CR-21 Landscapes and Irrigation Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide

BY EXAMZIFY

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. In a hydraulic irrigation system, what action causes the valves to open?

A. They close when pressure is released

B. They open when the controller applies water pressure

C. They open when the pressure is released

D. They stay open regardless

2. What is the approximate average compressive strength of paving bricks?

A. 2000 PSI

B. 5000 PSI

C. 7000 PSI

D. 10000 PSI

3. How deep below the original surface should the top of the distribution pipe be placed?

A. Below 4 inches

B. Below 6 inches

C. Not less than 8 inches

D. Not less than 10 inches

4. What is the maximum distance allowed for scaffolding from the wall during plastering?

A. 12 Inches

B. 18 Inches

C. 24 Inches

D. 36 Inches

5. A hydro pneumatic storage tank that cycles the pump on and off is usually caused by which condition?

A. A high pressure limit that is too high

B. Not enough air in tank

C. A low pressure limit that is too low

D. Too much air in tank

6. Weep Holes may be utilized in which method of change in site grading?

A. Earth Embankment

B. Retaining Walls

C. Timber Cribbing

D. Stone Rip Rap

7. What color paint should be used to mark an excavation site before contacting Blue Stake?

A. Blue

B. Yellow

C. Green

D. White

8. Which lawn establishment method is generally the least costly?

A. Sodding

B. Plugging

C. Sprigging

D. Seeding

9. Weep holes are used behind which feature to drain water from behind the structure?

A. Earth Embankment

B. Retaining Walls

C. Timber Cribbing

D. Stone Rip Rap

10. Which device is used to prevent back siphonage only?

A. Gate valves

B. Drain valves

C. Angle valves

D. Vacuum Breakers

Answers

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

Explanations

1. In a hydraulic irrigation system, what action causes the valves to open?

A. They close when pressure is released

B. They open when the controller applies water pressure

C. They open when the pressure is released

D. They stay open regardless

In a hydraulic irrigation system, the valve actuator responds to how pressure in the control line changes. The valve is held closed by the control pressure; when the controller releases that pressure, a spring or the diaphragm's return moves the mechanism to the open position, allowing water to flow to the zones. So the action that opens the valve is the release of pressure, not applying pressure. If pressure were applied to open it, it would work opposite to how these hydraulic actuators are designed, and the valve would tend to close when pressure is restored.

2. What is the approximate average compressive strength of paving bricks?

A. 2000 PSI

B. 5000 PSI

C. 7000 PSI

D. 10000 PSI

Compressive strength is the load per unit area a paving brick can bear before it crushes. Paving bricks are made to carry traffic and foot loads, so they're designed with a solid, mid-range strength. The typical average strength you'll see for paving bricks is around five thousand pounds per square inch. This value balances durability with cost and fits the performance of common clay or concrete pavers used in driveways and walkways on a proper base. Some bricks can be stronger, but five thousand psi represents the common, practical average. Values around two thousand psi would be too weak for regular paving use, while ten thousand psi is more than what's usually needed for standard paving bricks.

3. How deep below the original surface should the top of the distribution pipe be placed?

A. Below 4 inches

B. Below 6 inches

C. Not less than 8 inches

D. Not less than 10 inches

The main idea is protecting underground distribution piping from surface disturbances while keeping installation practical. Placing the top of the distribution pipe at not less than eight inches below the original surface gives a reliable shield against damage from mowing, tillage, and other activities that occur at the surface, and it also helps prevent roots from easily reaching and interfering with the line. Eight inches is deep enough to provide this protection without making the trench excessively deep for installation or future service. If buried shallower, at four or six inches, the pipe is more vulnerable to damage or displacement from routine landscaping work. Going deeper, like ten inches, adds unnecessary trenching work without meaningful added protection in most cases.

4. What is the maximum distance allowed for scaffolding from the wall during plastering?

A. 12 Inches

B. 18 Inches

C. 24 Inches

D. 36 Inches

The key point is reach and control for plastering. Scaffolding should be close enough to the wall so you can apply plaster with a trowel and hawk without overreaching, which helps maintain balance and produce an even coat. The maximum distance allowed is 18 inches. If you go farther out, your reach becomes awkward, you can't control the plaster thickness as well, and the risk of slips or loss of balance increases. Being within about 18 inches gives a comfortable, safe reach for typical plastering tools while keeping the work stable and predictable.

5. A hydro pneumatic storage tank that cycles the pump on and off is usually caused by which condition?

A. A high pressure limit that is too high

B. Not enough air in tank

C. A low pressure limit that is too low

D. Too much air in tank

Short cycling happens because the air cushion inside a hydro-pneumatic storage tank provides the space that allows water to be stored and pressure to change gradually as demand varies. If there isn't enough air in the tank, the cushion is too small to absorb the incoming water. The tank fills with water quickly, causing the pressure to rise rapidly to the cut-off point and stop the pump. As water is used and pressure falls, the pump starts again, leading to a rapid on/off cycling pattern. Recharging the tank with the proper air pre-charge (matching the system's cut-in pressure) restores the cushion and stops the short cycling. The other conditions would alter when the pump starts or stops but don't produce this rapid cycling pattern.

6. Weep Holes may be utilized in which method of change in site grading?

A. Earth Embankment

B. Retaining Walls

C. Timber Cribbing

D. Stone Rip Rap

Weep holes are all about draining water from behind a structure to control hydrostatic pressure when the ground level changes. When you create a change in site grade using a vertical or near-vertical face, the soil behind that face can collect groundwater. If that water isn't relieved, the pressure against the wall or back its surface can push, crack, or push the wall outward. Weep holes provide a controlled path for that water to escape from behind the wall, usually near the bottom, helping to keep the wall stable as the grade changes. This drainage concept is specific to retaining walls, where a backfill and a vertical or near-vertical face require an outlet for buildup water. Earth embankments, timber cribbing, and stone rip rap are different methods of shaping or stabilizing terrain and slopes; they don't inherently rely on weep holes to relieve water behind a vertical face, so the drainage role of weep holes is best associated with retaining walls.

7. What color paint should be used to mark an excavation site before contacting Blue Stake?

A. Blue

B. Yellow

C. Green

D. White

White marks are used to show the proposed excavation area. This color communicates that the ground in that area is planned to be disturbed, helping define the scope of your project before utility markings are provided. When you later contact Blue Stake, those white boundaries guide the locators so they know how large the digging area will be and can coordinate marking any actual underground lines accordingly. Other colors indicate existing utilities (for example blue for water, red for electric, yellow for gas, green for sewer, orange for communications, purple for irrigation or reclaimed water), but white specifically denotes the planned, not-yet-marked, excavation area.

8. Which lawn establishment method is generally the least costly?

A. Sodding

B. Plugging

C. Sprigging

D. Seeding

The main factor tested here is the cost of establishing a lawn. Seeding is generally the least costly because it uses only seed and basic preparation, without the expense of buying and handling mature turf or many planting units. Sodding requires purchasing and installing full-grown turf, which adds substantial material and labor costs. Plugging and sprigging involve buying numerous small planting units (plugs or stolons) and placing them across the area, which also adds labor and material costs. Seeding keeps initial outlays low since seed is inexpensive and installation is simpler, though it can take longer to establish and may need more ongoing weed control and irrigation.

9. Weep holes are used behind which feature to drain water from behind the structure?

A. Earth Embankment

B. Retaining Walls

C. Timber Cribbing

D. Stone Rip Rap

Weep holes relieve hydrostatic pressure by letting water escape from behind a structure. In retaining walls, water can accumulate in the backfill and push against the wall, risking movement or failure. Providing openings at the base allows that water to drain away, reducing the pressure and increasing stability. Other features like earth embankments, timber cribbing, or stone riprap are not primarily designed to drain water from behind a vertical retaining boundary, so they don't rely on weep holes in the same way.

10. Which device is used to prevent back siphonage only?

A. Gate valves

B. Drain valves

C. Angle valves

D. Vacuum Breakers

Back siphonage happens when system pressure drops and water is siphoned back into the potable supply. An atmospheric vacuum breaker does exactly what's needed: it vents to the atmosphere whenever pressure falls, admitting air and breaking the siphon so contaminated water cannot be drawn back into the supply. Because it relies on air entry rather than blocking backflow with a valve, it cannot resist backpressure, so it protects against siphonage only, not against backflow caused by elevated pressure in the irrigation system. The other options are simply shut-off or drain valves and do not provide siphonage protection.

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://cr21landscapesirrigation.examzify.com

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