

Evidence Technician 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

- 1. What is spatter in the context of forensic evidence?**
 - A. Liquid debris forcibly ejected from its container as a result of a crash**
 - B. A pattern created from tire skid marks on the road**
 - C. A specific type of blood evidence found at crime scenes**
 - D. Debris collected from the scene of an accident**
- 2. Which of the following statements is true regarding non-combustible substances?**
 - A. They always ignite easily**
 - B. They never evaporate**
 - C. They may still burn under certain conditions**
 - D. They are typically gases**
- 3. What characterizes high-velocity impact spatter (HVIS)?**
 - A. Stains larger than 3 mm in diameter**
 - B. Caused by low impact force**
 - C. Mist-like dispersion formed upon impact**
 - D. Stains associated with blunt force injuries**
- 4. What is the main role of a Crime Scene investigator?**
 - A. To interrogate suspects**
 - B. To secure a crime scene and collect evidence**
 - C. To analyze forensic data**
 - D. To provide expert testimony in court**
- 5. What is a "trailer" in fire investigations?**
 - A. A type of burning material**
 - B. A method to extinguish fires**
 - C. A long trail of fast-burning material**
 - D. A device used for surveillance**

- 6. What does the term "directionality" refer to in blood spatter analysis?**
- A. Indicating how blood was deposited on a surface**
 - B. Relating to the speed of blood spatter**
 - C. Indicating the age of a blood stain**
 - D. Determining the volume of blood at a scene**
- 7. Which aspect is not usually assessed in bloodstain pattern analysis?**
- A. The movement after bloodshed**
 - B. The financial motive of the suspect**
 - C. The positioning of the victim**
 - D. The area of origin of the blood**
- 8. What is "forward spatter" commonly associated with?**
- A. Blood from a laceration**
 - B. Exit wounds from gunshots**
 - C. Bloodshed during a fistfight**
 - D. Injury caused by blunt force**
- 9. What is a recommended practice when handling evidence from a crime scene?**
- A. Always wear gloves to prevent contamination**
 - B. Document everything through photographs**
 - C. Only collect evidence that seems significant**
 - D. Use the same bag for all types of evidence**
- 10. What is lividity?**
- A. A discoloration of the skin caused by blood settling**
 - B. A type of post-mortem rigidity**
 - C. A method of identifying deceased individuals**
 - D. The process of decomposition**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is spatter in the context of forensic evidence?

- A. Liquid debris forcibly ejected from its container as a result of a crash**
- B. A pattern created from tire skid marks on the road**
- C. A specific type of blood evidence found at crime scenes**
- D. Debris collected from the scene of an accident**

In the context of forensic evidence, spatter specifically refers to a pattern resulting from the forceful ejection of liquid, particularly blood, due to an impact or violent action. Therefore, identifying spatter as a specific type of blood evidence found at crime scenes is correct. Blood spatter analysis is a critical aspect of forensic investigations; it helps reconstruct events leading to a crime, determine the position of the victim and the assailant, and even establish the type of weapon used. The characteristics of spatter, such as its size, shape, and distribution, can provide valuable insights into the dynamics of the incident. Understanding spatter is essential for forensic technicians, as it directly relates to the analysis of violent crimes, where blood is often present. This significance in a forensic context distinguishes spatter from simply any liquid debris or marks left from vehicles, as seen in other choices.

2. Which of the following statements is true regarding non-combustible substances?

- A. They always ignite easily**
- B. They never evaporate**
- C. They may still burn under certain conditions**
- D. They are typically gases**

The statement that non-combustible substances may still burn under certain conditions is accurate. Non-combustible materials, by definition, are those that do not readily ignite or sustain combustion; however, this does not mean they are completely immune to burning. Under extreme conditions, such as high temperatures or the presence of strong reactive agents, non-combustible substances can experience thermal decomposition or chemical reactions that result in combustion. For example, some non-combustible metals can melt or oxidize when subjected to intense heat, which can lead to the release of flammable gases or even the material itself burning in a controlled environment. This characteristic highlights the complexity of material behavior under varying conditions and reinforces the understanding that "non-combustible" does not equate to "non-flammable" under every circumstance. The other options do not accurately reflect the properties of non-combustible substances. They do not always ignite easily, as this contradicts the very definition of being classified as non-combustible. Additionally, while some non-combustible substances may not evaporate under normal conditions, many can, and they certainly do not fall into the category of substances that are typically gases.

3. What characterizes high-velocity impact spatter (HVIS)?

- A. Stains larger than 3 mm in diameter
- B. Caused by low impact force
- C. Mist-like dispersion formed upon impact**
- D. Stains associated with blunt force injuries

High-velocity impact spatter (HVIS) is characterized by a mist-like dispersion formed upon impact. This type of spatter occurs when blood is subjected to a significant force, resulting in the blood being fragmented into small droplets that can travel considerable distances. The fine mist appearance results from the high-speed impact that causes the liquid to break up, producing droplets that are typically less than 1 mm in diameter. This distinction is important in forensic investigations, as it can help professionals determine the type of force involved in a violent incident. The formation of a mist-like pattern often indicates a high-energy event, such as a gunshot or a high-speed blow, rather than a lower-energy situation. This characteristic of HVIS is essential for crime scene reconstruction and understanding the dynamics of the event being investigated.

4. What is the main role of a Crime Scene investigator?

- A. To interrogate suspects
- B. To secure a crime scene and collect evidence**
- C. To analyze forensic data
- D. To provide expert testimony in court

The main role of a Crime Scene Investigator (CSI) is to secure a crime scene and collect evidence. This responsibility is crucial because the integrity of the crime scene must be maintained to ensure that evidence is not contaminated or destroyed. A CSI is trained to methodically document the scene, including taking photographs, sketching layouts, and recording the position of evidence. They gather various types of evidence, such as fingerprints, DNA samples, and other physical items that can help in the investigation and subsequent legal proceedings. This foundation of collecting and preserving evidence is vital as it allows forensic scientists and law enforcement personnel to further analyze the evidence and reconstruct the events that occurred at the crime scene. While interrogating suspects, analyzing forensic data, and providing expert testimony in court are all essential aspects of criminal investigations, the primary function of a CSI is to ensure that the initial crime scene is properly handled to support the investigation as it progresses.

5. What is a "trailer" in fire investigations?

- A. A type of burning material**
- B. A method to extinguish fires**
- C. A long trail of fast-burning material**
- D. A device used for surveillance**

In fire investigations, a "trailer" refers to a long trail of fast-burning material used to spread fire from one location to another. This technique is often associated with arson, where the perpetrator creates a path of combustible material to initiate flames in a specific area or direct the fire towards a target. The presence of a trailer can indicate intentionality behind the fire's spread and is a critical aspect for investigators to analyze during a fire scene examination. This understanding emphasizes the nuances involved in fire behavior and the methods used by individuals to manipulate it. Investigators look for trailers as a significant piece of evidence in determining the origin and cause of a fire, which can greatly influence the case's outcome.

6. What does the term "directionality" refer to in blood spatter analysis?

- A. Indicating how blood was deposited on a surface**
- B. Relating to the speed of blood spatter**
- C. Indicating the age of a blood stain**
- D. Determining the volume of blood at a scene**

The term "directionality" in blood spatter analysis refers to the ability to determine the direction from which the blood originated when it was deposited on a surface. By analyzing the shape, size, and pattern of blood droplets, forensic experts can deduce the trajectory of the blood and, consequently, the position and movement of the individual or object at the time of the incident. This is fundamental in reconstructing the events that led to the bloodshed, such as whether the blood was ejected, dripped, or splattered, and helps convey critical information about the dynamics of the scene. In contrast, the other options pertain to different aspects of blood analysis that do not directly relate to directionality. For example, speed of blood spatter concerns the force applied to the blood rather than its origin. The age of a blood stain involves the time since it was deposited, which does not help in establishing the trajectory. Finally, determining the volume of blood at a scene is about quantifying the amount of blood present, rather than its directional characteristics.

7. Which aspect is not usually assessed in bloodstain pattern analysis?

- A. The movement after bloodshed**
- B. The financial motive of the suspect**
- C. The positioning of the victim**
- D. The area of origin of the blood**

In bloodstain pattern analysis, various aspects are examined to reconstruct the events surrounding a violent incident. The analysis focuses on physical evidence related to the bloodstains themselves, which can reveal significant information about the actions that occurred during the incident. Assessing the movement after bloodshed involves looking at the distribution and arrangement of bloodstains to infer how the individuals involved moved through the area after the blood was shed. This can provide crucial insights into the sequence of events. The positioning of the victim is also assessed, as the location and angle of bloodstains can indicate where the victim was at the time of the incident. Understanding the position aids in piecing together the narrative of how the violence unfolded. Determining the area of origin of the blood is fundamental in bloodstain pattern analysis. It helps investigators establish where the blood was initially deposited, which is critical for reconstructing the scene. In stark contrast, the financial motive of the suspect falls outside the realm of scientific examination of the physical evidence. While motives can influence investigations and provide context, they are not assessed through bloodstain patterns themselves, making this aspect irrelevant to the analysis of bloodstains. Thus, the financial motive is not a parameter considered in the scientific analysis process.

8. What is "forward spatter" commonly associated with?

- A. Blood from a laceration**
- B. Exit wounds from gunshots**
- C. Bloodshed during a fistfight**
- D. Injury caused by blunt force**

Forward spatter is commonly associated with exit wounds from gunshots. When a projectile such as a bullet exits the body, it can create a significant amount of force that leads to the expulsion of blood and other fluids from the wound. This ejected material travels outward in the direction of the bullet's travel, which is why it is referred to as forward spatter. The dynamics of a gunshot wound are distinct in that they often generate high-velocity spatter patterns, which can be useful in crime scene investigations to help reconstruct what occurred during the incident. This spattering pattern is a critical piece of forensic evidence that can aid in understanding the position of the victim relative to the shooter at the time of the gunfire. Other options, while related to bloodshed or injury, do not generate the same characteristic patterns associated with forward spatter. For example, blood from a laceration typically results in different spatter dynamics because of the mechanisms of injury involved. Fistfights and blunt force injuries also tend to result in blood patterns fundamentally different from those seen with gunshot wounds.

9. What is a recommended practice when handling evidence from a crime scene?

- A. Always wear gloves to prevent contamination**
- B. Document everything through photographs**
- C. Only collect evidence that seems significant**
- D. Use the same bag for all types of evidence**

Wearing gloves to prevent contamination is indeed a recommended practice when handling evidence from a crime scene. This is crucial for maintaining the integrity of the evidence. Human skin can transfer oils, dirt, and other contaminants to the evidence, which could compromise its value in an investigation. By using gloves, technicians can minimize the risk of altering or contaminating the evidence, ensuring that it remains as untainted as possible for analysis and legal proceedings. Additionally, wearing gloves protects the technician from potentially harmful substances that might be present at a crime scene, such as biological materials or hazardous materials. Maintaining a sterile environment is essential for accurate forensic examination and preserving the chain of custody, which is vital for the legal process.

10. What is lividity?

- A. A discoloration of the skin caused by blood settling**
- B. A type of post-mortem rigidity**
- C. A method of identifying deceased individuals**
- D. The process of decomposition**

Lividity refers specifically to the discoloration of the skin that occurs after death, resulting from the pooling of blood in the lower parts of the body due to gravity. This phenomenon occurs when the heart stops beating, leading to blood no longer being distributed throughout the body. As a result, the areas where blood has settled become visibly darker, typically appearing purplish or reddish. This change in skin coloration can provide insight into the time of death as well as the position of the body at the time of death, which can be critical for forensic investigations. Understanding lividity can assist forensic professionals in determining factors related to the decedent's position and the time elapsed since death, making it an important concept in forensic science. The other concepts, such as post-mortem rigidity, identification methods, and decomposition processes, refer to different aspects of post-mortem changes and do not accurately describe lividity.

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://evidencetechnician.examzify.com>

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