

DATA CENTER CERTIFIED ASSOCIATE (DCCA) PRACTICE EXAM (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. Direct digital control primarily relies on which type of controllers?**
 - A. Hydraulic controllers
 - B. Relay-based controllers
 - C. Electronic controllers
 - D. Pneumatic controllers
- 2. What is the primary function of the generator voltage regulator?**
 - A. Increase fuel supply
 - B. Monitor RPM
 - C. Manage cooling
 - D. Regulate output voltage
- 3. Circular mils are used to express the cross-sectional area of a conductor, which primarily influences what?**
 - A. Insulation thickness
 - B. Cross-sectional area
 - C. Length
 - D. Voltage rating
- 4. What does the acronym CISSP stand for?**
 - A. Certified Information Security Systems Professional
 - B. Cyber Information Security System Practitioner
 - C. Certified Internet Security System Professional
 - D. Certified Information Systems Security professional
- 5. In an open control loop, which statement is true?**
 - A. There is no feedback from the output to the controlled variable
 - B. There is full feedback
 - C. The output and variable are identical
 - D. The variable controls the output
- 6. Which category cable was historically used for 100BASE-T Ethernet?**
 - A. Category 6
 - B. Category 6a
 - C. Category 5e
 - D. Category 5

- 7. A higher MTBF indicates what about the time between failures?**
- A. Shorter time between failures
 - B. Longer time between failures
 - C. No relation to failures
 - D. Faster repair times
- 8. Compared with panel boards, field wired power distribution is characterized by:**
- A. Offers the same level of monitoring as panel boards.
 - B. Is modern with fewer monitoring options than panel boards.
 - C. Traditional, higher degree of monitoring options than panel boards, and increased risk of human error.
 - D. Is never used in data centers.
- 9. Pneumatic control is commonly associated with which problem?**
- A. Cannot be remotely monitored
 - B. High maintenance
 - C. Very precise control
 - D. Very low energy use
- 10. Which component ensures all phases are equally loaded in distribution?**
- A. They are used to isolate the main supply
 - B. Subpanels
 - C. A panel board with fuses
 - D. Main service panel

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Direct digital control primarily relies on which type of controllers?

- A. Hydraulic controllers
- B. Relay-based controllers
- C. Electronic controllers**
- D. Pneumatic controllers

Direct digital control hinges on processing control tasks in digital form using electronic controllers. An electronic controller, such as a PLC or microcontroller, samples sensor data, runs control software, and outputs commands to actuators. This digital processing allows programmable, precise, and repeatable control, plus easy data logging and network integration—hallmarks of DDC. Hydraulic or pneumatic controllers rely on fluid power and analog signals rather than computation, and relay-based control uses physical relays without software-driven control, so they don't embody the digital processing at the heart of direct digital control.

2. What is the primary function of the generator voltage regulator?

- A. Increase fuel supply
- B. Monitor RPM
- C. Manage cooling
- D. Regulate output voltage**

Voltage stability is the essential function of the generator voltage regulator. It continuously senses the output voltage and adjusts the generator's field excitation to keep the voltage at the desired level. When a load surge would pull the voltage down, the regulator increases excitation to raise the voltage. When the load drops and voltage tends to rise, it reduces excitation to prevent overvoltage. This keeps the power supplied to connected equipment steady even as speed or load changes. Fuel delivery, cooling, and engine speed control are handled by other subsystems; the regulator's job is specifically to regulate the electrical output voltage.

3. Circular mils are used to express the cross-sectional area of a conductor, which primarily influences what?

- A. Insulation thickness
- B. Cross-sectional area**
- C. Length
- D. Voltage rating

Circular mils express the cross-sectional area of a round conductor. That area is what governs how much current the wire can safely carry and how much resistance the wire has per unit length. A larger cross-sectional area means lower resistance and better heat dissipation, which increases the ampacity (current-carrying capacity) of the conductor. Insulation thickness and voltage rating depend on different design requirements and are not primarily determined by the conductor's cross-sectional area, and length affects total resistance but does not change the fundamental measurement described by circular mils. So, the quantity most directly associated with circular mils is the cross-sectional area itself.

4. What does the acronym CISSP stand for?

- A. Certified Information Security Systems Professional
- B. Cyber Information Security System Practitioner
- C. Certified Internet Security System Professional
- D. Certified Information Systems Security professional**

CISSP stands for Certified Information Systems Security Professional. Each word maps directly to the acronym: Certified, Information, Systems, Security, Professional. This is the well-known credential issued by (ISC)² for experienced information security professionals, signaling broad expertise across key security domains. The other options change words or their order (such as System vs Systems, Internet or Cyber, Practitioner), which do not reflect the official title of the certification.

