

# Defensive Tactics (DT) Subject Control Practice Exam (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. Which of the following is a listed life-threatening felony?**
  - A. Criminal sexual conduct involving a weapon**
  - B. Burglary**
  - C. Kidnapping (non parental)**
  - D. Tax evasion**
  
- 2. Which of the following is not a subject action on the Totality of the circumstances chart?**
  - A. Inactive Resistance**
  - B. Verbal Direction**
  - C. Active Aggression**
  - D. Passive Resistance**
  
- 3. The widest part of the continuum depicts which combination of resistance and intrusion?**
  - A. Least Resistance And Greatest Intrusion**
  - B. Greatest Resistance And Least Intrusion**
  - C. Moderate Resistance And Moderate Intrusion**
  - D. No Resistance And No Intrusion**
  
- 4. Active resistance is defined as**
  - A. Verbal Noncompliance Only**
  - B. Any Action By A Subject That Attempts To Prevent An Officer From Gaining Control Of The Subject**
  - C. The Subject Surrenders**
  - D. Passive Resistance When Resisting**
  
- 5. A suspect complains of an injury. When should you render medical aid?**
  - A. Immediately**
  - B. As soon as possible**
  - C. Only after processing**
  - D. Not at all unless requested**

- 6. Which statement best describes the role of time and distance in disengagement planning?**
- A. Time and distance provide the opportunity to disengage, communicate, and assess risk while reducing imminent threat.**
  - B. Time and distance have little effect on disengagement.**
  - C. Disengagement should occur regardless of risk or communication.**
  - D. Time and distance are irrelevant to decision making.**
- 7. When may deadly force be exercised?**
- A. Only when all other reasonable efforts to subdue have failed or reasonable efforts cannot succeed without endangering the life of the enforcement member or others.**
  - B. As a first option whenever a subject resists.**
  - C. Only when the subject is armed with a firearm.**
  - D. Only in self-defense of property.**
- 8. What is the purpose of safeguarding against positional injuries during restraint?**
- A. To prevent asphyxia, nerve damage, or other injuries by limiting risk factors and closely monitoring the subject.**
  - B. To speed up handcuffing regardless of risk.**
  - C. To minimize the use of time during the encounter.**
  - D. To keep the subject from moving at all times.**
- 9. What does "double-locking" handcuffs accomplish?**
- A. It prevents the cuffs from tightening accidentally, reducing injury risk and enhancing safety.**
  - B. It makes the cuffs harder to remove.**
  - C. It increases the risk of injury.**
  - D. It has no effect on safety.**
- 10. What standard does the court use to determine whether force was objectively reasonable?**
- A. Reasonable Officer Standard**
  - B. Duty to Intervene**
  - C. Totality of the Circumstances**
  - D. Proportionality Test**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which of the following is a listed life-threatening felony?**

- A. Criminal sexual conduct involving a weapon**
- B. Burglary**
- C. Kidnapping (non parental)**
- D. Tax evasion**

Life-threatening felonies are offenses that statutes classify as presenting an immediate and significant risk to life, justifying heightened force. Criminal sexual conduct involving a weapon clearly fits this category because the weapon escalates the danger during a violent act, creating a direct and serious threat to life. Burglary is primarily a property crime; it involves breaking in and theft, not an automatic lethal risk. Kidnapping is severe and can be life-threatening, but in many DT contexts the explicit listing highlighted for life-threatening felonies is the weapon-enabled sexual violence case. Tax evasion has no inherent threat to life. So, the option with weapon-involved criminal sexual conduct is the best fit for a listed life-threatening felony.

**2. Which of the following is not a subject action on the Totality of the circumstances chart?**

- A. Inactive Resistance**
- B. Verbal Direction**
- C. Active Aggression**
- D. Passive Resistance**

Understanding how the Totality of the Circumstances chart works is about identifying what the subject is doing, not what the officer is telling them to do. Verbal direction is an officer command, not a physical action by the subject, so it isn't listed as a subject action on the chart. The other terms describe observable behaviors from the subject during a confrontation: passive or inactive resistance (noncompliant without fighting back), active resistance (physical movement to hinder restraint), and active aggression (the subject using force toward the officer). Recognizing this distinction helps guide the appropriate response based on the subject's actions.

**3. The widest part of the continuum depicts which combination of resistance and intrusion?**

- A. Least Resistance And Greatest Intrusion**
- B. Greatest Resistance And Least Intrusion**
- C. Moderate Resistance And Moderate Intrusion**
- D. No Resistance And No Intrusion**

The widest part of the continuum shows the situation where the subject's resistance is at its lowest while the required intrusion by the officer to gain control is at its highest. When someone isn't resisting, you can use more intrusive control actions—such as positioning, grips, or procedures that require some intrusion into space—to safely bring them under control without escalating resistance. This broad region reflects having the room to apply effective control while minimizing risk to both parties. If there were high resistance with little intrusion, or no resistance with no intrusion, you wouldn't see that wide area, since either the intrusions aren't needed or the resistance makes control more dangerous.

**4. Active resistance is defined as**

- A. Verbal Noncompliance Only**
- B. Any Action By A Subject That Attempts To Prevent An Officer From Gaining Control Of The Subject**
- C. The Subject Surrenders**
- D. Passive Resistance When Resisting**

Active resistance means any action by a subject that attempts to prevent an officer from gaining control of the subject. It's not limited to words; it includes physical movements or maneuvers aimed at defeating a handcuff or other control effort—like pulling away, twisting, stepping back, or pushing or grabbing to break contact. Recognizing this level helps an officer choose proportionate, tactically sound responses to regain control while staying safe. Verbal noncompliance alone doesn't meet the definition because it doesn't involve an attempt to physically hinder control. Surrender is compliance, not resistance. Passive resistance is a non-violent form that doesn't actively obstruct control, which is why it's categorized separately.

