

COMMUNICATIONS PROGRESS TEST 1 PRACTICE (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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 factor is NOT typically adjusted to change tone in professional writing?**
 - A. Color of the document or slides.
 - B. Word choice.
 - C. Formality level.
 - D. Directness.

- 2. Identify the full SAR order sequence.**
 - A. Commo -> Fltcmdr -> Rssc/Gssc -> Nctams Shf
 - B. Commo -> Rssc/Gssc -> Fltcmdr -> Nctams Shf
 - C. Rssc/Gssc -> Commo -> Fltcmdr -> Nctams Shf
 - D. Commo -> Fltcmdr -> Nctams Shf -> Rssc/Gssc

- 3. Asynchronous signal data is typically used during which type of transmissions?**
 - A. Low-speed transmissions without a clock
 - B. High-speed transmissions with strict timing
 - C. Burst transmissions with guaranteed delivery
 - D. Continuous, synchronous streams

- 4. In the basic Shannon-Weaver model, which element is not included?**
 - A. Sender
 - B. Channel
 - C. Feedback
 - D. Destination

- 5. Which of the following is a SMART objective in communication planning?**
 - A. Clarify the target audience
 - B. Establish a social media policy
 - C. Increase event registrations by 25% in 6 weeks
 - D. Track attendance at events

- 6. Long-range communications are used at which part of the spectrum?**
- A. Upper end of spectrum
 - B. Mid-range frequencies
 - C. Lower end of spectrum
 - D. Very high frequencies only
- 7. Which two issues reduce clarity and are commonly addressed by punctuation and sentence simplification?**
- A. Run-on sentences and sentence fragments.
 - B. Passive voice and parallelism errors.
 - C. Long sentences with varied structure.
 - D. Use of pronouns.
- 8. Which resource provides procedural information on a specific tactical communications subject?**
- A. Daily COMMs status message
 - B. GCCS-M location display
 - C. Communications Information Bulletin (CIB)
 - D. OPTASK COMMs
- 9. The Shannon-Weaver model is sometimes presented with feedback added to reflect more realistic communication. True or False?**
- A. True
 - B. False
 - C. Only in cases of digital communication
 - D. It never includes noise
- 10. Which of the following is NOT a network enclave found on ships?**
- A. NIPRNET (unclassified)
 - B. SIPRNET (secret)
 - C. JWICS (top secret)
 - D. ECINET (unclassified)

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which factor is NOT typically adjusted to change tone in professional writing?

- A. Color of the document or slides.**
- B. Word choice.
- C. Formality level.
- D. Directness.

Color is not typically adjusted to change tone in professional writing. Tone comes from the words you choose, the level of formality, and how directly you state your message. Word choice carries connotations that shape tone, such as using precise terms for a clear, professional feel. Formality level shifts the voice toward more official or more casual writing. Directness affects whether the message reads as blunt and straightforward or more hedged and polite. Color and other visuals influence how a document feels at a glance, but they don't change the language's tone.

2. Identify the full SAR order sequence.

- A. Commo -> Fltcmdr -> Rssc/Gssc -> Nctams Shf**
- B. Commo -> Rssc/Gssc -> Fltcmdr -> Nctams Shf
- C. Rssc/Gssc -> Commo -> Fltcmdr -> Nctams Shf
- D. Commo -> Fltcmdr -> Nctams Shf -> Rssc/Gssc

In SAR operations, the flow of authority and information is built from the ground up: you start with reliable on-scene communications, then move to directing the air response, then expand coordination to regional centers, and finally disseminate updates through national networks. So you establish Commo first to ensure anyone involved can talk and share status. Once comms are solid, the Flight Commander takes over to manage and deploy the aircraft resources for the search and rescue effort. After that, regional or global Rescue Coordination Centers step in to synchronize multiple agencies and jurisdictions, pooling assets and information at a broader level. The process ends with using the national SHF network (NCTAMS SHF) to push updates and maintain nationwide visibility of the operation. This progression—from local comms to flight operations to regional coordination to national dissemination—fits the full SAR order sequence.

3. Asynchronous signal data is typically used during which type of transmissions?

- A. Low-speed transmissions without a clock**
- B. High-speed transmissions with strict timing
- C. Burst transmissions with guaranteed delivery
- D. Continuous, synchronous streams

Asynchronous transmission is used when the transmitter and receiver do not share a clock. In this mode, each character is framed with a start bit and stop bits, and the receiver derives timing from the start bit to sample the data bits. This makes timing independent of a constant clock line, which is practical for low-speed, non-continuous data. The overhead of start/stop bits reduces efficiency at higher speeds, so high-speed or tightly timed transfers rely on synchronous methods with a shared clock. So asynchronous signal data is typically used during low-speed transmissions without a clock.

4. In the basic Shannon-Weaver model, which element is not included?

- A. Sender
- B. Channel
- C. Feedback**
- D. Destination

In the basic Shannon-Weaver model, communication is treated as a straight-line process: a sender encodes a message, it travels through a channel where noise can distort it, and a receiver decodes it so the destination gets the message. There's no loop that sends a response back to the sender, so there's no feedback path in this original version. Feedback is added in later, more complex models to capture two-way communication, but the basic model focuses on one-way transmission. So, the element not included is feedback.