5. In an open control loop, which statement is true?

- A. There is no feedback from the output to the controlled variable**
- B. There is full feedback
- C. The output and variable are identical
- D. The variable controls the output

In an open control loop, the control action is performed without measuring or using the output to adjust the input. There's no feedback path from what the system output becomes back to the controlled variable, so the system runs purely on the input signal and the assumed system behavior. That's why the statement is true: there is no feedback from the output to the controlled variable. Without feedback, the system can't automatically correct for disturbances or model mismatches, so the actual output may diverge from what was intended. The other ideas don't fit open-loop behavior: there isn't full feedback, so the output isn't constantly compared and corrected. The output and the controlled variable aren't guaranteed to be identical, since disturbances and dynamics can create differences. And while the input (the variable you set) influences the output, open-loop control doesn't imply the variable directly "controls" the output in a feedback sense—the system simply follows the input without verifying the result.

6. Which category cable was historically used for 100BASE-T Ethernet?

- A. Category 6
- B. Category 6a
- C. Category 5e
- D. Category 5**

The main idea is understanding which copper cabling was originally specified for 100BASE-T Ethernet. 100BASE-T was designed to run over Category 5 twisted-pair copper, using two pairs to achieve 100 Mbps. Cat5 provided the necessary bandwidth (and distance performance) for that speed, and later categories (Cat5e, Cat6, Cat6a) were developed to support higher rates like Gigabit and 10 Gigabit Ethernet. So, historically, Category 5 is the cable that was used for 100BASE-T.

7. A higher MTBF indicates what about the time between failures?

- A. Shorter time between failures
- B. Longer time between failures**
- C. No relation to failures
- D. Faster repair times

Mean Time Between Failures (MTBF) measures the average amount of time a repairable system operates before a failure occurs. A higher MTBF means longer time between failures, which indicates better reliability and a lower frequency of failures. MTBF is tied to the failure rate: when failures happen less often, the interval between them grows, increasing MTBF. The calculation is total operating time divided by the number of failures, and it's an average value, not a guaranteed duration for any single run. This metric does not describe how quickly repairs happen—that's the domain of MTTR (Mean Time To Repair). In practice, increasing MTBF improves system availability by extending the time between failures, assuming repair times stay the same.

8. Compared with panel boards, field wired power distribution is characterized by:

- A. Offers the same level of monitoring as panel boards.
- B. Is modern with fewer monitoring options than panel boards.
- C. Traditional, higher degree of monitoring options than panel boards, and increased risk of human error.**
- D. Is never used in data centers.

Field-wired power distribution is typically implemented in a more traditional, field-installed manner, where equipment and wiring are added and connected in the field rather than in a preassembled panel. Because you can instrument at many points in the field—using smart PDUs, meters, sensors, and device-level monitoring—you often have more options to monitor electrical conditions and load at a granular level than a standard panel board setup. At the same time, that same field-installed complexity introduces a higher potential for human error during installation and maintenance, since many connections and configurations are done in the field by technicians. So, this option captures both the traditional nature of field-wired setups, the potential for richer monitoring with the right devices, and the increased risk of mistakes due to more manual, field-level work. The other statements don't fit as well: the monitoring level isn't fixed to be the same as panel boards, field-wired setups aren't inherently modern with fewer monitoring options, and field-wired distribution is indeed used in data centers.

9. Pneumatic control is commonly associated with which problem?

- A. Cannot be remotely monitored
- B. High maintenance**
- C. Very precise control
- D. Very low energy use

Pneumatic control relies on compressed air to move and position actuators, and air is inherently compressible and susceptible to leaks, moisture, and contaminants. Those characteristics mean components such as seals, valves, and regulators wear over time and require regular upkeep. Moisture and dirt can cause corrosion, sticking, and erratic behavior, so maintenance tasks—filtering, drying, lubrication, leak detection, and part replacement—become a routine necessity. This ongoing maintenance burden is the most notable drawback of pneumatic systems, making high maintenance the best fit for the statement. Other options don't define the typical issue as strongly: remote monitoring is feasible with sensors; precision control is limited by air compressibility rather than being inherently excellent; and while energy efficiency matters, pneumatic systems are not generally characterized by very low energy use and can suffer energy losses from leaks and compressor inefficiency.

10. Which component ensures all phases are equally loaded in distribution?

- A. They are used to isolate the main supply
- B. Subpanels**
- C. A panel board with fuses
- D. Main service panel

Balancing loads across three-phase systems relies on how circuits are distributed across the different phases. Subpanels act as additional distribution points fed from the main panel, each with their own breakers, which makes it practical to place circuits on various phases so the total demand on each phase stays roughly equal. This helps prevent overloading a single phase and keeps the system running more efficiently. The main service panel is the primary entry and distribution hub, but it doesn't automatically balance loads by itself. A panel board with fuses is mainly about protection and disconnecting circuits, not actively balancing phase loading. Isolating devices simply disconnect power and don't address how loads are shared across phases.

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://dcca.examzify.com>

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

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