

# Deputy Coroner Investigator 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 term is the protein that carries oxygen in the blood?**
  - A. Hemoglobin**
  - B. Hemorrhage**
  - C. Ethanol**
  - D. Alcohol**
  
- 2. Which letter maps to Ocean?**
  - A. Letter K**
  - B. Letter L**
  - C. Letter Q**
  - D. Letter O**
  
- 3. Which letter maps to Tom?**
  - A. Letter P**
  - B. Letter Q**
  - C. Letter T**
  - D. Letter O**
  
- 4. The Y-incision used in autopsy is best described as which of the following?**
  - A. A straight midline incision from neck to pelvis**
  - B. A Y-shaped incision made from the chest to abdomen to permit examination of internal organs**
  - C. A curved incision along the rib cage**
  - D. A transverse incision across the abdomen**
  
- 5. Which letter maps to Zebra?**
  - A. Z**
  - B. U**
  - C. Y**
  - D. V**

- 6. Which handgun uses the energy of the fired cartridge to cycle the action?**
- A. Semi-automatic pistols (automatics)**
  - B. Revolving pistols (revolvers)**
  - C. Derringers**
  - D. Single shot pistols**
- 7. Which term describes a tear in tissue caused by sliding or crushing force?**
- A. Larvae**
  - B. Laceration**
  - C. Larynx**
  - D. Livor Mortis**
- 8. What term describes pooling of blood that settles in the lowest parts of the body, used to determine the body's position after death?**
- A. Hematoma**
  - B. Circulation**
  - C. Embolism**
  - D. Hypostatis**
- 9. 10-98 indicates what?**
- A. En route**
  - B. Standby**
  - C. Arrived at scene**
  - D. Finished/clear**
- 10. What term describes a severe traumatic episode caused by the blunt instrument applied with great force?**
- A. Carcinogenic**
  - B. Asphyxiation**
  - C. Ballistics**
  - D. Blunt Force Trauma**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which term is the protein that carries oxygen in the blood?**

- A. Hemoglobin**
- B. Hemorrhage**
- C. Ethanol**
- D. Alcohol**

Oxygen transport in the blood is carried by a protein inside red blood cells that binds oxygen through iron-containing heme groups. In the lungs, oxygen attaches to this protein; in tissues, it is released where needed, while the protein also helps carry some carbon dioxide back to the lungs. That protein is hemoglobin. The other terms refer to different things—hemorrhage means bleeding, ethanol is a type of alcohol, and alcohol is a broad class of chemicals; none describe the oxygen-carrying protein in the blood.

**2. Which letter maps to Ocean?**

- A. Letter K**
- B. Letter L**
- C. Letter Q**
- D. Letter O**

Mapping tasks like this rely on matching a term to its initial letter. Ocean starts with O, so the label that maps to Ocean is the one whose label is O. The other options correspond to terms starting with K, L, or Q, which do not match Ocean. Thus, the mapping best aligning with Ocean is the label that begins with O.

**3. Which letter maps to Tom?**

- A. Letter P**
- B. Letter Q**
- C. Letter T**
- D. Letter O**

This type of mapping is usually based on the initial of the name. Tom starts with the letter T, so the letter that maps to Tom is T. The other letters don't begin Tom's name, so they wouldn't be the correct mapping. If the chart followed a different rule, we'd need that rule shown, but with the standard initial-based mapping, T is the correct choice.

4. The Y-incision used in autopsy is best described as which of the following?

- A. A straight midline incision from neck to pelvis
- B. A Y-shaped incision made from the chest to abdomen to permit examination of internal organs**
- C. A curved incision along the rib cage
- D. A transverse incision across the abdomen

The main idea is obtaining wide exposure to the thoracic and abdominal cavities during an autopsy. The Y-incision is a thoracoabdominal cut that forms a Y shape, starting across the chest and extending to the abdomen so the chest and abdominal organs can be opened and viewed accessibly in one maneuver. This design lets the examiner inspect or remove the heart, lungs, liver, stomach, intestines, and other organs thoroughly without missing areas, which is essential for determining cause of death and assessing injuries. That's why the Y-shaped incision made from the chest to the abdomen best fits. The other options describe incisions that don't provide the same comprehensive exposure: a straight midline cut doesn't create the same combined chest-and-abdomen exposure in a single flap; a curved incision along the rib cage limits access to parts of the organs; a transverse incision across the abdomen omits the thoracic cavity entirely.

