

Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) CDC Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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	16

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 aspect of firearms training is crucial for effective combat readiness?**
 - A. Understanding advanced weapon systems**
 - B. Developing strategic thinking skills**
 - C. Practicing consistent and accurate shooting**
 - D. Participating in simulated battlefield scenarios**

- 2. What is the significance of safety protocols in CATM training?**
 - A. To expedite training processes**
 - B. To ensure the safety of all individuals involved**
 - C. To maintain competition readiness**
 - D. To facilitate better communication**

- 3. What is the main difference between preventative maintenance and corrective maintenance?**
 - A. Preventative is scheduled upkeep; corrective is for existing issues**
 - B. Preventative involves immediate fixes; corrective needs scheduling**
 - C. Preventative is for new equipment; corrective is for old equipment**
 - D. Preventative is for personnel; corrective is for property**

- 4. Why is understanding combat stress management vital for CATM trainees?**
 - A. To improve physical fitness**
 - B. To maintain composure and effectiveness during high-pressure situations**
 - C. To enhance teamwork skills**
 - D. To familiarize with weapon systems**

- 5. What must a new CATM instructor complete before conducting training?**
 - A. Pass a physical fitness test**
 - B. Attend and complete a certified instructor course**
 - C. Acquire personal firearms**
 - D. Have previous teaching experience**

- 6. During preventative maintenance checks on the MK19, how many welded pins should be present in the receiver?**
- A. 2**
 - B. 3**
 - C. 4**
 - D. 5**
- 7. What are the steps involved in conducting a daily inspection of a firearm?**
- A. Check weight, color, and model**
 - B. Inspect for cleanliness, functional parts, and lubrication**
 - C. Confirm serial number and ownership**
 - D. Measure accuracy and firing distance**
- 8. What is the focus of the weapon familiarization phase in CATM training?**
- A. Developing hunting skills**
 - B. Understanding the components and functions of the weapon**
 - C. Practicing shooting accuracy**
 - D. Reviewing safety protocols**
- 9. What component must be adjusted during the firing pin protrusion test?**
- A. Barrel assembly**
 - B. Trigger mechanism**
 - C. Self-locking screw**
 - D. Pistol grip**
- 10. Which assembly of the M240B machine gun is responsible for feeding, stripping, chambering, firing, extraction, and ejection of cartridges?**
- A. Trigger assembly**
 - B. Feeding assembly**
 - C. Bolt and operating rod assembly**
 - D. Gas cylinder assembly**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. Which aspect of firearms training is crucial for effective combat readiness?

- A. Understanding advanced weapon systems**
- B. Developing strategic thinking skills**
- C. Practicing consistent and accurate shooting**
- D. Participating in simulated battlefield scenarios**

Practicing consistent and accurate shooting is essential for effective combat readiness because it directly impacts a soldier's ability to engage targets effectively and efficiently in high-pressure situations. Mastery over firearms not only improves a soldier's marksmanship but also enhances their confidence during combat operations. In a combat environment, the stress and chaos can be overwhelming, making it vital for troops to rely on muscle memory developed through regular practice. Consistency in shooting helps ensure that when soldiers do encounter hostile situations, their shooting skills are reliable, translating to better performance in the field. This practice includes understanding proper form, breath control, and trigger manipulation, which are fundamental components of accurate shooting. While understanding advanced weapon systems, developing strategic thinking skills, and participating in simulated battlefield scenarios are all important aspects of military training, they support the broader goal of effective combat readiness rather than being specific skills that can be applied immediately in a combat scenario. Ultimately, the foundational ability to shoot accurately and consistently serves as a critical component for anyone involved in combat operations.

2. What is the significance of safety protocols in CATM training?

- A. To expedite training processes**
- B. To ensure the safety of all individuals involved**
- C. To maintain competition readiness**
- D. To facilitate better communication**

The significance of safety protocols in Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) training is paramount as they are designed to ensure the safety of all individuals involved. Safety protocols minimize the risk of accidents and injuries during training exercises, which can involve handling weapons, ammunition, and other potentially hazardous materials. By adhering to these protocols, instructors and trainees create an environment where they can focus on learning and skill development without the added concern of personal safety or the safety of their peers. Additionally, safety protocols foster a culture of responsibility and awareness, where individuals are continuously reminded of the importance of careful practices when operating equipment or participating in drills. This commitment to safety helps build a foundation of trust within the training environment, allowing for a more effective and efficient learning experience. Ultimately, while other aspects of training are important—such as readiness and communication—the core priority remains the protection of everyone involved.

