

# Basic Division Officer Course (BDOC) Maritime Warfare (MW) 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. Which statement about the Recognized Maritime Picture (RMP) is true?**
  - A. RMP is built with Surface Search Radars, Air Assets, Visual Identification, Vessels of Interest, Link-11/16**
  - B. RMP relies solely on AIS data**
  - C. RMP is used for weather forecasting**
  - D. RMP is unrelated to maritime awareness**
  
- 2. Which defense coverage type is performed by CGs and DDGs?**
  - A. Point Defense**
  - B. Self Defense**
  - C. HVAA Protection**
  - D. Area Defense**
  
- 3. Which is a disadvantage of active sonar?**
  - A. Gives away own position**
  - B. May result in false targets**
  - C. Extremely overt**
  - D. ROE issues**
  
- 4. Which role is the Launch Area Coordinator?**
  - A. Marine Interception Operations Commander**
  - B. Mine Warfare Commander**
  - C. Command Tactical Picture Manager**
  - D. Launch Area Coordinator**
  
- 5. Which position is responsible for supervising the CIC's operations and reporting to the TAO and OOD?**
  - A. CIC Watch Officer**
  - B. CSC**
  - C. TAO**
  - D. Sea Combat Commander**

- 6. MM stands for which role?**
- A. Mission Manager**
  - B. Maritime Monitor**
  - C. Maintenance Manager**
  - D. Missile Manager**
- 7. DBM stands for which role?**
- A. Data Bank Manager**
  - B. Database Manager**
  - C. Deployable Battle Manager**
  - D. Data Baseline Manager**
- 8. Which principle of the CWC states that reps from all warfare areas decide how the force will execute missions?**
- A. Collaborative Planning**
  - B. Decentralized Execution**
  - C. Command by Negation**
  - D. Unity of Command**
- 9. What does OTC stand for?**
- A. On-Task Tactical Command**
  - B. Officer in Tactical Command**
  - C. Official Theater Command**
  - D. Operational Tactical Control**
- 10. The Sea Combat Commander is an optional position that integrates which two warfare areas under one commander?**
- A. ASW and SUW**
  - B. Surface strike and unmanned warfare**
  - C. Air defense and surface warfare**
  - D. Submarine warfare and unmanned warfare**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which statement about the Recognized Maritime Picture (RMP) is true?**

**A. RMP is built with Surface Search Radars, Air Assets, Visual Identification, Vessels of Interest, Link-11/16**

**B. RMP relies solely on AIS data**

**C. RMP is used for weather forecasting**

**D. RMP is unrelated to maritime awareness**

RMP is the fused, real-time depiction of maritime activity, created by integrating multiple sensors and data sources to give a single, shared picture for situational awareness. The statement is correct because it describes the inputs used to build the Recognized Maritime Picture: surface search radars provide vessel tracks, air assets contribute additional surveillance data from the sky, visual identification adds positively identified vessels, vessels of interest flag ships that require closer scrutiny, and data links like Link-11/16 echo tracking information across platforms to keep the picture consistent. AIS data is part of the mix but not the sole input, and RMP is not used for weather forecasting. This combination captures how RMP supports maritime awareness by combining sensor data, human identification, prioritization, and networked sharing to produce a coherent operational picture.

**2. Which defense coverage type is performed by CGs and DDGs?**

**A. Point Defense**

**B. Self Defense**

**C. HVAA Protection**

**D. Area Defense**

This question is about how naval defenses are layered around a high-value asset in a task force. The ships in question—cruisers and destroyers—provide the innermost, short-range shield for the group. They're equipped with close-in weapons systems and other short-range defenses, so their role is to intercept threats like missiles or aircraft as they come in at close range. That inner layer is known as Point Defense. Self defense is the ship's own ability to protect itself, which each ship does individually, but it doesn't describe the coordinated short-range umbrella around the formation. HVAA Protection refers to guarding high-value air assets (like important aircraft within the group) and is typically a broader protection concept that can involve different layers. Area Defense covers a larger region outside the immediate ship vicinity, using longer-range sensors and weapons to protect the formation as a whole. So, the best match is Point Defense, since CGs and DDGs are tasked with providing the close-range protective layer around the group's most valuable assets.

### 3. Which is a disadvantage of active sonar?

- A. Gives away own position
- B. May result in false targets
- C. Extremely overt
- D. ROE issues**

When using active sonar, the biggest drawback in many operations is the need to comply with Rules of Engagement. Active sonar broadcasts can reveal your presence and intent, which can complicate or even prevent actions in sensitive areas or during delicate phases of a mission. If the ROE restricts or prohibits its use, you may be unable to exploit real-time detection capabilities, limiting your decision space and affecting mission success. While the other issues—giving away your position, false targets, or being overt—are real concerns, ROE constraints capture the broader governance and legal-operational barriers that can most significantly limit deployment of active sonar in complex environments.

### 4. Which role is the Launch Area Coordinator?

- A. Marine Interception Operations Commander
- B. Mine Warfare Commander
- C. Command Tactical Picture Manager
- D. Launch Area Coordinator**

The main idea is recognizing who is responsible for overseeing all activities in the launch area. The person assigned to this role coordinates every aspect of launches within that area—ensuring assets and personnel are ready, timing and sequencing are correct, safety protocols are followed, and communications with other units are maintained. This role acts as the focal point for launch decisions and status, coordinating with the broader operation to keep the launch area integrated into the overall battle picture. The other roles focus on different functions (interception planning, mine warfare, or managing the tactical picture), but none specifically centers on managing the launch area itself. That's why the Launch Area Coordinator is the correct choice.