**5. A suspect complains of an injury. When should you render medical aid?**

- A. Immediately**
- B. As soon as possible**
- C. Only after processing**
- D. Not at all unless requested**

The main idea is to prioritize medical aid while staying safe. When a suspect reports an injury, you should render medical aid as soon as you can do so safely. Quickly assess for life-threatening issues, provide any basic first aid you're trained to perform, and call for medical help if needed. Acting promptly helps prevent condition from worsening, but you must not compromise your safety or the scene to do it. Delaying aid to process or choosing not to render aid at all would be inappropriate; the aid should come as soon as it's feasible, given the safety considerations of the situation.

- 6. Which statement best describes the role of time and distance in disengagement planning?**
- A. Time and distance provide the opportunity to disengage, communicate, and assess risk while reducing imminent threat.**
  - B. Time and distance have little effect on disengagement.**
  - C. Disengagement should occur regardless of risk or communication.**
  - D. Time and distance are irrelevant to decision making.**

Time and distance shape disengagement planning because they create the space and time needed to act safely, communicate clearly, and assess risk before the situation escalates. In practice, you seek opportunities to move away to a safer location, establish barriers or boundaries, and issue clear commands while you observe the subject's behavior to adjust your plan. This safety margin reduces exposure to harm and gives you the chance to coordinate with teammates or call for help if needed. Dismissing the role of time and distance ignores how space and elapsed time influence threat dynamics and decision-making, and suggesting disengagement without considering risk or communication fails to prioritize safety and control.

- 7. When may deadly force be exercised?**
- A. Only when all other reasonable efforts to subdue have failed or reasonable efforts cannot succeed without endangering the life of the enforcement member or others.**
  - B. As a first option whenever a subject resists.**
  - C. Only when the subject is armed with a firearm.**
  - D. Only in self-defense of property.**

Deadly force is a last-resort tool used to stop an imminent threat to life or serious bodily harm, and it should only be employed after every reasonable alternative to subdue the situation has been tried or would likely fail without putting lives at risk. This reflects the principles of necessity and proportionality in use-of-force: escalate to deadly force only when non-deadly options are inadequate to prevent a grave threat. Think of it as a continuum: you start with steps like verbal commands and non-lethal techniques, and only move to deadly force when those options are no longer viable to protect you or others. This is why using deadly force simply because someone resists is not correct—resistance alone does not prove an imminent, life-threatening danger. It's also broader than just someone armed with a firearm; other threats or imminent risks can justify deadly force if they place lives in danger. And it's not about protecting property; deadly force is about protecting life and safety.

**8. What is the purpose of safeguarding against positional injuries during restraint?**

- A. To prevent asphyxia, nerve damage, or other injuries by limiting risk factors and closely monitoring the subject.**
- B. To speed up handcuffing regardless of risk.**
- C. To minimize the use of time during the encounter.**
- D. To keep the subject from moving at all times.**

The goal is to prevent harm to the restrained person by avoiding positions that can compromise breathing or injure nerves, and by actively monitoring their condition. Positional injuries happen when restraint holds place excessive pressure on the chest, neck, or limbs or when a position restricts airway or circulation. Safeguarding means using restraint practices that keep the airway clear, minimize chest or neck compression, and involve ongoing observation for signs of distress, so breathing remains possible and nerve or tissue damage is less likely. That's why the best choice emphasizes preventing asphyxia, nerve injury, or other harm by limiting risk factors and staying close to the person to monitor their status. The other options focus on speed, time, or complete immobility, which do not align with safety and ongoing assessment during restraint.

**9. What does "double-locking" handcuffs accomplish?**

- A. It prevents the cuffs from tightening accidentally, reducing injury risk and enhancing safety.**
- B. It makes the cuffs harder to remove.**
- C. It increases the risk of injury.**
- D. It has no effect on safety.**

Double-locking is a safety feature that adds a secondary lock to the handcuff mechanism so the cuff cannot tighten any further. The key benefit is preventing the cuff from cinching tighter if the detainee pulls or wriggles, which lowers the chance of nerve damage, reduced blood flow, or other injury to the wrist. Officers can still unlock and remove the cuffs with the proper key, and releasing the double lock is part of the normal procedure. Because of this, it actually improves safety rather than harming it. The other statements don't fit because removal difficulty isn't the intended effect, and it doesn't increase injury or have no safety impact.

**10. What standard does the court use to determine whether force was objectively reasonable?**

**A. Reasonable Officer Standard**

**B. Duty to Intervene**

**C. Totality of the Circumstances**

**D. Proportionality Test**

The test is about how courts judge whether force used by an officer was reasonable. The key idea is an objective standard: what a reasonable officer would perceive on the scene, given what was known at the time, not what a judge might think with the benefit of hindsight or based on the officer's own fear after the fact. The phrase totality of the circumstances is the framework for that assessment. Rather than ticking off a single factor, courts weigh all relevant elements together to decide if the force used was reasonable. In practice, you look at everything known at the moment: how serious the crime was, whether the suspect posed an immediate threat to the officer or others, whether the suspect was actively resisting or trying to flee, potential weapons, number of officers present, and environmental factors like lighting or crowd presence. All of these factors are considered as a whole to determine if the force was appropriate under the circumstances. So, the best answer reflects that holistic, context-driven approach—the totality of the circumstances within the objective reasonableness 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://dtsubjectcontrol.examzify.com>**

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

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