

Class A Commercial Driver License (CDL) HAZMAT Endorsement 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

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- 1. Which agency helps coordinate the emergency response to chemical hazards?**
 - A. The National Response Center**
 - B. The Federal Highway Administration**
 - C. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration**
 - D. The Environmental Protection Agency**

- 2. What does “RQ” indicate on the shipping paper?**
 - A. Carrier must report a spill of this material**
 - B. The material is nonhazardous**
 - C. The shipment is exempt from hazmat rules**
 - D. The material requires a daily log**

- 3. Explosives 1.1 must not be transported in vehicle combinations that include which type of material?**
 - A. Class 7 (radioactive) materials**
 - B. Flammable liquids**
 - C. Nonhazardous solids**
 - D. Corrosives**

- 4. The power unit of a placarded vehicle must have a fire extinguisher with a UL rating of ____ B:C or more.**
 - A. 5**
 - B. 10**
 - C. 15**
 - D. 20**

- 5. For most hazardous materials, how close may you park to the road briefly?**
 - A. Within 5 feet**
 - B. Within 15 feet**
 - C. Within 50 feet**
 - D. Within 100 feet**

- 6. If a dual tire is leaking while hazmat is being hauled, what is the required action?**
- A. Ignore and continue**
 - B. Stop at the nearest safe place and fix it**
 - C. Tighten lug nuts and continue**
 - D. Replace the tire on the road if possible**
- 7. If flammable solid or oxidizing materials are spilled, you should:**
- A. Warn others of the fire hazard**
 - B. Fight the fire if you can safely do so**
 - C. Ignore and continue driving**
 - D. Call the dispatcher**
- 8. Who is responsible for safely transporting a hazardous material shipment without delay and keeping the shipping papers in the right place?**
- A. The driver**
 - B. The shipper**
 - C. The receiver**
 - D. The carrier**
- 9. When loading or unloading any type of explosives, you must ensure which of the following?**
- A. Cargo heaters have been disabled**
 - B. The engine is off**
 - C. The fire extinguisher is present**
 - D. The driver has a hazmat endorsement**
- 10. If the symbol 'D' appears in Column 1 of the Hazardous Materials Table, the proper shipping name is:**
- A. Appropriate for describing materials for domestic transportation**
 - B. Reserved for international shipments**
 - C. Not used for shipping names**
 - D. Used only for air transport**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which agency helps coordinate the emergency response to chemical hazards?

- A. The National Response Center**
- B. The Federal Highway Administration**
- C. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration**
- D. The Environmental Protection Agency**

Coordinating the federal response to chemical hazards is handled by a national reporting and coordination hub. The National Response Center acts as the national point of contact for reports of spills and releases of oil or hazardous substances and then activates the appropriate responders, coordinating with agencies to manage the incident and deploy resources as needed. This centralized role is what makes it the best answer for how emergency response to chemical hazards is organized. The other agencies have important but different functions: the Federal Highway Administration focuses on highway transportation policy and safety, not incident coordination; Occupational Safety and Health Administration concentrates on workplace safety and health protections for workers; and the Environmental Protection Agency enforces environmental laws and conducts environmental protection activities, but it is not the central point for coordinating nationwide emergency responses to chemical releases.

2. What does “RQ” indicate on the shipping paper?

- A. Carrier must report a spill of this material**
- B. The material is nonhazardous**
- C. The shipment is exempt from hazmat rules**
- D. The material requires a daily log**

RQ on a shipping paper means reportable quantity. It marks a threshold for hazardous materials: if the shipment contains this material in an amount at or above its RQ, the carrier must report any release or spill to the proper authorities right away. The RQ value is specific to each material and is listed on the shipping paper; reporting is triggered when the quantity reaches that level. If a spill occurs and the amount shipped was at or above the RQ, you must notify the appropriate agency (often the National Response Center). If the quantity is below the RQ, reporting by quantity isn't required, though you still follow general spill response procedures. This designation does not mean the material is nonhazardous, nor does it indicate exemption from hazmat rules or a requirement to maintain a daily log.

3. Explosives 1.1 must not be transported in vehicle combinations that include which type of material?

- A. Class 7 (radioactive) materials**
- B. Flammable liquids**
- C. Nonhazardous solids**
- D. Corrosives**

Explosives with a mass explosion hazard (1.1) require strict separation from other materials because an accidental detonation could cause widespread damage and create additional hazards, such as dispersing any surrounding contents. The combination with radioactive materials is especially prohibited because a blast could spread radioactive contamination and complicate emergency response, containment, and decontamination efforts. The shielding and containment used for radioactive shipments would be compromised by an explosion, and the radiation hazards would be amplified for responders and the surrounding area. Other material types may have compatibility rules in some cases, but the pairing with radioactive materials is not allowed due to the dual hazards of a powerful blast and radioactivity.

