohm resistor if a current of 0.5 amperes flows through it?**
- A. 1 volt**
 - B. 0.25 volts**
 - C. 2.5 volts**
 - D. 1.5 volts**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following entities recommends transmit/receive channels and other parameters for auxiliary and repeater stations?

- A. Frequency Spectrum Manager appointed by the FCC**
- B. Volunteer Frequency Coordinator recognized by local amateurs**
- C. FCC Regional Field Office**
- D. International Telecommunication Union**

The role of a Volunteer Frequency Coordinator recognized by local amateurs is essential in the amateur radio community, particularly for updating and managing the use of frequencies for auxiliary and repeater stations. These coordinators work collaboratively within regions to ensure that frequencies are effectively allocated and that there is minimal interference between stations. By following established agreements and guidelines, they help maintain orderly and efficient use of the radio spectrum that is limited and shared among users. This process emphasizes the local knowledge and tailored coordination efforts that amateurs have in their specific areas, which can be crucial for operational success. This local engagement contrasts with the broader oversight provided by other entities such as the FCC or international organizations, which may not have the same level of granularity or responsiveness to local needs and conditions. Understanding the role of local coordinators enhances the comprehension of how amateur radio operates within the regulations while fostering an organized operating environment for both existing and new stations.

2. Which of the following actions can reduce exposure to RF radiation?

- A. Relocate antennas**
- B. Relocate the transmitter**
- C. Increase the duty cycle**
- D. All these choices are correct**

Relocating antennas is a valid method for reducing exposure to RF radiation because the location of antennas significantly influences the intensity of RF energy in nearby areas. By moving antennas further from occupied spaces or adjusting their orientations, it is possible to minimize the exposure to individuals in those areas. Effective antenna placement can help ensure that individuals are not in the path of the strongest RF radiation, thereby reducing potential health risks associated with prolonged exposure. On the other hand, relocating the transmitter and increasing the duty cycle do not effectively contribute to reducing RF exposure. Relocating the transmitter might have some positive effects depending on its position relative to people, but it may not always result in a significant reduction of RF exposure. Increasing the duty cycle typically means that the transmitter is on more often, which would likely increase exposure rather than decrease it. Choosing to relocate antennas is a proactive step towards safer RF exposure levels, making it a more targeted and effective choice in mitigating the risks of RF radiation.

3. Which type of modulation is generally more efficient in terms of bandwidth used?

- A. FM**
- B. AM**
- C. SSB**
- D. ASM**

Single Sideband (SSB) modulation is generally more efficient than other modulation types, such as Frequency Modulation (FM) or Amplitude Modulation (AM), in terms of bandwidth usage. SSB works by eliminating one of the sidebands produced in conventional AM transmission, along with the carrier wave, which reduces the bandwidth required for the signal. Traditional AM requires a bandwidth that is often twice the frequency of the modulating signal due to its two sidebands. In contrast, SSB only requires the bandwidth equivalent to the modulating signal itself, allowing for a more efficient use of the available spectrum. This efficiency allows more signals to occupy the same bandwidth, which is particularly advantageous in communication scenarios where bandwidth is limited. In the context of efficiency, variations of modulation such as FM and AM use more bandwidth because they transmit additional information (like carrier waves and sidebands) that SSB minimizes or eliminates. Hence, SSB is preferred in many communication systems where bandwidth conservation is crucial.

4. What is the voltage across a 10-ohm resistor if a current of 1 ampere flows through it?

- A. 1 volt**
- B. 10 volts**
- C. 11 volts**
- D. 9 volts**

To find the voltage across a resistor when a known current flows through it, Ohm's Law is applied. Ohm's Law states that the voltage (V) across a resistor can be calculated using the formula: $V = I \times R$ where V is voltage in volts, I is current in amperes, and R is resistance in ohms. In this scenario, a current of 1 ampere flows through a 10-ohm resistor. By substituting the values into the formula: $V = 1 \text{ ampere} \times 10 \text{ ohms}$ This calculation yields: $V = 10 \text{ volts}$ Hence, the voltage across the 10-ohm resistor is 10 volts. This understanding is critical in electrical engineering and circuit analysis as it provides the basis for calculating how components in a circuit operate under different loads.

5. What electrical component stores energy in an electric field?

- A. Varistor**
- B. Capacitor**
- C. Inductor**
- D. Diode**

A capacitor is the correct answer because it is specifically designed to store energy in the form of an electric field. When a voltage is applied across the terminals of a capacitor, it allows electric charge to accumulate on its plates, creating an electric field between them. The amount of energy stored in the capacitor is proportional to the voltage applied and the capacitance value, which is a measure of the capacitor's ability to store charge. In contrast, varistors, inductors, and diodes serve different functions in electrical circuits. A varistor is used to protect circuits from over-voltage conditions, functioning as a voltage-dependent resistor. An inductor stores energy in a magnetic field when current flows through it, rather than in an electric field. A diode is a semiconductor device that allows current to flow in one direction but blocks it in the opposite direction, primarily used for rectification rather than energy storage.

6. Which of the following describes electrical resistance?

- A. The flow of electric charge**
- B. The opposition to the flow of current**
- C. The potential difference in a circuit**
- D. The rate of energy consumed**

Electrical resistance is best described as the opposition to the flow of current. This means that when an electric current passes through a material, resistance determines how easily that current can move. Materials with high resistance impede the flow of electric charge, while those with low resistance allow it to pass more freely. Resistance is measured in ohms and is a fundamental concept in Ohm's Law, which relates voltage, current, and resistance in a circuit. The unit for measuring resistance, the ohm, quantifies how much a device or material resists electric current. Thus, understanding resistance is crucial for designing and analyzing electrical circuits, ensuring that components can handle the expected current levels without overheating or failing. The other concepts mentioned, such as the flow of electric charge, potential difference, and the rate of energy consumed, describe different aspects of electrical circuits but do not accurately capture the essence of electrical resistance. For instance, the flow of electric charge relates to current, potential difference refers to voltage, and energy consumption is concerned with power. Resistance specifically focuses on how different materials respond to current flow.

7. Which of the following conductors is preferred for bonding at RF?

- A. Copper braid removed from coaxial cable**
- B. Steel wire**
- C. Twisted-pair cable**
- D. Flat copper strap**

The preferred conductor for bonding at RF applications is flat copper strap. This choice is ideal primarily due to its ability to provide a low-resistance connection, which is crucial for minimizing RF noise and ensuring efficient grounding. The flat shape increases the surface area in contact with the bonding points, enhancing conductivity and reducing inductance, which is particularly significant at RF frequencies. Using a flat copper strap helps in maintaining effective grounding by offering a better connection surface compared to round or twisted forms of conductors. This characteristic is essential when dealing with high-frequency signals, as any impedance in the bonding can lead to RF interference or signal degradation. Other options, such as copper braid removed from coaxial cable, are less effective because they do not provide the same level of surface contact and can have higher resistance and inductance compared to flat copper strap. Steel wire is less preferable due to its higher resistivity and potential rust problems, which can affect performance. Twisted-pair cable is designed for data transmission and isn't suited for grounding or bonding applications needed for effective RF operation, focusing instead on differential signaling rather than conductivity.

8. What is the role of the control operator at an amateur station?

- A. To establish contact with all amateur operators**
- B. To ensure compliance with FCC regulations for transmissions**
- C. To maintain equipment operational status**
- D. All of the above**

The role of the control operator at an amateur station is fundamentally centered on ensuring compliance with FCC regulations for transmissions. This is critical because the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) sets the legal framework governing amateur radio operations, including regulations about what can be transmitted, how licenses must be held and used, and adherence to operational procedures. The control operator is responsible for making sure that all transmissions from the station adhere to these rules, which includes monitoring the content of broadcasts, proper licensing, and maintaining communication standards. This accountability is essential to ensure that amateur radio operators do not interfere with other communications and operate within the frequencies allocated for amateur use. While there may be aspects of establishing contact with other operators or maintaining equipment that are important in the operation of an amateur station, these responsibilities do not define the primary role of the control operator. The main focus is compliance with regulatory requirements, which is a key component of safe and responsible amateur radio operation.

9. What is component 3 in figure T-3?

- A. Connector**
- B. Meter**
- C. Variable capacitor**
- D. Variable inductor**

In the context of electronic circuits, a variable inductor is a component that allows the inductance to be adjusted or varied. This capability is significant in tuning applications, such as in radio frequency circuits, where the inductance must be optimized to resonate with the capacitance at a specific frequency. Variable inductors typically consist of a coil of wire that can have its physical shape or the number of windings altered to change its inductance. This feature makes them valuable in various electronic applications, including filters and oscillators. While other components like connectors, meters, and variable capacitors serve important functions, they do not provide the same adjustable inductive properties that a variable inductor does. This is why recognizing component 3 in figure T-3 as a variable inductor emphasizes its role in tuning frequency responses and adjusting circuit characteristics effectively.

10. What is the voltage across a 2-ohm resistor if a current of 0.5 amperes flows through it?

- A. 1 volt**
- B. 0.25 volts**
- C. 2.5 volts**
- D. 1.5 volts**

To determine the voltage across a resistor when a current flows through it, Ohm's Law is applied, which states that voltage (V) is equal to the current (I) multiplied by the resistance (R), expressed mathematically as $V = I \times R$. In this case, the resistance is 2 ohms and the current is 0.5 amperes. Plugging these values into the formula gives: $V = 0.5 \text{ A} \times 2 \text{ ohms} = 1 \text{ volt}$. This calculation shows that the voltage across the 2-ohm resistor with a current of 0.5 amperes flowing through it is indeed 1 volt. Understanding this relationship is foundational in electronics, as it allows technicians to analyze circuit behavior and troubleshoot effectively.

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://amateurtechnician.examzify.com>

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