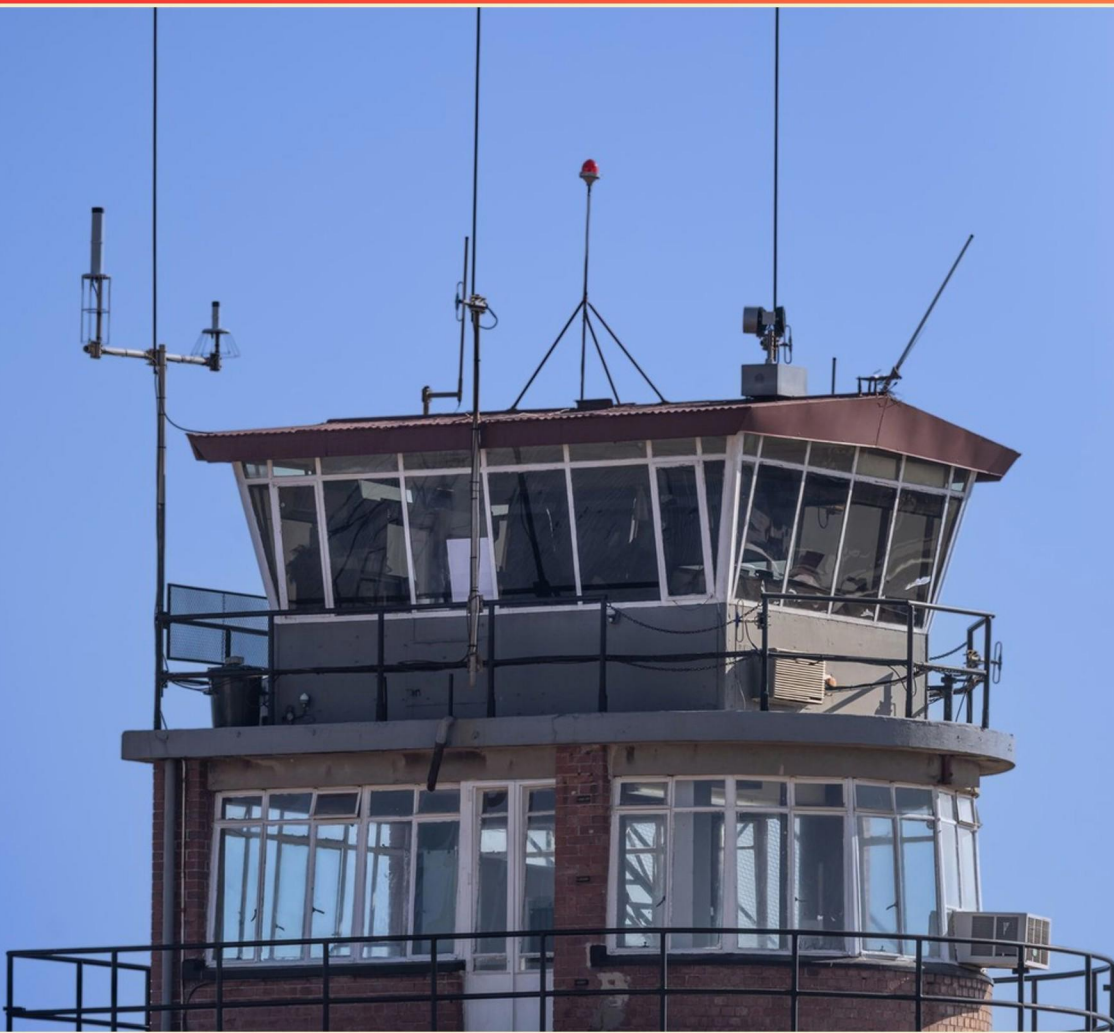


ATC AP CHARACTERISTICS PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

<https://atcapcharacteristics.examzify.com>



Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

1. Which description best matches ILS hold position markings?

- A. Two Dashed Lines On The Runway Side
- B. Two Solid Lines Spaced 2 Feet Apart Connected By Pairs Of Solid Lines Spaced 10 Feet Apart, Without Any Signage
- C. Two Solid Lines Spaced 2 Feet Apart Connected By Pairs Of Solid Lines Spaced 10 Feet Apart, With A Mandatory Sign Reading ILS Adjacent
- D. A Yellow X At The Hold Point

2. How are altitudes pronounced?

- A. Say the altitude as a single number
- B. Read the altitude as a spelled-out word
- C. Pronounce each digit of hundreds or thousands with the appropriate tail on each (One seven thousand niner hundred)
- D. Omit digits when pronouncing altitude