3. What is the main difference between preventative maintenance and corrective maintenance?

- A. Preventative is scheduled upkeep; corrective is for existing issues**
- B. Preventative involves immediate fixes; corrective needs scheduling**
- C. Preventative is for new equipment; corrective is for old equipment**
- D. Preventative is for personnel; corrective is for property**

The main difference highlighted in this context is that preventative maintenance involves scheduled upkeep aimed at preventing issues from occurring, while corrective maintenance is performed to address existing problems after they have already arisen. Preventative maintenance is proactive and focuses on regular inspections, servicing, and replacement of worn parts to ensure equipment operates smoothly and avoids unexpected breakdowns. This approach minimizes downtime and extends the lifespan of the equipment. Corrective maintenance, on the other hand, is reactive and is implemented after a failure or problem has been identified, requiring immediate attention to restore the equipment to operational status. By differentiating the two, individuals can understand the importance of anticipating maintenance needs versus addressing problems as they occur.

4. Why is understanding combat stress management vital for CATM trainees?

- A. To improve physical fitness**
- B. To maintain composure and effectiveness during high-pressure situations**
- C. To enhance teamwork skills**
- D. To familiarize with weapon systems**

Understanding combat stress management is crucial for CATM trainees because it directly impacts their ability to maintain composure and effectiveness during high-pressure situations. In a combat environment, individuals are often exposed to stressful and chaotic conditions that can impair decision-making, affect focus, and lead to emotional strain. By mastering techniques for managing stress, trainees can better control their reactions, remain focused on their objectives, and execute their tasks efficiently, ensuring safety and efficiency in firearms training and operations. While physical fitness, teamwork skills, and familiarity with weapon systems are important aspects of training, they do not specifically address the mental and emotional challenges posed by combat stress. The ability to manage stress effectively is what allows personnel to perform their duties reliably under duress, making it a critical component of overall combat readiness.

5. What must a new CATM instructor complete before conducting training?

- A. Pass a physical fitness test**
- B. Attend and complete a certified instructor course**
- C. Acquire personal firearms**
- D. Have previous teaching experience**

Before conducting training as a new Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) instructor, it is essential to attend and complete a certified instructor course. This course is designed to equip instructors with the necessary knowledge, skills, and pedagogical techniques required for effective teaching and training in firearms and combat arms maintenance. The certified instructor course covers fundamental principles such as safety protocols, instructional strategies, and the specifics of the material that needs to be taught, ensuring that instructors can deliver training effectively and in compliance with military standards. This foundational training is crucial for ensuring that instructors can not only convey information clearly but also promote a safe and productive learning environment. While physical fitness, personal firearms, and previous teaching experience can contribute to an instructor's capability, they are not mandatory prerequisites for conducting training. The emphasis is on receiving formal training specific to the instructor role, which ensures consistency, safety, and adherence to established military guidelines in all instructional activities.

6. During preventative maintenance checks on the MK19, how many welded pins should be present in the receiver?

- A. 2**
- B. 3**
- C. 4**
- D. 5**

The correct response is based on the design specifications of the MK19 machine gun. During preventative maintenance checks, it is essential to confirm that all structural components are intact, including the presence of welded pins, which are critical for the functionality and safety of the weapon. In the case of the MK19, specifically, there should be three welded pins present in the receiver. Each of these pins serves a distinct purpose, contributing to the overall integrity and proper operation of the firearm. The absence of any of these pins could lead to malfunctions or stability issues during firing, highlighting the importance of verifying their presence during routine inspections. Understanding this detail is crucial for ensuring the reliability and safety of the MK19 and aligns with the overarching principle of maintaining equipment to avoid operational failures.