5. Which of the following is a SMART objective in communication planning?

- A. Clarify the target audience
- B. Establish a social media policy
- C. Increase event registrations by 25% in 6 weeks**
- D. Track attendance at events

The main concept here is SMART objectives in communication planning. A SMART objective clearly states what will be achieved, how success will be measured, and by when. The statement increasing event registrations by 25% in 6 weeks fits perfectly because it specifies the action (increase registrations), includes a numeric target (25%), and sets a deadline (6 weeks), making it measurable and time-bound. It also implies relevance to the event goal and is designed to be achievable. Clarifying the target audience is a preparatory step rather than a concrete, measurable goal. Establishing a social media policy is about creating rules, not achieving a quantified outcome. Tracking attendance at events is a measurement activity, not an objective with a target to reach.

6. Long-range communications are used at which part of the spectrum?

- A. Upper end of spectrum
- B. Mid-range frequencies
- C. Lower end of spectrum**
- D. Very high frequencies only

Long-range communications rely on propagation modes that reach far beyond the local area. At the lower end of the spectrum, signals travel as ground waves along the Earth's surface and can cover great distances without relying on repeaters or satellites. These longer wavelengths also have different propagation behavior that favors long-range links, sometimes even using ionospheric reflection on certain bands to extend reach. In contrast, higher frequencies tend to suffer more path loss and rely on line-of-sight or infrastructure to cover long distances, making them less suited for long-range use. That's why long-range communication is associated with the lower end of the spectrum.

7. Which two issues reduce clarity and are commonly addressed by punctuation and sentence simplification?

- A. Run-on sentences and sentence fragments.**
- B. Passive voice and parallelism errors.
- C. Long sentences with varied structure.
- D. Use of pronouns.

Clear communication hinges on making each idea easy to follow. Run-on sentences happen when several independent thoughts run together without proper breaks or connectors, so the reader must work hard to figure where one idea ends and the next begins. Punctuation—periods, semicolons, or coordinating conjunctions—gives those ideas clear boundaries, while sentence simplification breaks complex thoughts into shorter, discrete units so each idea lands clearly. Sentence fragments are incomplete thoughts that lack a main clause, leaving the reader waiting for essential information. Punctuation can't fix a fragment by itself, because the issue is structural: the sentence doesn't express a complete thought. Turning fragments into complete sentences—adding a subject and a predicate or recombining with a surrounding clause—restores a clear, complete idea. Simplifying sentences by removing unnecessary complexity and linking ideas with proper structure makes the writing direct and easy to grasp. The other options involve concerns that affect style or rhythm more than the core boundary and completeness issues that punctuation and straightforward rewriting directly address.

8. Which resource provides procedural information on a specific tactical communications subject?

- A. Daily COMMs status message
- B. GCCS-M location display
- C. Communications Information Bulletin (CIB)**
- D. OPTASK COMMs

Procedural guidance for a specific tactical communications subject is typically found in a Communications Information Bulletin. CIBs are designed to deliver step-by-step procedures, configuration details, and standardized instructions for particular topics, ensuring a uniform reference for units and operators. The other options serve different roles: a daily COMMs status message reports current status rather than how to perform procedures; a GCCS-M location display is a visualization tool showing assets and positions; OPTASK COMMs is an operational tasking order that outlines how communications should be executed for an operation, which includes planning and coordination but isn't a dedicated procedural bulletin for a single subject. So the Communications Information Bulletin best fits the need for procedural information on a specific tactical communications topic.

9. The Shannon-Weaver model is sometimes presented with feedback added to reflect more realistic communication. True or False?

- A. True
- B. False
- C. Only in cases of digital communication
- D. It never includes noise

The idea being tested is that the Shannon–Weaver model can include a feedback loop to reflect two-way communication. In its original form, the model is a linear flow from sender to receiver with a channel and noise affecting the message. But many treatments add a feedback path from the receiver back to the sender, turning it into a circular, two-way process where the recipient's response helps the sender judge understanding and adjust the message or channel. This extension is common because it better mirrors real-life interactions, where messages are often followed by questions, confirmations, or clarifications. So the statement is true.

10. Which of the following is NOT a network enclave found on ships?

- A. NIPRNET (unclassified)
- B. SIPRNET (secret)
- C. JWICS (top secret)
- D. ECINET (unclassified)

On ships, networks are organized into security enclaves that match different levels of classification, keeping access and data separated. The unclassified enclave is NIPRNET, the secret enclave is SIPRNET, and the top-secret enclave is JWICS. ECINET isn't a recognized shipboard enclave in this architecture, so it isn't used on ships. The three standard shipboard environments align with unclassified, secret, and top secret, which is why NIPRNET, SIPRNET, and JWICS are the familiar choices, while ECINET does not fit the established network framework.

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://commsprogress1.examzify.com>

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

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