3. REIL may be configured in which orientation toward the approach area?

- A. Omnidirectional
- B. Unidirectional facing the approach area
- C. Both omnidirectional and unidirectional
- D. Neither

4. What is the first item listed under Capacity Potential?

- A. LATE
- B. Land Availability
- C. Airspace Use
- D. Topography

5. On a PAPI, a configuration of two red and two white means you are:

- A. Not on the glide path
- B. On the glide path
- C. Too high
- D. Off the approach

- 6. Replacement Flight Strip Printer (RFSP) provides what function?**
- A. Provides a hardcopy on incoming and outgoing messages
 - B. Prints weather charts
 - C. Stores flight plans
 - D. Sends radio frequency updates
- 7. Which code corresponds to the Canadian Coast Guard in aircraft branch designations?**
- A. CFC
 - B. VM
 - C. VV
 - D. CTG
- 8. How are runway numbers determined?**
- A. The azimuth from the approaching aircraft's perspective rounded to the nearest 10, with a leading zero if less than 100.
 - B. The runway length in hundreds of feet rounded to the nearest ten.
 - C. The azimuth from the approaching aircraft's perspective rounded to the nearest 10; if the rounded azimuth is less than 100, a leading zero is added.
 - D. The runway's designated numeric code is assigned by the airport operator.
- 9. How are serial numbers pronounced?**
- A. Read as a whole number
 - B. Separate digits
 - C. Digits spoken backwards
 - D. Digits pronounced in groups of two
- 10. Describe the centerline on taxiways.**
- A. A single, continuous retroreflective yellow line 6-12 inches wide
 - B. Two solid white lines on either side
 - C. A dashed red line
 - D. A pair of parallel black lines

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. Which description best matches ILS hold position markings?

- A. Two Dashed Lines On The Runway Side
- B. Two Solid Lines Spaced 2 Feet Apart Connected By Pairs Of Solid Lines Spaced 10 Feet Apart, Without Any Signage
- C. Two Solid Lines Spaced 2 Feet Apart Connected By Pairs Of Solid Lines Spaced 10 Feet Apart, With A Mandatory Sign Reading ILS Adjacent**
- D. A Yellow X At The Hold Point

ILS hold position markings mark the boundary where aircraft must stop to protect the instrument landing system's critical area during an approach. The correct description includes the distinctive line pattern of two solid lines spaced 2 feet apart, connected by pairs of solid lines spaced 10 feet apart, and it is paired with a mandatory sign reading ILS adjacent. That sign tells pilots this hold point is specifically guarding the ILS critical/approach area, so crossing only occurs with explicit clearance. The other options either omit the required ILS signage, depict a different marking, or show a symbol used for a runway closure, which isn't what the ILS hold uses.

2. How are altitudes pronounced?

- A. Say the altitude as a single number
- B. Read the altitude as a spelled-out word
- C. Pronounce each digit of hundreds or thousands with the appropriate tail on each (One seven thousand niner hundred)**
- D. Omit digits when pronouncing altitude

Altitudes are spoken digit by digit with the magnitude words (thousand, hundred) placed after the appropriate digits, to keep transmissions unambiguous. For an altitude like 17,900, you'd say "one seven thousand niner hundred." Each digit is stated: 1, then 7, followed by "thousand" to mark the thousands group, then 9 is spoken as "niner" to avoid confusion with other digits, and finally "hundred" after the 9 to indicate the hundreds place. Any trailing zeros aren't spoken. This approach minimizes mishearing in radio transmissions, whereas saying the number as a single word, spelling it out, or omitting digits could lead to mistakes.

3. REIL may be configured in which orientation toward the approach area?

- A. Omnidirectional
- B. Unidirectional facing the approach area
- C. Both omnidirectional and unidirectional**
- D. Neither

Runway End Identifier Lights are designed to help pilots quickly identify the threshold and can be set to flash toward the approach area in either of two ways. They can be oriented unidirectionally, facing the approach path so the signal is directed at arriving aircraft, or they can be omnidirectional, flashing in all directions so they're visible from a wider range of angles. The choice depends on the airport's layout and approach geometry; some installations favor omnidirectional to ensure visibility from multiple approach angles, while others use unidirectional to concentrate the signal along the intended approach and reduce glare for other traffic. Because REILs can be configured in either orientation toward the approach area, both options are possible.

4. What is the first item listed under Capacity Potential?

- A. LATE**
- B. Land Availability
- C. Airspace Use
- D. Topography

Capacity Potential is often organized around a mnemonic that groups several limiting factors. The first item you see is the LATE acronym, which stands for the key factors that influence capacity (Land Availability, Airspace Use, Topography, and elevation/environment). This mnemonic is placed first to introduce the category before the individual components are discussed. The remaining options correspond to these individual factors that come after the initial acronym. So the first item listed under Capacity Potential is the LATE mnemonic itself.

