

# Certified Associate Constructor (CAC) Level 1 Practice Exam (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. What is an expected outcome of an effective environmental impact assessment?**
  - A. Decreased overall project costs**
  - B. Improved community relations**
  - C. Identification of environmental risks and mitigation strategies**
  - D. Increased project timelines**
- 2. How is a project plan typically validated?**
  - A. Through informal team meetings**
  - B. By obtaining stakeholder approval and aligning with project objectives**
  - C. By comparing it to industry standards**
  - D. By testing budget scenarios**
- 3. A work breakdown structure typically includes which of the following for each work package?**
  - A. Budgeted cost of work scheduled**
  - B. Actual cost of work performed**
  - C. Budgeted cost of work performed**
  - D. Earned value**
- 4. Under which legal structure are the least total taxes paid for the goods and services provided by the company?**
  - A. Sole proprietorship**
  - B. Federalist**
  - C. Corporation**
  - D. Joint venture**
- 5. What is the primary role of the construction superintendent?**
  - A. To handle all financial transactions**
  - B. To oversee day-to-day construction operations on the job site**
  - C. To design the architectural plans and layouts**
  - D. To recruit and train subcontractors**

- 6. What is a common risk management process in project management?**
- A. Risk avoidance**
  - B. Risk enhancement**
  - C. Risk acceptance**
  - D. Risk identification**
- 7. What unit of measure is typically used for carpet?**
- A. Square foot**
  - B. Square yard**
  - C. Square**
  - D. Cubic yard**
- 8. Deflection is a result of what type of stress?**
- A. Bending**
  - B. Tensile**
  - C. Shear**
  - D. Axial**
- 9. What type of relationship describes installing the scratch coat of stucco followed by installing the top coat?**
- A. Finish to start**
  - B. Start to start**
  - C. Finish to finish**
  - D. Start to finish**
- 10. What is a Bid Document?**
- A. A checklist for evaluating project risks**
  - B. A document that outlines the terms, conditions, and specifications for submitting a bid on a project**
  - C. A summary of project deliverables**
  - D. A promotional piece for attracting investors**



## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is an expected outcome of an effective environmental impact assessment?**

- A. Decreased overall project costs
- B. Improved community relations
- C. Identification of environmental risks and mitigation strategies**
- D. Increased project timelines

An effective environmental impact assessment (EIA) is designed to systematically evaluate the potential environmental effects of a proposed project before it is undertaken. One of the primary goals of an EIA is to identify environmental risks associated with the project and to develop mitigation strategies that can reduce or eliminate those risks. This process ensures that decision-makers understand the potential impacts on the environment and can take appropriate measures to address them. By identifying environmental risks, an EIA provides crucial information that can guide project planning and implementation in a way that minimizes harm to the environment. This can include recommendations for alternative project designs, specific management practices, or technologies that can help mitigate negative impacts. Such proactive measures not only help to protect environmental resources but can ultimately lead to more sustainable project outcomes. While improved community relations and potentially decreased project costs can be positive side effects of an effective EIA, the core outcome directly linked to the assessment process itself is the identification of risks and the formulation of strategies to mitigate those risks. This foundational aspect is critical for fostering responsible development and ensuring that environmental considerations are integrated into the planning process.

**2. How is a project plan typically validated?**

- A. Through informal team meetings
- B. By obtaining stakeholder approval and aligning with project objectives**
- C. By comparing it to industry standards
- D. By testing budget scenarios

A project plan is typically validated by obtaining stakeholder approval and aligning with project objectives because this process ensures that all parties involved understand, agree upon, and support the project's goals and execution strategy. Validation involves confirming that the plan aligns with the expectations and needs of stakeholders, which can include clients, team members, and other affected parties. This step is crucial as it solidifies commitment and helps in identifying any potential issues or misalignments before project execution begins. Validation through stakeholder approval also involves reviewing whether the plan meets defined project objectives, and whether resources, timelines, and deliverables are realistic. This collaborative approach fosters transparency and facilitates communication among all stakeholders, ensuring that everyone is on the same page and that the project is more likely to succeed. While other options might offer useful insights or help in the project planning process, they do not encompass the comprehensive process that stakeholder approval and alignment with objectives provide, making this the most effective choice for validating a project plan.