7. What are the steps involved in conducting a daily inspection of a firearm?

A. Check weight, color, and model

B. Inspect for cleanliness, functional parts, and lubrication

C. Confirm serial number and ownership

D. Measure accuracy and firing distance

The correct choice highlights essential procedures necessary for ensuring the safe and effective operation of a firearm. Conducting a daily inspection involves a thorough assessment of the firearm's cleanliness, examining its functional parts, and ensuring proper lubrication. Cleanliness is critical because residue from previous use can affect performance and reliability. Checking the functional parts ensures that mechanisms such as the trigger, safety, and magazine are working correctly and are not damaged. Adequate lubrication is also vital since it reduces friction and wear on moving parts, contributing to improved firearm longevity and safety during use. The other options focus on aspects that are not fundamental to daily operational readiness. While confirming a serial number and ownership may be relevant for legal and accountability purposes, it does not impact the immediate functionality of the firearm. Measuring accuracy and firing distance relates more to performance evaluation than daily maintenance. Checking weight, color, and model might be relevant for identification purposes but is not part of the operational inspection routine to ensure the firearm's readiness for use.

8. What is the focus of the weapon familiarization phase in CATM training?

A. Developing hunting skills

B. Understanding the components and functions of the weapon

C. Practicing shooting accuracy

D. Reviewing safety protocols

The focus of the weapon familiarization phase in CATM training is centered around understanding the components and functions of the weapon. This phase is crucial because it equips trainees with the foundational knowledge they need to operate the weapon safely and effectively. By learning the parts of the weapon and how they work together, students can better understand the mechanics of operation, maintenance requirements, and troubleshooting techniques. This foundational knowledge is essential before moving on to practical application, such as practicing shooting accuracy or reviewing safety protocols. While those elements are important in their own right, the familiarization phase primarily emphasizes the internal and external structure of the weapon, enabling a deeper understanding and appreciation for the equipment being used. Therefore, this focus ensures that trainees are well-prepared for hands-on training and ultimately enhances their overall competence with the weapon systems.

9. What component must be adjusted during the firing pin protrusion test?

- A. Barrel assembly**
- B. Trigger mechanism**
- C. Self-locking screw**
- D. Pistol grip**

The component that must be adjusted during the firing pin protrusion test is the self-locking screw. This screw is crucial because it controls the depth at which the firing pin protrudes from the bolt face. If the firing pin protrudes too far, it can lead to light strikes on the primer, potentially causing a failure to fire. Conversely, if it protrudes too little, it may not strike the primer with enough force to initiate ignition. Adjusting the self-locking screw ensures that the firing pin is positioned correctly, thereby allowing for reliable ignition of the ammunition and ensuring the overall safety and functionality of the firearm during operation. The other components listed—barrel assembly, trigger mechanism, and pistol grip—while important for the firearm’s performance and handling, do not directly relate to the protrusion of the firing pin during this specific test.

10. Which assembly of the M240B machine gun is responsible for feeding, stripping, chambering, firing, extraction, and ejection of cartridges?

- A. Trigger assembly**
- B. Feeding assembly**
- C. Bolt and operating rod assembly**
- D. Gas cylinder assembly**

The bolt and operating rod assembly is responsible for the critical functions of feeding, stripping, chambering, firing, extraction, and ejection of cartridges in the M240B machine gun. This assembly plays a pivotal role in the overall operation of the weapon, as it integrates various moving parts that work in conjunction during the firing cycle. When a cartridge is fed from the belt into the chamber, the operating rod drives the bolt forward, chambering the round and allowing for ignition when the trigger is pulled. After firing, the bolt continues its movement, extracting the spent cartridge case and ejecting it out of the ejection port, thus preparing the weapon for the next round. The other assemblies, while important, do not perform all these functions. The trigger assembly primarily manages the firing mechanism. The feeding assembly is involved in moving ammunition into position, but it does not engage with the cartridge in the chambering or extraction processes. The gas cylinder assembly mainly deals with the gas operation to cycle the bolt but does not directly manage the mechanical processes related to cartridge handling.

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://catmcdc.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE