

ARMY PROMOTION BOARD E-4 (SPECIALIST) PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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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. How far down are sideburns authorized in the Army?**
 - A. To the jawline
 - B. Below the bottom of the opening of the ear
 - C. To the bottom of the earlobe
 - D. They are not permitted
- 2. What does a topographic map primarily portray?**
 - A. Only water bodies and vegetation
 - B. Terrain and land forms in a measurable way
 - C. Urban areas and infrastructure only
 - D. Weather patterns and atmospheric conditions
- 3. In military symbols, what color represents friendly forces on a map overlay?**
 - A. Red
 - B. Blue
 - C. Green
 - D. Yellow
- 4. Confusion in a casualty can be a sign of which condition?**
 - A. Shock
 - B. Dehydration
 - C. Hypothermia
 - D. Hyperthermia
- 5. Which of the following is a characteristic of contour lines?**
 - A. They represent areas of water
 - B. They connect points of equal elevation
 - C. They show man-made structures
 - D. They identify vegetation types
- 6. What is the degree value for each click on a lensatic compass bezel ring?**
 - A. 1 degree
 - B. 5 degrees
 - C. 10 degrees
 - D. 3 degrees

- 7. What is the FM number associated with the M16/A2 Rifle?**
- A. FM 3-22.9/ADP 3-09
 - B. FM 4-15.7/ADP 3-11
 - C. FM 5-23.1/ADP 3-06
 - D. FM 2-14.3/ADP 3-13
- 8. Which direction does the belt tab on the army belt extend to on the female Army Blue Service uniform?**
- A. The wearer's left
 - B. The wearer's right
 - C. Forward
 - D. Backward
- 9. What is involved in the step of outlining counseling session components?**
- A. Documenting performance reviews
 - B. Arranging follow-up meetings
 - C. Structuring the discussion points
 - D. Assigning future tasks
- 10. When can Soldiers be seen not wearing headgear indoors?**
- A. When relaxing
 - B. Only at formal events
 - C. When directed by their commander
 - D. During meal times

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. How far down are sideburns authorized in the Army?

- A. To the jawline**
- B. Below the bottom of the opening of the ear
- C. To the bottom of the earlobe
- D. They are not permitted

In the Army, sideburns are authorized to extend to the level of the jawline. This standard is part of the Army's grooming regulations, which aim to maintain a professional appearance among service members. Allowing sideburns to be trimmed to the jawline ensures a neat and uniform look while still permitting soldiers to express some individual grooming preferences. Maintaining this guideline is essential so that sideburns do not interfere with helmet wear or other military headgear, which is another aspect of the Army's uniform and grooming standards.

2. What does a topographic map primarily portray?

- A. Only water bodies and vegetation
- B. Terrain and land forms in a measurable way**
- C. Urban areas and infrastructure only
- D. Weather patterns and atmospheric conditions

A topographic map primarily portrays terrain and land forms in a measurable way, making it vital for various applications such as hiking, land development, and military operations. These maps utilize contour lines to represent elevation changes and depict the physical characteristics of the landscape, including mountains, valleys, and plains. By providing a detailed representation of the terrain, a topographic map allows users to understand the landscape's vertical dimensions and how different features relate to one another spatially. This is crucial for navigation and for assessing the challenges posed by the physical environment. In contrast to other options, a topographic map does not solely focus on water bodies and vegetation, urban areas and infrastructure, or weather patterns and atmospheric conditions. While it may include some elements of those topics, its primary function is to illustrate the three-dimensional shape of the terrain in two dimensions, which is essential for various practical applications.

3. In military symbols, what color represents friendly forces on a map overlay?

- A. Red
- B. Blue**
- C. Green
- D. Yellow

In military symbology, blue is the designated color for representing friendly forces on a map overlay. This convention is integral to ensuring clear communication and understanding during operations. By using blue for friendly units, it helps to differentiate them from enemy forces, which are typically represented in red. This color-coding system promotes situational awareness, allowing commanders and soldiers to quickly identify the status of different elements on the battlefield, reducing the risk of fratricide and enhancing coordination among units. The use of consistent colors is crucial for effective planning and execution of military operations.

4. Confusion in a casualty can be a sign of which condition?

A. Shock

B. Dehydration

C. Hypothermia

D. Hyperthermia

Confusion in a casualty can be a sign of shock because shock is a critical condition that occurs when the body does not receive enough blood flow, leading to insufficient oxygen and nutrients being delivered to vital organs. This lack of perfusion can affect cognitive function, resulting in confusion or disorientation. In a state of shock, the body is also under significant stress, which can further impair mental status. While dehydration, hypothermia, and hyperthermia can also cause confusion, shock distinctly emphasizes the body's inability to maintain adequate circulation, making it a more immediate concern in a casualty scenario. Recognizing shock and its symptoms, such as confusion, is crucial for providing timely medical intervention and improving outcomes in affected individuals.

5. Which of the following is a characteristic of contour lines?

A. They represent areas of water

B. They connect points of equal elevation

C. They show man-made structures

D. They identify vegetation types

Contour lines on a map are specifically designed to represent points of equal elevation above a given level, often sea level. This means that any point along a contour line is at the same height, allowing individuals to visualize the slope and shape of the terrain. By using contour lines, you can assess whether an area is flat, hilly, or steep and understand the landscape's features without requiring physical presence in that area. Understanding the role of contour lines is crucial for various activities, such as land navigation, planning construction, and assessing potential flood zones. They provide a clear and effective means to communicate topographical information, which is essential in military operations and outdoor activities. The other choices do not accurately describe contour lines. Areas of water are usually indicated by different symbols or shading on a map, man-made structures would be represented by specific icons or lines, and vegetation types may also be shown with different symbols rather than contour lines.

6. What is the degree value for each click on a lensatic compass bezel ring?

A. 1 degree

B. 5 degrees

C. 10 degrees

D. 3 degrees

The degree value for each click on a lensatic compass bezel ring is 3 degrees. This means that when you turn the bezel ring, each distinct "click" or increment corresponds to a movement of 3 degrees. This is important for precise navigation and aiming, as it allows for finer adjustments compared to larger values. The 3-degree increment helps soldiers and outdoor enthusiasts accurately determine directions and bearings. Other answers may suggest different values, but they do not align with the standard measurement of the bezel clicks on a lensatic compass. For instance, a larger degree increment could lead to less accuracy in navigation, while a smaller one may complicate quick adjustments during navigation tasks. Understanding the 3-degree increment is crucial for effective use of the lensatic compass in the field.

7. What is the FM number associated with the M16/A2 Rifle?

- A. FM 3-22.9/ADP 3-09**
- B. FM 4-15.7/ADP 3-11
- C. FM 5-23.1/ADP 3-06
- D. FM 2-14.3/ADP 3-13

The correct FM number associated with the M16/A2 Rifle is identified as FM 3-22.9/ADP 3-09. This field manual provides comprehensive information on the M16 series rifles, including technical details, operational capabilities, and guidelines for training and maintenance. The inclusion of the ADP (Army Doctrine Publication) number indicates its alignment with broader Army doctrines related to combat and warfare strategies. This helps soldiers understand not only the mechanics of the weapon but also its role within the larger context of unit operations and mission planning. Understanding this manual is crucial for effective weapon handling and operational readiness in various scenarios.

8. Which direction does the belt tab on the army belt extend to on the female Army Blue Service uniform?

- A. The wearer's left
- B. The wearer's right**
- C. Forward
- D. Backward

In the female Army Blue Service uniform, the belt tab extends to the wearer's right. This design is intentional for uniformity and to align with the Army's standards for dress and appearance. The belt tab is intended to create a neat and professional appearance; having it extend to the right ensures it sits properly and does not create unnecessary bulk on the left side where other uniform components are situated. This design choice is also reflective of traditionally established military customs and practices concerning the proper wear of the uniform.

9. What is involved in the step of outlining counseling session components?

- A. Documenting performance reviews
- B. Arranging follow-up meetings
- C. Structuring the discussion points**
- D. Assigning future tasks

The step of outlining counseling session components primarily involves structuring the discussion points. This means identifying and organizing the key topics and issues that will be addressed during the counseling session. Effective counseling is built on a clear framework, which helps both the counselor and the counseled individual stay focused and ensure that all necessary areas are covered. When the discussion points are well-structured, it facilitates a productive dialogue and allows for meaningful feedback and guidance. This structured approach ensures that the session is efficient and effective, ultimately leading to a better understanding of performance, expectations, and areas for improvement. Proper structuring also helps maintain a professional atmosphere, enhancing the overall quality of the counseling interaction.

10. When can Soldiers be seen not wearing headgear indoors?

- A. When relaxing
- B. Only at formal events
- C. When directed by their commander**
- D. During meal times

The correct answer is that Soldiers can be seen not wearing headgear indoors when directed by their commander. This aligns with Army regulations regarding uniform wear, which allow commanders the authority to establish specific policies for their units. This flexibility enables leaders to adapt to situations or environments where wearing headgear may not be necessary or appropriate. In the Army, wearing headgear indoors is typically a standard requirement; however, there are circumstances where commanders may choose to allow exceptions. For instance, if a unit is in a relaxed environment, their commander may grant permission for Soldiers to be without headgear, but the decision ultimately rests with the leadership. The other choices do not accurately represent the Army's policy on headgear. Relaxing or during meal times might be perceived as informal instances, but without a directive from a commander, Soldiers are typically expected to maintain uniform standards, including headgear. Formal events usually require uniformity and adherence to regulations that include wearing proper headgear. Therefore, the correct response highlights the leadership's role in uniform regulation and adherence to established protocols.

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://armypromotionboarde4.examzify.com>

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

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