4. The power unit of a placarded vehicle must have a fire extinguisher with a UL rating of ____ B:C or more.

- A. 5**
- B. 10**
- C. 15**
- D. 20**

When carrying hazardous materials, you need a fire extinguisher on the power unit that can handle the kinds of fires you might encounter there. A UL rating of 10-B:C means the extinguisher is capable of fighting a hydrocarbon (liquid fuel) fire up to a certain size and is suitable for use on electrical fires. The B rating shows it's effective against flammable-liquid fires, and the C indicates it won't conduct electricity or cause shock when used on energized equipment. The power unit area (engine compartment) can have both fuel/oil ignition risks and electrical components, so having at least 10-B:C ensures enough capability to control a small fire quickly and safely. Higher ratings would also meet the requirement, but 10-B:C is the minimum specified.

5. For most hazardous materials, how close may you park to the road briefly?

- A. Within 5 feet**
- B. Within 15 feet**
- C. Within 50 feet**
- D. Within 100 feet**

Parking safety during hazmat operations hinges on keeping the vehicle out of the travel lane while still staying close enough to the road for quick access. The rule permits you to park within a short distance of the road edge for brief loading or unloading, specifically up to five feet. This nearby position helps prevent blocking traffic while allowing you to reach the cargo quickly if needed and helps limit the area exposed in case of a spill or incident. Always secure the vehicle with the parking brake, place wheel chocks, and follow all safety procedures for placarding and handling the material.

6. If a dual tire is leaking while hazmat is being hauled, what is the required action?

- A. Ignore and continue**
- B. Stop at the nearest safe place and fix it**
- C. Tighten lug nuts and continue**
- D. Replace the tire on the road if possible**

When a dual tire is leaking on a hazmat load, you must stop at the nearest safe place and fix it before continuing. A leak means the tire is losing air, which can lead to a blowout, loss of wheel control, or further damage to the wheel and rim. With hazmat, any tire failure also raises the risk of a cargo spill or exposure, so it's essential to address the problem while the vehicle is safely parked rather than attempting to drive away with a compromised tire. Stopping in a safe location gives you a stable area to inspect, repair, or replace the tire and to recheck proper torque on the lug nuts and correct tire pressure before resuming the trip. Ignoring the leak or simply tightening lug nuts won't fix the underlying issue and could make things worse, and trying to replace the tire on the road should only happen after you've parked in a safe spot and confirmed you can work there safely.

7. If flammable solid or oxidizing materials are spilled, you should:

- A. Warn others of the fire hazard**
- B. Fight the fire if you can safely do so**
- C. Ignore and continue driving**
- D. Call the dispatcher**

When flammable solids or oxidizers spill, the immediate priority is safety: warn others about the fire hazard so they can move away, avoid ignition sources, and keep the area clear. This gives people time to evacuate and reduces the chance of exposure or a flash fire while responders assess and address the spill. Fighting the fire isn't the first step unless you're trained and it's clearly safe to do so, because incorrect or untrained attempts can quickly put you at serious risk. Calling the dispatcher or emergency responders is important, but the earliest action you should take is to alert others to the hazard so they don't inadvertently enter the area. Ignoring the spill and continuing to drive would leave the danger in place and could lead to a much worse outcome.

8. Who is responsible for safely transporting a hazardous material shipment without delay and keeping the shipping papers in the right place?

- A. The driver**
- B. The shipper**
- C. The receiver**
- D. The carrier**

The person in direct control of the shipment during transit is responsible for moving it safely and without unnecessary delay, and for keeping the required shipping papers with the vehicle in a readily accessible place. The driver must carry and keep the shipping papers where they can be easily shown to authorities if needed, and ensure they accurately reflect the cargo and its hazards. The shipper prepares the papers and the packaging but does not handle them on the road, and the carrier owns the transportation but the actual transport and on-the-road paperwork responsibilities fall to the driver. The receiver isn't involved in the transport phase.

9. When loading or unloading any type of explosives, you must ensure which of the following?

- A. Cargo heaters have been disabled**
- B. The engine is off**
- C. The fire extinguisher is present**
- D. The driver has a hazmat endorsement**

During loading or unloading explosives, you must remove any potential heat source in the cargo area. Cargo heaters are designed to keep some goods warm, but they can raise the temperature inside the cargo compartment and trigger or intensify a detonation risk with explosive materials. Turning off or disabling these heaters eliminates that specific ignition risk right when handling the explosives, which is the most direct and essential safeguard in this scenario. Engine being off is generally important for safety, but it doesn't address the direct risk from heat sources in the cargo. A fire extinguisher is valuable in case of an emergency, but it doesn't prevent ignition during the handling process. A hazmat endorsement is a licensing requirement, not a procedural control for loading/unloading.

10. If the symbol 'D' appears in Column 1 of the Hazardous Materials Table, the proper shipping name is:

- A. Appropriate for describing materials for domestic transportation**
- B. Reserved for international shipments**
- C. Not used for shipping names**
- D. Used only for air transport**

The symbol in Column 1 signals the scope of the proper shipping name. When you see the letter D, it means the listed proper shipping name is intended for domestic transportation—that is, shipments within the United States. This naming is used for domestic hazmat shipments and isn't the designation for international or other modes of transport. So the best answer emphasizes that the shipping name described by that entry is appropriate for domestic transportation.

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://classacdlhazmat.examzify.com>

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

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