

Criminal Investigations Basic Perspectives 13th Edition Practice Test (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. When more than one person is responsible for the commission of a crime and when one suspect is identified, the other suspects may be identified as well using which investigative lead?**
 - A. Residual Link**
 - B. Personal Linkage**
 - C. Association Chain**
 - D. Suspect Tie**
- 2. Racially biased comments by a subject should be considered in evaluating the subject's what?**
 - A. Credibility**
 - B. Competency**
 - C. Reliability**
 - D. Memory**
- 3. Which analytical technique uses neutron irradiation to reveal elemental composition of a sample?**
 - A. X-ray diffraction**
 - B. Mass spectrometry**
 - C. Gamma spectrometry**
 - D. Neutron activation analysis**
- 4. In eyewitness identification, when photos are not available, a police artist develops what visual aids?**
 - A. Mug Books**
 - B. Sketches**
 - C. Profiles**
 - D. Composites**
- 5. Criminals often use codes and ciphers to protect the security of their messages and transactions. This is known as?**
 - A. Cryptography**
 - B. Cryptanalysis**
 - C. Steganography**
 - D. Forensics**

- 6. Which scenario demonstrates a stop based on reasonable suspicion?**
- A. A stop based solely on a hunch with no observed behavior.**
 - B. A stop that relies only on the officer's guess without articulable facts.**
 - C. A brief detention justified by observed facts that give rise to reasonable suspicion.**
 - D. A full arrest.**
- 7. The practice of temporarily detaining a person for questioning with a possible pat-down for weapons is called?**
- A. Stop and Frisk**
 - B. Plain View Search**
 - C. Inventory Search**
 - D. Writ of Assistance**
- 8. The crime scene search pattern that starts at one end and back and forth until the area is searched is known as Strip search.**
- A. Strip search**
 - B. Grid search**
 - C. Spiral search**
 - D. Zone search**
- 9. a person reporting a forcible sexual assault has just been through an emotionally shattering experience and may be in shock. This is known as?**
- A. Rape trauma syndrome**
 - B. Anger retaliation rapist**
 - C. Power assertive rapists**
 - D. Mass murder**
- 10. During an interview, moving around or fidgeting are examples of what type of signals?**
- A. Verbal signals**
 - B. Audible cues**
 - C. Nonverbal signals**
 - D. Legal signals**

Answers

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

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Explanations

1. When more than one person is responsible for the commission of a crime and when one suspect is identified, the other suspects may be identified as well using which investigative lead?

A. Residual Link

B. Personal Linkage

C. Association Chain

D. Suspect Tie

When multiple offenders are involved, investigators rely on personal linkage to uncover others who were connected to the crime. This lead focuses on the relationships between people—family, friends, coworkers, or known associates—who may have worked together or helped the offender. Once one suspect is identified, you look for these personal ties to bring in additional participants who shared the plan or assisted in the crime. For example, if a suspect is identified, detectives might examine who that person knows, their routine partners, or anyone who had reason to be involved, which can reveal others who joined in the offense. Residual links are tied to evidence left at the scene rather than social connections; an association chain describes broader network connections and may not zero in on direct personal ties; a suspect tie is too vague and doesn't specifically emphasize the relationships that reveal co-perpetrators.

2. Racially biased comments by a subject should be considered in evaluating the subject's what?

A. Credibility

B. Competency

C. Reliability

D. Memory

Racially biased comments reveal the subject's prejudice and potential motive to shape information to fit those biases, which directly questions how believable their statements are. Credibility is about whether what they say is trustworthy; prejudice casts doubt on their honesty and candor, so such bias should be weighed when judging credibility. Competency is about the ability to understand and participate in the process, which bias doesn't automatically determine. Reliability concerns whether statements are consistent over time, which bias doesn't necessarily dictate. Memory refers to recall accuracy, which bias doesn't inherently determine, though it could influence what is remembered. With bias signaling tendencies that affect truthfulness, credibility is the most appropriate measure.

3. Which analytical technique uses neutron irradiation to reveal elemental composition of a sample?

- A. X-ray diffraction**
- B. Mass spectrometry**
- C. Gamma spectrometry**
- D. Neutron activation analysis**

Neutron activation analysis relies on exposing a sample to neutrons so its constituent nuclei capture those neutrons and become radioactive isotopes. As these newly formed isotopes decay, they emit gamma rays with energies that are unique to each element. By measuring the energies and intensities of these gamma rays, you can identify which elements are present and determine their amounts. This approach is highly sensitive and can detect trace elements, often without destroying the sample. X-ray diffraction, in contrast, is about how X-rays scatter off a crystal lattice to reveal structure, not elemental amounts. Mass spectrometry analyzes the masses of ionized particles to identify and quantify elements or isotopes, without relying on neutron irradiation. Gamma spectrometry measures gamma radiation, but it does not itself involve activating the sample with neutrons; it's the detection step used after activation in neutron activation analysis.

4. In eyewitness identification, when photos are not available, a police artist develops what visual aids?

- A. Mug Books**
- B. Sketches**
- C. Profiles**
- D. Composites**

When photographs aren't available, a police artist creates a visual likeness from the eyewitness's description. This produced image is called a composite. The artist selects and combines facial features—such as eyes, nose, mouth, and jawline—from a reference set or freehand to build a likeness that the witness can review. The composite can be updated as new details come in, helping investigators narrow down suspects or invite tips from the public. This differs from mug books, which are collections of actual photos, and from profiles, which are written descriptions, or simpler sketches that may not be produced as a formal composite used in investigations.

5. Criminals often use codes and ciphers to protect the security of their messages and transactions. This is known as?

- A. Cryptography**
- B. Cryptanalysis**
- C. Steganography**
- D. Forensics**

Protecting information with codes and ciphers falls under cryptography. This field is about creating and using methods to transform readable information into unreadable ciphertext (and back again with a key) so messages and transactions stay confidential. It covers a range of techniques from simple substitutions to advanced public-key systems used today. Cryptanalysis, by contrast, is the study of breaking those codes. Steganography hides the existence of a message within another medium, rather than making its content unreadable. Forensics deals with analyzing evidence in investigations, not encoding communications. So cryptography is the best term for protecting messages with codes and ciphers.

6. Which scenario demonstrates a stop based on reasonable suspicion?

- A. A stop based solely on a hunch with no observed behavior.**
- B. A stop that relies only on the officer's guess without articulable facts.**
- C. A brief detention justified by observed facts that give rise to reasonable suspicion.**
- D. A full arrest.**

Reasonable suspicion allows a brief stop when the officer has specific, articulable facts that would lead a reasonable person to believe criminal activity is afoot. The best choice describes a brief detention justified by observed facts that give rise to that suspicion. It stays limited in scope and duration to determine whether further action is needed and does not amount to an arrest. This reflects the Terry v. Ohio standard for a stop-and-frisk. Stopping based solely on a hunch or on the officer's guess without articulable facts has no objective basis and isn't allowed under the Fourth Amendment. A full arrest requires probable cause, which is more demanding than reasonable suspicion.

7. The practice of temporarily detaining a person for questioning with a possible pat-down for weapons is called?

- A. Stop and Frisk**
- B. Plain View Search**
- C. Inventory Search**
- D. Writ of Assistance**

Stop and frisk describes briefly detaining someone to question them and, if needed, giving a quick pat-down to check for weapons. This approach comes from the idea that a police officer can stop a person when there's reasonable suspicion they're involved in criminal activity and that person may be armed, allowing a rapid assessment of danger without a full search or arrest. The pat-down is limited to the outer clothing and only to detect weapons; if nothing is found and the suspicion isn't supported to justify a longer detention, the stop ends. This differs from a plain view search, which is based on observing incriminating items in plain sight during a lawful encounter; an inventory search, done during processing of someone in custody to account for belongings; and a writ of assistance, an old, broad warrant-like authority to search premises.

8. The crime scene search pattern that starts at one end and back and forth until the area is searched is known as Strip search.

- A. Strip search**
- B. Grid search**
- C. Spiral search**
- D. Zone search**

Strip search covers the scene with parallel, back-and-forth passes from one end to the other until the entire area is examined. This approach is ideal for long, narrow spaces like hallways or roads, where a simple side-to-side sweep ensures consistent coverage without complex maneuvering. It's efficient and easy to implement in linear layouts. In contrast, other patterns serve different layouts: a grid search uses two-direction passes to create overlapping coverage in more open areas, a spiral search starts at a central point and expands outward, and a zone search divides the space into sections assigned to teams.

9. a person reporting a forcible sexual assault has just been through an emotionally shattering experience and may be in shock. This is known as?

- A. Rape trauma syndrome**
- B. Anger retaliation rapist**
- C. Power assertive rapists**
- D. Mass murder**

Rape trauma syndrome describes the immediate emotional and psychological reactions a survivor may have after a forcible sexual assault, including shock and numbness. This concept focuses on the victim's experience and response in the aftermath, helping explain why someone might seem emotionally shattered or dissociated right after the event. The other options refer to types of offenders or an unrelated act, so they don't fit the description of the survivor's reaction.

10. During an interview, moving around or fidgeting are examples of what type of signals?

A. Verbal signals

B. Audible cues

C. Nonverbal signals

D. Legal signals

Nonverbal signals are conveyed through body language, posture, facial expressions, and movements rather than spoken words. Moving around or fidgeting during an interview is a classic example of nonverbal signaling because it communicates attitude, tension, or nervousness without anything being said aloud. Verbal signals involve the actual words spoken and how they're said, while audible cues are sounds a person makes (like sighs or throat clearing) rather than motions. Legal signals isn't a recognized category for interpreting behavior. In practice, observers note nonverbal cues to gain context about a person's comfort or credibility, but they should always be interpreted alongside what the person says to avoid misreading the signals.

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://crimininvestbasicperspectives13e.examzify.com>

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