5. On a PAPI, a configuration of two red and two white means you are:

- A. Not on the glide path
- B. On the glide path**
- C. Too high
- D. Off the approach

PAPI uses four lights to give a vertical position readout relative to the glide slope. Each light can be red or white, and the pattern tells you where you are relative to the ideal descent path. When you see two red and two white, that specific mix means you're on the published glide path. The general rule is that more white lights indicate you're above the glide path and need to descend toward it, while more red lights indicate you're below the glide path and need to decrease descent or adjust to get back on track. Extreme all-white or all-red patterns would indicate you're well above or well below the glide path, respectively.

6. Replacement Flight Strip Printer (RFSP) provides what function?

- A. Provides a hardcopy on incoming and outgoing messages**
- B. Prints weather charts
- C. Stores flight plans
- D. Sends radio frequency updates

The main idea here is that this device creates a physical record of communications. In ATC, flight strips are the live, working records for each aircraft, containing instructions, positions, routes, altitudes, and other key data. When messages come in or go out, the Replacement Flight Strip Printer prints a hardcopy of those messages so controllers can see, hold, and annotate the strip as part of the operational workflow. This printed copy serves as a tangible, parallel record to the electronic data, aiding handoffs, coordination, and situational awareness. It doesn't print weather charts, which come from meteorological products, nor does it store flight plans—that storage is handled by the flight data systems. It also isn't a transmitter for frequency updates; updates to radio frequencies are part of separate communications processes.

7. Which code corresponds to the Canadian Coast Guard in aircraft branch designations?

- A. CFC
- B. VM
- C. VV
- D. CTG**

Understanding how branch codes map to organizations helps identify the Coast Guard designation. The Canadian Coast Guard is the civilian maritime service, and its aviation designation in this system is the one that clearly reflects Coast Guard affiliation. CTG is the code that matches Coast Guard, distinguishing it from other organizations. The other options don't align with Coast Guard in this scheme, so they don't fit.

8. How are runway numbers determined?

- A. The azimuth from the approaching aircraft's perspective rounded to the nearest 10, with a leading zero if less than 100.
- B. The runway length in hundreds of feet rounded to the nearest ten.
- C. The azimuth from the approaching aircraft's perspective rounded to the nearest 10; if the rounded azimuth is less than 100, a leading zero is added.**
- D. The runway's designated numeric code is assigned by the airport operator.

Runway numbers are a directional shorthand based on the magnetic direction of the runway's centerline from the approach end. Take the magnetic azimuth, round it to the nearest 10 degrees, and express it as a two-digit number in tens of degrees. If the rounded value is less than 10, you add a leading zero so the number appears as 01–09; otherwise you use the two digits as is. For example, a runway with a centerline heading around 262 degrees becomes 26, and one around 050 degrees becomes 05. This system reflects the approach direction and magnetic heading, not the runway length or any operator-assigned code.

9. How are serial numbers pronounced?

- A. Read as a whole number
- B. Separate digits**
- C. Digits spoken backwards
- D. Digits pronounced in groups of two

When reading serial numbers, say each digit one by one. This keeps the information unambiguous over the radio. Each digit has its own distinct word, like zero, one, two, three, and so on, so a number such as 4027 is spoken as "four zero two seven." Reading the whole string as a single number can lead to miscounting digits or hearing a different value, especially with fast, noisy communications. Pronouncing digits individually also helps avoid confusion between similar-sounding sounds and ensures the digits are captured exactly as written. Grouping digits two at a time isn't the standard practice for serial numbers, so the simplest, most reliable approach is to articulate every digit separately.

10. Describe the centerline on taxiways.

A. A single, continuous retroreflective yellow line 6-12 inches wide

B. Two solid white lines on either side

C. A dashed red line

D. A pair of parallel black lines

The guiding idea is that taxiway centerlines provide the primary path for aircraft to follow on the ground. The centerline on a taxiway is a single, continuous yellow line that you trace as you taxi. It's retroreflective, so it stays visible at night or in low-visibility conditions when illuminated by aircraft lights. The typical width is about 6 to 12 inches, which gives a clear, durable cue at various taxi speeds and distances. The yellow color distinguishes taxiway markings from runway markings, which are white, helping pilots quickly tell where they are and what path to follow. A continuous line signals an uninterrupted route you should stay on; other line styles or colors would convey different guidance and aren't used for the taxiway centerline.

SAMPLE

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://atcapcharacteristics.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE