

# DSST Ethics In Technology 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 statement corresponds to Criterion 4 of the whistleblowing framework?**
  - A. The employee has accessible, documented evidence that would convince a reasonable, impartial observer that one's view is correct**
  - B. The employee must have anonymous tips**
  - C. The employee must have media contacts**
  - D. The employee must leak once**
  
- 2. What does the Uncanny Valley describe?**
  - A. The distance to the robot**
  - B. The speed of robot movement**
  - C. The cost of producing robots**
  - D. The relationship between how much a robot resembles a human being and our emotional response to that resemblance**
  
- 3. What does the CLOUD Act do?**
  - A. It prohibits federal authorities from obtaining data.**
  - B. It amends the Stored Communications Act to allow federal authorities to compel U.S. tech companies to provide subpoenaed data, including data stored overseas, for national security or drug trafficking enforcement.**
  - C. It creates a privacy framework restricting cross-border data flows.**
  - D. It requires tech companies to delete data after 90 days.**
  
- 4. What best describes the DCMA?**
  - A. A law that prohibits copying at all.**
  - B. A policy that requires licensing for all digital content.**
  - C. A law that criminalized technologies that attempt to circumvent DRM.**
  - D. A court case about Napster.**

- 5. Data sovereignty holds that data created by you belongs to you and you have the right to decide how to use it. Which statement aligns with this idea?**
- A. The platform hosting it owns it.**
  - B. The government owns it.**
  - C. The creator owns it and decides usage.**
  - D. It becomes public domain after use.**
- 6. Which statement reflects MIC in printing from a privacy perspective?**
- A. It ensures you have complete control over all print data.**
  - B. Whatever information about you that you're printing is not in your control.**
  - C. It prevents any printing traceability.**
  - D. It automatically deletes print data after a session.**
- 7. Catfishing is described as**
- A. Creating an intentionally deceptive social media profile in an attempt to get money by using deceit or trickery.**
  - B. Doxing and harassment.**
  - C. Hacking into accounts using credential stuffing.**
  - D. Posting spam advertisements on forums.**
- 8. Which definition best describes the Internet of Things (IoT)?**
- A. A cloud storage service**
  - B. Interconnected network of home and industrial devices that collect data and communicate over the internet**
  - C. A type of database**
  - D. A wireless protocol for smartphones**
- 9. What is the ethical concern associated with government surveillance and data collection in the name of security?**
- A. Censorship.**
  - B. Intellectual property.**
  - C. Loss of privacy in exchange for security.**
  - D. Market monopolies.**

**10. Which statement about freedom of speech and media does Article 19 ICCPR support?**

- A. It allows wide-ranging freedom of speech irrespective of media used**
- B. It restricts speech online**
- C. It requires government censorship**
- D. It only protects print media**

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## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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1. Which statement corresponds to Criterion 4 of the whistleblowing framework?

- A. The employee has accessible, documented evidence that would convince a reasonable, impartial observer that one's view is correct**
- B. The employee must have anonymous tips**
- C. The employee must have media contacts**
- D. The employee must leak once**

Criterion four focuses on making the claim verifiable through solid, accessible evidence. The idea is that a whistleblower should back up their view with documented information that a reasonable, impartial observer could review and be persuaded by. This emphasis on evidence over opinion helps ensure the report is credible, objective, and testable, which protects people from unfounded accusations and supports due diligence. Providing tangible records, data, or documented observations shows the concern is thoughtful and substantiated, not based on rumors or impulse. The other options describe tactics or actions (anonymous tips, media contacts, leaking once) rather than what makes a claim credible in a principled way.

2. What does the Uncanny Valley describe?

- A. The distance to the robot**
- B. The speed of robot movement**
- C. The cost of producing robots**
- D. The relationship between how much a robot resembles a human being and our emotional response to that resemblance**

The Uncanny Valley is about how our feelings respond to how human-like something is. As a robot or character becomes more human in appearance and behavior, our comfort tends to rise—until it gets very close to human but isn't quite perfect. That near-human gap can feel eerie or unsettling, causing a dip in our comfort level. That drop, the valley, is what people experience before our reaction climbs again when resemblance is indistinguishable from a real human or clearly non-human. So the concept describes how the degree of human likeness relates to our emotional response to that likeness. It isn't about physical distance, speed of movement, or production cost.

### 3. What does the CLOUD Act do?

- A. It prohibits federal authorities from obtaining data.
- B. It amends the Stored Communications Act to allow federal authorities to compel U.S. tech companies to provide subpoenaed data, including data stored overseas, for national security or drug trafficking enforcement.**
- C. It creates a privacy framework restricting cross-border data flows.
- D. It requires tech companies to delete data after 90 days.

The main idea this question tests is how the CLOUD Act changes access to data held by U.S. tech companies, especially when that data is stored overseas. The act updates the legal framework so federal authorities can compel providers to turn over subpoenaed data under the Stored Communications Act, and it explicitly includes data that's stored outside the United States. It's driven by national security and criminal enforcement needs, such as drug trafficking cases, and it also creates a path for international cooperation through executive agreements with other countries to streamline cross-border data access. That's why the correct statement is that the CLOUD Act amends the Stored Communications Act to allow federal authorities to compel U.S. tech companies to provide subpoenaed data, including data stored overseas, for national security or drug trafficking enforcement. The other options don't fit: the act does not prohibit data access, it does not establish a privacy framework that restricts cross-border data flows, and it does not impose a 90-day deletion rule.

### 4. What best describes the DCMA?

- A. A law that prohibits copying at all.
- B. A policy that requires licensing for all digital content.
- C. A law that criminalized technologies that attempt to circumvent DRM.**
- D. A court case about Napster.

The DMCA centers on anti-circumvention: it makes it illegal to bypass digital protections that control access to copyrighted works and to manufacture or distribute tools that enable such circumvention. That is why describing it as a law that criminalizes technologies that attempt to circumvent DRM best captures its purpose. It targets bypassing access controls rather than banning copying altogether or acting as a licensing policy for all digital content, and it isn't about a Napster court case.

5. Data sovereignty holds that data created by you belongs to you and you have the right to decide how to use it. Which statement aligns with this idea?

- A. The platform hosting it owns it.
- B. The government owns it.
- C. The creator owns it and decides usage.**
- D. It becomes public domain after use.

Data sovereignty centers on the creator's control and rights over how their data is used. If you create data, you typically retain ownership and can decide who may access it, how it can be shared, and for what purposes, within applicable laws and any agreements with platforms or collaborators. The platform hosting the data may store and process it, but that doesn't automatically make the platform the owner. Government ownership would only apply in specific contexts, not as a general rule for personal or created data. Saying it becomes public domain after use would mean you lose all rights to it, which contradicts the idea of the creator controlling usage. So the statement that the creator owns it and decides usage best aligns with data sovereignty.

6. Which statement reflects MIC in printing from a privacy perspective?

- A. It ensures you have complete control over all print data.
- B. Whatever information about you that you're printing is not in your control.**
- C. It prevents any printing traceability.
- D. It automatically deletes print data after a session.

From a privacy perspective, MIC describes a situation where the data about you that gets printed isn't under your control. In practice this means print jobs can be stored, logged, or accessible by others—such as IT staff, printer vendors, or potential intruders—without your ability to restrict or monitor what's being printed, who can access it, or how long it's kept. When you lose control over print data, sensitive information could be exposed or retained longer than you expect, increasing privacy risk. The other statements describe scenarios that would either preserve privacy or reduce exposure (having full control, eliminating traceability, or deleting data after a session), whereas MIC centers on the lack of control over printed information about you.

## 7. Catfishing is described as

- A. Creating an intentionally deceptive social media profile in an attempt to get money by using deceit or trickery.**
- B. Doxing and harassment.**
- C. Hacking into accounts using credential stuffing.**
- D. Posting spam advertisements on forums.**

Catfishing means creating an intentionally deceptive online persona to lure someone, often on social media or dating apps, with the aim of tricking them into giving money or valuables or into a continued interaction under false pretenses. The core idea is identity deception—pretending to be someone you're not to manipulate another person. This is distinct from other online abuses: doxing and harassment involve exposing someone's private information to intimidate them; hacking into accounts is breaking into someone's accounts through technical means; and posting spam is flooding spaces with unwanted ads. So the essence of catfishing is a fake identity used to deceive for personal or financial gain.

## 8. Which definition best describes the Internet of Things (IoT)?

- A. A cloud storage service**
- B. Interconnected network of home and industrial devices that collect data and communicate over the internet**
- C. A type of database**
- D. A wireless protocol for smartphones**

At heart, the Internet of Things is about physical devices that are equipped with sensors, software, and connectivity to collect data and talk to each other over the internet. It isn't just one device or a place to store data; it's a network of many devices—like smart thermostats, wearables, or industrial sensors—that can be monitored, controlled, or automated remotely. This interconnected data exchange across diverse devices is what enables automation, remote monitoring, and smarter decisions in both homes and industries. The other options describe a storage service, a database, or a single wireless protocol, which don't capture the idea of a broad network of devices communicating and sharing data.

**9. What is the ethical concern associated with government surveillance and data collection in the name of security?**

- A. Censorship.**
- B. Intellectual property.**
- C. Loss of privacy in exchange for security.**
- D. Market monopolies.**

The central issue is the ethical tension between protecting security and preserving individual privacy when a government uses surveillance and data collection. When authorities justify broad data gathering as a safety measure, personal information can be captured, stored, and potentially misused, leading to a chilling effect and questions about consent, oversight, and civil liberties. The concern is that privacy is sacrificed in exchange for security benefits, which is why this option best captures the ethical dilemma. This isn't primarily about restricting information flow (censorship), who owns ideas (intellectual property), or economic power in the market (monopolies), so those ideas don't fit as the core ethical concern in this context.

**10. Which statement about freedom of speech and media does Article 19 ICCPR support?**

- A. It allows wide-ranging freedom of speech irrespective of media used**
- B. It restricts speech online**
- C. It requires government censorship**
- D. It only protects print media**

Freedom of expression across all media is protected by Article 19 of the ICCPR. This provision guarantees the right to hold opinions and to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas of all kinds, through any media and regardless of frontiers. That means online speech, print, broadcasting, and other channels all fall under the same protective umbrella. The key point is that states should not censor or overly restrict expression simply because it occurs via a particular medium; speech is protected across the board. There are legitimate restrictions that may be imposed, but only under narrow, legally permissible grounds (such as protecting national security, public order, or the rights of others). This nuance helps explain why the broad, medium-agnostic protection is the best fit: it emphasizes wide-ranging freedom that covers all forms of media, not just one type. The other statements incorrectly limit or condition the right—there is no automatic online censorship required, the right is not confined to print, and it does not mandate government censorship.

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

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

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