5. Which letter maps to Zebra?

- A. Z**
- B. U
- C. Y
- D. V

When you map a word to a letter in this kind of problem, you usually use the initial letter of the word. Zebra begins with Z, so the letter that maps to Zebra is Z. The other options don't fit because their initials (U, Y, V) would map to words starting with those letters, not Zebra.

6. Which handgun uses the energy of the fired cartridge to cycle the action?

- A. Semi-automatic pistols (automatics)**
- B. Revolving pistols (revolvers)
- C. Derringers
- D. Single shot pistols

The mechanism being tested is how the action is cycled after a shot. In semi-automatic pistols, the energy released by the fired cartridge powers the cycling of the action. High-pressure gases or recoil move the slide backward, eject the spent cartridge, cock the firing mechanism, and then the slide moves forward to chamber a fresh round from the magazine. This automatic cycle happens with each trigger pull, allowing rapid follow-up shots without manual action. Revolvers, on the other hand, use a rotating cylinder to bring a fresh chamber in line with the barrel, driven by the trigger/hammer system. The energy of the fired cartridge doesn't drive a moving slide to cycle the mechanism, so you don't get automatic cycling in the same sense as a semi-automatic. Derringers and single-shot pistols do not cycle automatically at all; they require manual reloading or chambering for each shot.

**7. Which term describes a tear in tissue caused by sliding or crushing force?**

- A. Larvae
- B. Laceration**
- C. Larynx
- D. Livor Mortis

A laceration is a tear in tissue produced by blunt or sliding/crushing force. It often has irregular, jagged edges and may involve tearing of deeper structures, reflecting tearing rather than a clean cut. The other terms describe something entirely different: larvae are immature insects, the larynx is the voice box in the throat, and livor mortis is the postmortem settling of blood causing discoloration. Thus, the tear from blunt force is a laceration.

**8. What term describes pooling of blood that settles in the lowest parts of the body, used to determine the body's position after death?**

- A. Hematoma
- B. Circulation
- C. Embolism
- D. Hypostatis**

This question hinges on the phenomenon that occurs after death when blood settles in the parts of the body that are lowest due to gravity. That settling produces a visible discoloration and is called hypostasis. It's closely tied to livor mortis, the discoloration itself, and it helps forensic investigators infer the body's position at death or detect movement after death. The other terms don't describe this postmortem settling: a hematoma is a localized bruise from vessel rupture, circulation is the active flow of blood (which stops after death), and an embolism is a traveling clot causing obstruction, not the gravitational pooling seen after death.

**9. 10-98 indicates what?**

- A. En route
- B. Standby
- C. Arrived at scene
- D. Finished/clear**

Ten-codes are shorthand used in police radio communication to convey status quickly. 10-98 is the signal that the current assignment is complete and the officer is clear or back in service, ready for the next call. It indicates the scene is finished and there's nothing active requiring attention at the moment. That's why it matches Finished/clear. En route would mean you're still traveling to a call, standby means you're waiting for orders, and arrived at scene means you've reached the location, none of which convey that you've completed the assignment.

**10. What term describes a severe traumatic episode caused by the blunt instrument applied with great force?**

**A. Carcinogenic**

**B. Asphyxiation**

**C. Ballistics**

**D. Blunt Force Trauma**

The concept here is identifying injuries by mechanism. Blunt force trauma describes injuries that result from a non-penetrating impact by a blunt object struck with significant force. The stem's wording—"a severe traumatic episode caused by the blunt instrument applied with great force"—matches this exactly, since the injury pattern arises from energy transfer during impact, not from cutting, penetrating wounds, or suffocation. Carcinogenic is about cancer-causing properties, not injury mechanism. Asphyxiation refers to death from oxygen deprivation, which is not about an impact injury. Ballistics deals with projectiles and their behavior, which is related to firearm injuries but does not define the injury mechanism itself. So blunt force trauma best fits the description given.

## 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://depcoronerinvestigator.examzify.com>**

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

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