**5. Which position is responsible for supervising the CIC's operations and reporting to the TAO and OOD?**

- A. CIC Watch Officer**
- B. CSC**
- C. TAO**
- D. Sea Combat Commander**

The CIC Watch Officer leads the day-to-day supervision of the Combat Information Center, keeping the tactical picture current, directing CIC watchstanders, and coordinating how sensor data is fused into a clear, actionable display. This person is the primary conduit of information to the Tactical Action Officer for tactical decisions and to the Officer of the Deck for ship-wide status and actions. The TAO relies on the CIC Watch Officer to provide an accurate, timely picture of threats and opportunities so they can plan and employ weapons and countermeasures. The OOD depends on CIC for situational awareness to guide ship movement and deck actions, ensuring safety and mission continuity. The Combat Systems Coordinator focuses on the readiness and integration of weapons and sensors, but does not supervise CIC operations on the watch. The Sea Combat Commander is not the standard CIC watch role on a typical ship, as this position generally operates at a broader, higher level of mission planning rather than hands-on CIC supervision.

**6. MM stands for which role?**

- A. Mission Manager**
- B. Maritime Monitor**
- C. Maintenance Manager**
- D. Missile Manager**

Understanding the abbreviation MM in this BDOC MW context points to the role that owns missiles and weapons readiness. The Missile Manager is responsible for all aspects of the missile system—tracking readiness, inventory, maintenance status, safety and loading checks, and ensuring coordination with the Weapons Officer during targeting and engagement. This role differs from the Mission Manager, who handles mission planning and execution; the Maritime Monitor, who focuses on sensor watch and surface contacts; and the Maintenance Manager, who oversees non-weapon maintenance and logistics. So, MM identifies the person responsible for missiles and their readiness.

**7. DBM stands for which role?**

- A. Data Bank Manager**
- B. Database Manager**
- C. Deployable Battle Manager**
- D. Data Baseline Manager**

The role indicated by DBM is the Database Manager—the person who maintains the data backbone that supports planning and execution. This position is responsible for the database that holds essential information such as units, equipment, sensors, locations, and orders of battle, ensuring the data is accurate, current, and accessible to the team. The Database Manager oversees data quality, versioning, access control, and changes so that all systems and staff operate from a single, trusted information source. This reliability is crucial for a coherent command and control picture and sound decision-making at sea. While the other phrases could technically fit the letter pattern, they do not describe the same centralized data stewardship role that the Database Manager represents.

**8. Which principle of the CWC states that reps from all warfare areas decide how the force will execute missions?**

- A. Collaborative Planning**
- B. Decentralized Execution**
- C. Command by Negation**
- D. Unity of Command**

Collaborative planning hinges on bringing together representatives from every warfare area to decide how the force will execute missions. When surface, undersea, aviation, intelligence, logistics, and other domains all contribute to the planning, the resulting plan reflects the strengths and limitations of each community, creates shared situational awareness, and aligns efforts across the force. This cross-domain input ensures the mission is executed in a cohesive, synchronized way, leveraging the full range of capabilities available. Decentralized execution focuses on pushing decision-making authority down to lower levels during execution, which is about where decisions are made rather than who helps shape the execution plan. Unity of command ensures a single commander oversees all forces for unified direction, but it doesn't specify the cross-domain planning collaboration to decide how to execute. Command by negation is a different concept altogether and not about cross-area planning for execution.

**9. What does OTC stand for?**

- A. On-Task Tactical Command**
- B. Officer in Tactical Command**
- C. Official Theater Command**
- D. Operational Tactical Control**

Understanding who has tactical decision authority in naval operations is what this item tests. In maritime practice, the acronym OTC designates the Officer in Tactical Command—the person designated to direct the tactical employment of assigned forces during an operation. This role involves issuing orders on maneuver, assigning sectors of responsibility, and directing responses to threats, all within the theater of operations, while higher levels handle strategic planning and logistics. For example, during a convoy escort, the Officer in Tactical Command would decide on course changes, how to allocate sectors for protection, and when to engage a threat. The other phrases aren't standard terms for this context—they don't identify a specific person with tactical decision authority, and some mix up different control or command levels.

**10. The Sea Combat Commander is an optional position that integrates which two warfare areas under one commander?**

- A. ASW and SUW**
- B. Surface strike and unmanned warfare**
- C. Air defense and surface warfare**
- D. Submarine warfare and unmanned warfare**

The Sea Combat Commander is the leader who combines anti-submarine warfare and surface warfare under one command. This pairing makes sense because submarines and surface ships operate in the same maritime battlespace and rely on shared sensing and weapons for effective defense and offense. By unifying ASW and SUW, the commander can fuse sonar and radar data, coordinate engagements, and allocate weapons and maneuver space more efficiently to counter both submarine and surface threats. The other pairings don't reflect the standard SCC role because they mix domains or assets that are not normally commanded together in this billet—unmanned platforms, air defense, or separate submarine or surface responsibilities are typically handled differently and don't form the established combined command for sea combat.

## 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://bdocmw.examzify.com>**

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

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