

Criminal Justice EOPA 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

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- 1. What term describes the likelihood that someone will commit additional offenses after an initial offense?**
 - A. Recidivism**
 - B. Rehabilitation**
 - C. Deterrence**
 - D. Recurrence**

- 2. Which term refers to crimes not reported to the police and thus unknown to officials?**
 - A. Unreported crime**
 - B. Dark figure of crime**
 - C. Hidden crime**
 - D. Undetected crime**

- 3. In old English law, a tithing consisted of how many families?**
 - A. Five**
 - B. Ten**
 - C. Twenty**
 - D. Thirty**

- 4. Crime Mapping refers to which of the following?**
 - A. A method of identifying court procedures**
 - B. Technology that allows crime analysts to identify trends and patterns of criminal behavior within a given area**
 - C. A form of community outreach**
 - D. A method of sentencing criminals**

- 5. Which statement best describes the role of politicians as described in the material?**
 - A. To legislate foreign policy**
 - B. To prosecute cases in court**
 - C. To manage police lineups**
 - D. To maintain social order and security**

- 6. Case law refers to which of the following?**
- A. The rules of law announced in court decisions**
 - B. The statutes enacted by the legislature**
 - C. The opinions of citizens**
 - D. The administrative regulations issued by agencies**
- 7. What is the combined term used to describe categories of crimes based on inherent wrongness and statutory prohibition?**
- A. Corpus delicti**
 - B. Actus reus**
 - C. Mala in se and Mala prohibita**
 - D. Mens rea**
- 8. Which term describes a person who initiates a civil action?**
- A. Defendant**
 - B. Judge**
 - C. Attorney**
 - D. Plaintiff**
- 9. What factor is the strongest predictor of support for or against the police?**
- A. Race**
 - B. Gender**
 - C. Age**
 - D. Education**
- 10. Which form of government is defined by sovereignty of the people who elect representatives?**
- A. Democracy**
 - B. Anarchy**
 - C. Monarchy**
 - D. Communism**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What term describes the likelihood that someone will commit additional offenses after an initial offense?

- A. Recidivism**
- B. Rehabilitation**
- C. Deterrence**
- D. Recurrence**

Recidivism describes the tendency of a person who has been convicted to reoffend after an initial offense. It's the specific term used in criminal justice to measure the likelihood of committing additional crimes once someone has already come into contact with the system. This focus on post-offense behavior is why it's the best fit for describing that likelihood. Rehabilitation is about helping an offender change so they won't commit crimes in the future; it's about the process and outcome of transformation rather than measuring the probability of reoffending. Deterrence refers to the theory that people refrain from crime because of the threat or imposition of punishment. Recurrence is a general term for something happening again and doesn't carry the specialized criminal-justice context.

2. Which term refers to crimes not reported to the police and thus unknown to officials?

- A. Unreported crime**
- B. Dark figure of crime**
- C. Hidden crime**
- D. Undetected crime**

The main concept here is the dark figure of crime—the portion of criminal activity that never shows up in official statistics because those crimes are not reported to police or are not discovered. This term highlights the gap between what actually happens and what law enforcement records. It's the best answer because it specifically names the unseen or unreported crimes that officials don't know about, which is exactly what this concept describes. While unreported crime describes crimes that aren't told to the police, the established criminology term used to discuss the overall gap in data is the dark figure of crime. The other terms aren't standard labels for this concept; they're generic or less precise descriptions and don't capture the data-collection gap as clearly.

3. In old English law, a tithing consisted of how many families?

- A. Five**
- B. Ten**
- C. Twenty**
- D. Thirty**

In old English law, local order rested on tightly organized, small communities. A tithing was the basic neighborhood-level unit, a group of families living in close proximity and sharing responsibility for each other's conduct, with a tithingman overseeing the group. The standard size of that unit was ten families, which is why this option fits the historical arrangement. This tithing then fed into the larger system—ten tithings formed a hundred—showing how the social structure scaled from families to bigger administrative divisions. Other numbers don't align with how the system was actually organized.

4. Crime Mapping refers to which of the following?

- A. A method of identifying court procedures
- B. Technology that allows crime analysts to identify trends and patterns of criminal behavior within a given area**
- C. A form of community outreach
- D. A method of sentencing criminals

Crime mapping is the use of technology, especially geographic information systems, to visualize and analyze where crimes occur. By plotting incidents on a map, analysts can see spatial patterns—hot spots where offenses cluster, as well as how crime changes over time in a neighborhood or city. This helps police allocate patrols, target problem areas, and test how interventions impact crime. It's not about court procedures, community outreach, or sentencing. Those functions relate to other parts of the justice system, whereas crime mapping specifically focuses on the spatial and temporal patterns of criminal activity to guide crime prevention and resource deployment.

5. Which statement best describes the role of politicians as described in the material?

- A. To legislate foreign policy
- B. To prosecute cases in court
- C. To manage police lineups
- D. To maintain social order and security**

The main idea here is how political leaders shape crime control through policy and governance. Politicians set the framework in which crime is managed by creating laws, deciding what behaviors are illegal, and determining how resources are allocated to police, courts, and correctional systems. They guide prevention and rehabilitation efforts, oversee agencies, and respond to public safety concerns. This broader role—ensuring social order and security through policy, legislation, and oversight—best describes their function. Prosecuting cases in court is the work of prosecutors and the judiciary, which operate within the system politicians design and oversee. Managing police lineups is a policing task conducted by law enforcement. Legislation about foreign policy falls under international affairs, not domestic crime control.

6. Case law refers to which of the following?

- A. The rules of law announced in court decisions**
- B. The statutes enacted by the legislature
- C. The opinions of citizens
- D. The administrative regulations issued by agencies

Case law is the body of rules of law announced in court decisions. It grows when judges decide cases and interpret statutes and constitutional provisions, creating precedents that guide how similar issues are resolved in the future. This is what makes case law distinct from statutes, which are laws written and enacted by the legislature, and from administrative regulations, which are rules issued by government agencies. It also isn't the opinions of citizens. Case law fills gaps where statutes are silent or unclear and helps courts apply legal principles to new situations by relying on earlier judicial decisions. Over time, court-made rules evolve as higher courts decide new cases, shaping how rights are understood and how laws are enforced in criminal justice.

7. What is the combined term used to describe categories of crimes based on inherent wrongness and statutory prohibition?

- A. Corpus delicti**
- B. Actus reus**
- C. Mala in se and Mala prohibita**
- D. Mens rea**

The idea being tested is how crimes are categorized by why they are considered wrongful: some acts are inherently wrong, while others are wrong because the law forbids them. The combined term for these two ideas is mala in se and mala prohibita. Mala in se refers to acts that are wrong in themselves due to their nature—acts that society morally condemns regardless of any law against them, such as murder or robbery. Mala prohibita covers acts that are not inherently evil but are prohibited by law because of social policy or public order concerns, like certain traffic violations or regulatory offenses. This distinction helps explain why punishment and rationale can differ between crimes that are inherently harmful and those punished mainly for violating statutory rules. Other terms refer to different concepts in criminal law—corpus delicti is the proof that a crime occurred, actus reus is the physical act, and mens rea is the mental state required for culpability—so they don't describe this particular classification.

8. Which term describes a person who initiates a civil action?

- A. Defendant**
- B. Judge**
- C. Attorney**
- D. Plaintiff**

In civil cases, the person who starts the lawsuit is the plaintiff. They file the complaint with the court to seek a remedy, such as money damages or an injunction, and outline what happened and what they want the court to order. The party being sued is the defendant, the judge oversees the proceedings and makes rulings, and an attorney is the lawyer who represents either side. Even if the plaintiff chooses to represent themselves, they remain the initiator of the civil action.

9. What factor is the strongest predictor of support for or against the police?

- A. Race**
- B. Gender**
- C. Age**
- D. Education**

Race stands out because it captures long-standing experiences with policing and the historical context that shapes trust and views of legitimacy. People from different racial groups often encounter law enforcement differently, face varying levels of perceived threat or protection, and carry distinct memories of how policing has treated them or their communities. These lived experiences strongly influence attitudes toward the police, making race a more consistent predictor than other factors. Gender, age, and education can influence opinions, but their effects are usually smaller or intertwined with broader social experiences. For example, education can affect critical perspectives on policing, but it doesn't typically override the broad patterns tied to race. Age and gender may shape attitudes in specific contexts, yet they don't account for as much of the variation in opinions about law enforcement as race does. So, race most reliably predicts support for or against the police.

10. Which form of government is defined by sovereignty of the people who elect representatives?

- A. Democracy**
- B. Anarchy**
- C. Monarchy**
- D. Communism**

The main idea being tested is power rooted in the people who choose those who govern. Democracy is defined by popular sovereignty expressed through elections in which citizens elect representatives to make laws and govern on their behalf. This setup creates accountability: leaders and policies can be changed through voting, and government actions operate within constitutional or legal limits. Anarchy means there's no governing authority at all, so there are no elections or representatives. Monarchy centers power in a king or queen, often hereditary, with representation that isn't necessarily chosen by the people. Communism envisions a classless, centralized system often run by a single party, not government by elected representatives reflecting the people's will. So the described arrangement best fits democracy.

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://criminaljusticeeopa.examzify.com>

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

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