**3. A work breakdown structure typically includes which of the following for each work package?**

- A. Budgeted cost of work scheduled**
- B. Actual cost of work performed**
- C. Budgeted cost of work performed**
- D. Earned value**

A work breakdown structure (WBS) serves as a hierarchical decomposition of a project into smaller, more manageable components, known as work packages. One of the essential pieces of information associated with each work package is the budgeted cost of work scheduled. This represents the planned financial resources allocated to accomplish the work defined in that specific package within a designated timeframe. Having a budgeted cost helps in project planning and provides a baseline against which actual performance can be measured. This allows project managers to assess whether they are on track with their financial goals as the project progresses. It directly informs stakeholders of the expected investment needed to complete the work and facilitates budget management throughout the project lifecycle. While the other options are important for tracking project performance and cost management, they do not typically appear as standard components of the WBS itself. Actual costs and earned value are used for performance measurement and reporting, while budgeted cost of work performed relates to the costs incurred for work that has been completed at a specific point in time.

**4. Under which legal structure are the least total taxes paid for the goods and services provided by the company?**

- A. Sole proprietorship**
- B. Federalist**
- C. Corporation**
- D. Joint venture**

A sole proprietorship is generally considered the legal structure under which the least total taxes are paid for goods and services provided by the business. This is primarily due to the nature of how profits are taxed. In a sole proprietorship, income is reported on the owner's personal tax return, meaning that the profits are subject to individual income tax rates without the added layer of corporate taxation that would apply to a corporation. For corporations, the business itself is taxed on its profits at the corporate tax rate, and then any distributed profits (such as dividends) are taxed again at the individual level on the shareholders' tax returns. This results in what is often referred to as "double taxation." Other structures, such as joint ventures, can also involve complexities where profits and losses are often passed through to the individual partners' tax returns based on their share of the venture, potentially incurring additional levels of taxation depending on how the joint venture is established and operated. Choosing a sole proprietorship typically results in a simpler tax scenario and lower overall tax liability compared to corporations and potentially other business structures, making it favorable for individual business owners looking to minimize taxes on their earnings.

**5. What is the primary role of the construction superintendent?**

- A. To handle all financial transactions**
- B. To oversee day-to-day construction operations on the job site**
- C. To design the architectural plans and layouts**
- D. To recruit and train subcontractors**

The primary role of the construction superintendent is to oversee day-to-day construction operations on the job site. This includes managing workers, scheduling tasks, ensuring safety standards are maintained, and coordinating with different trades to ensure the project moves along efficiently and effectively. The superintendent acts as the on-site leader, responsible for making sure that the construction adheres to the project timeline and quality standards while also addressing any issues that arise during the construction process. The other roles mentioned, such as handling financial transactions, designing architectural plans, or recruiting and training subcontractors, do not fall under the superintendent's primary responsibilities. While construction superintendents may interact with these areas or collaborate with those who do, their main focus is the direct management of construction activities and personnel on site. This focus on operational oversight makes them essential for successful project execution.

**6. What is a common risk management process in project management?**

- A. Risk avoidance**
- B. Risk enhancement**
- C. Risk acceptance**
- D. Risk identification**

In project management, a common risk management process involves identifying potential risks that could impact the project's timeline, budget, or quality. Risk identification is the foundational step in the risk management process because it allows project managers and teams to recognize both internal and external factors that could pose threats or opportunities. By effectively identifying risks, project managers can then assess their potential impact and likelihood, prioritize them, and develop strategies for managing or mitigating those risks. This proactive approach enables teams to prepare for unforeseen challenges and ensures that risks are documented, monitored, and addressed throughout the project's lifecycle. The focus on risk identification is essential because, without knowing what risks exist, it would be impossible to implement strategies like avoidance, enhancement, or acceptance effectively. These subsequent strategies rely on the thorough identification of risks to tailor appropriate responses.

## 7. What unit of measure is typically used for carpet?

- A. Square foot
- B. Square yard**
- C. Square
- D. Cubic yard

The unit of measure typically used for carpet is square yard. Carpets are often sold by the square yard because this measurement aligns more closely with the dimensions and layout of flooring areas in most rooms. When assessing the amount of carpet needed, it's practicality to use square yards, as this allows for a more straightforward calculation of coverage for larger areas, making it simpler for both customers and retailers to determine the necessary amounts. Square yards provide a larger unit than square feet, which is advantageous when dealing with larger expanses, such as entire rooms. This approach can also simplify the cutting and fitting process since carpets are often manufactured in widths measured in yards. While square feet could theoretically be used, it tends to complicate the calculations for substantial flooring projects, hence the preference for square yards in the carpet industry. Understanding these measurements is essential for anyone involved in flooring installations, as it directly impacts cost estimates and material procurement. Using cubic yards is not relevant in this context, as that measure refers to volumes (important in landscaping or concrete work), while square units specifically pertain to flat surfaces like carpeting.

## 8. Deflection is a result of what type of stress?

- A. Bending**
- B. Tensile
- C. Shear
- D. Axial

Deflection is primarily a result of bending stress, which occurs when a structural element is subjected to forces that cause it to curve or deform. When a beam or similar structure is loaded, it experiences bending moments that lead to a change in its shape. The material also experiences different levels of tensile and compressive stresses along its length, but it is the bending that specifically contributes to observable deflection. In a beam, the top fibers may experience compression while the bottom fibers undergo tension as the beam bends. This differential stress distribution illustrates how forces lead to curvature and thus deflection. Understanding this concept is crucial for engineers, as it helps them design structures that can adequately handle loads without excessive deformation, ensuring both functionality and safety.

**9. What type of relationship describes installing the scratch coat of stucco followed by installing the top coat?**

- A. Finish to start**
- B. Start to start**
- C. Finish to finish**
- D. Start to finish**

The relationship between installing the scratch coat of stucco followed by the top coat is best described as a "Finish to start" relationship. In this type of relationship, one task must be completed before another can begin. In the context of stucco application, the scratch coat serves as a base layer that needs to be fully cured and finished before the top coat is applied. The scratch coat provides the necessary texture and adhesion for the subsequent layer. Therefore, the complete installation and finishing of the scratch coat signifies that the work on that phase is done, allowing the top coat installation to commence. This understanding reinforces the importance of sequential task management in construction, ensuring that each phase is completed successfully before proceeding to the next to maintain overall project quality and structural integrity.

**10. What is a Bid Document?**

- A. A checklist for evaluating project risks**
- B. A document that outlines the terms, conditions, and specifications for submitting a bid on a project**
- C. A summary of project deliverables**
- D. A promotional piece for attracting investors**

A bid document serves as a formal and essential part of the construction procurement process. It outlines the important terms, conditions, specifications, and requirements that bidders must adhere to when submitting their proposals for a project. This document ensures that all parties have a clear understanding of what is being requested, including project scope, bidding procedures, and contractual obligations. By providing a standardized format for bidders, the bid document helps facilitate a fair comparison of bids submitted by different contractors, ensuring that all bidders are evaluated based on the same criteria. This structure is fundamental in maintaining integrity and transparency in the bidding process. The other options, while relevant to different aspects of project management and investment, do not specifically define or capture the essence of what a bid document is. For example, a checklist for evaluating project risks focuses on risk management rather than bid submission. A summary of project deliverables provides an overview of outputs rather than the terms for bidding. A promotional piece for attracting investors could relate to securing funding for projects, but it does not address the requirements for bidding on those projects.



## 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://cacleve11.examzify.com>**

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