

FDEP DRINKING WATER OPERATOR C PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	16

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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. What is the main consequence of cavitation in a pump?**
 - A. Reduced efficiency
 - B. Increased energy consumption
 - C. Damage to components
 - D. Increased water pressure
- 2. What is considered an acceptable water loss for a typical water system?**
 - A. Less than 5%
 - B. Less than 10%
 - C. Less than 15%
 - D. Less than 20%
- 3. What is the limit for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) in water?**
 - A. Less than 50 Parts per Billion (PPB)
 - B. Less than 80 Parts per Billion (PPB)
 - C. Less than 0.05 mg/L
 - D. Less than 0.1 mg/L
- 4. What is the primary focus of the Safe Drinking Water Act?**
 - A. To regulate the quality of private wells
 - B. To ensure safe drinking water for the public
 - C. To promote bottled water safety
 - D. To assess water treatment technologies
- 5. How many service connections upstream must be resampled if a micro test fails?**
 - A. 3 connections
 - B. 5 connections
 - C. 10 connections
 - D. 1 connection
- 6. Which factor is NOT typically associated with water treatment processes?**
 - A. Presence of chlorine
 - B. Soil Type
 - C. System Pressure
 - D. Stray electrical currents

7. What causes galvanic corrosion?

- A. High pressure in pipes
- B. Dissimilar metals joined in an electrolyte solution
- C. Exposure to sunlight
- D. High temperatures

8. Which of the following is NOT a basic type of water rights?

- A. Riparian
- B. Prescriptive
- C. Appropriative
- D. Reservoir

9. What is a limitation of the lime softening process?

- A. Cannot remove all hardness effectively
- B. It is guaranteed to remove color
- C. It is inexpensive
- D. Requires no sludge handling

10. What is the primary reason for placing a chlorine exhaust fan at floor level?

- A. Chlorine gas is lighter than air
- B. Chlorine gas is odorless
- C. Chlorine gas is heavier than air
- D. To ensure immediate ventilation

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the main consequence of cavitation in a pump?

- A. Reduced efficiency
- B. Increased energy consumption
- C. Damage to components**
- D. Increased water pressure

Cavitation occurs when the pressure in a pump falls below the vapor pressure of the fluid, leading to the formation of vapor bubbles. These bubbles can create significant problems when they collapse or implode, which typically happens as the fluid moves through the pump. One of the most significant consequences of this phenomenon is the damage to pump components. When the vapor bubbles collapse, they generate shock waves that can erode the surfaces of impellers and other components, leading to pitting and wear. Over time, this damage not only reduces the performance of the pump but can also lead to complete failure if not addressed. The physical integrity of the pump is compromised, which necessitates repairs or complete replacement of the affected parts. Thus, the main consequence of cavitation is indeed the damage it causes to the pump's components.

2. What is considered an acceptable water loss for a typical water system?

- A. Less than 5%
- B. Less than 10%**
- C. Less than 15%
- D. Less than 20%

In typical water systems, an acceptable water loss is generally recognized as being less than 10%. This benchmark reflects a balance between operational efficiency and the reality of unavoidable losses due to factors such as leaks in the system, metering inaccuracies, and other operational issues. Keeping water loss below this threshold is crucial for a sustainable water supply, as it allows water utilities to maintain effective resource management and minimizes unnecessary waste. Maintaining water loss at or below this level also helps ensure that the system remains economically viable, as excessive losses can lead to increased costs of treatment and distribution. Moreover, a lower water loss percentage reflects better maintenance practices and can improve the overall reliability and reputation of the water utility within the community. For these reasons, aiming for less than 10% water loss is considered industry best practice.

3. What is the limit for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) in water?

- A. Less than 50 Parts per Billion (PPB)
- B. Less than 80 Parts per Billion (PPB)**
- C. Less than 0.05 mg/L
- D. Less than 0.1 mg/L

The limit for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) in drinking water is set at less than 80 Parts per Billion (PPB). This regulatory limit is established to protect public health, as TTHMs are byproducts formed when chlorine used for disinfection reacts with natural organic matter in the water. Prolonged exposure to TTHMs has been associated with certain health risks, including potential cancer and reproductive issues. Maintaining TTHM levels below this threshold helps ensure that the drinking water is safe for consumption, aligning with standards set forth by organizations such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Monitoring and controlling the levels of TTHMs is critical in water treatment processes to mitigate these risks and provide safe drinking water to the population. This understanding reflects the importance of adhering to established water quality standards for public health safety.

4. What is the primary focus of the Safe Drinking Water Act?

- A. To regulate the quality of private wells
- B. To ensure safe drinking water for the public**
- C. To promote bottled water safety
- D. To assess water treatment technologies

The primary focus of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) is to ensure safe drinking water for the public. This is crucial because the Act serves as the national law that protects public health by regulating the nation's public drinking water supply. It establishes quality standards for drinking water, requires water suppliers to monitor and report water quality, and sets forth measures to protect drinking water sources from contamination. The overarching goal is to safeguard public health by ensuring that water systems provide safe and reliable drinking water to communities across the country. Although other options might touch on related topics, they do not encapsulate the main objective of the SDWA. For instance, regulating the quality of private wells is important, but private wells are typically not covered under this federal law, which primarily targets public water systems. Promoting bottled water safety and assessing water treatment technologies are also significant issues in water quality management, but they are not the central aim of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

5. How many service connections upstream must be resampled if a micro test fails?

- A. 3 connections
- B. 5 connections**
- C. 10 connections
- D. 1 connection

When a micro test fails, the protocol typically requires greater scrutiny to identify potential sources of contamination and ensure water safety. Resampling is an essential step in this process, and the number of service connections to be resampled is guided by established standards. Choosing to resample five service connections is based on the need to thoroughly investigate the extent of the issue. Sampling a larger number of connections increases the likelihood of detecting contaminants that may not be present in a single sample. It provides a broader representation of the water quality and assesses the potential reaches of contamination upstream of the test site. This practice helps ensure that the water supply remains safe for consumers and that any problems are resolved effectively. The guidelines set forth by regulatory agencies help ensure that adequate measures are taken to protect public health, emphasizing the importance of the resampling process when a micro test indicates a failure.

6. Which factor is NOT typically associated with water treatment processes?

- A. Presence of chlorine
- B. Soil Type**
- C. System Pressure
- D. Stray electrical currents

The presence of chlorine is a crucial element in water treatment processes, as it is widely used as a disinfectant to kill harmful microorganisms and ensure water safety for public consumption. System pressure is also essential, as it helps in the effective distribution of treated water throughout the supply system. Stray electrical currents may be a concern in some water treatment facilities due to their potential effects on equipment and water quality, but they are not part of the standard treatment processes. Soil type, on the other hand, is typically associated with groundwater systems and may influence the characteristics of aquifers or the quality of water derived from them. However, within the context of water treatment processes specifically, soil type is not a direct factor because it relates more to the source of the water and its natural filtration before it even enters the treatment process. Thus, it is not regularly considered when examining the treatment itself, making this the correct choice in response to the question.

7. What causes galvanic corrosion?

- A. High pressure in pipes
- B. Dissimilar metals joined in an electrolyte solution**
- C. Exposure to sunlight
- D. High temperatures

Galvanic corrosion occurs when two different metals are electrically connected in the presence of an electrolyte, such as water. This connection allows for the flow of electric current between the metals, leading to corrosion of the more anodic (less noble) metal. The presence of the electrolyte facilitates the electrochemical reactions that lead to corrosion. In this context, when dissimilar metals are joined together, one metal will lose electrons and corrode preferentially, while the other metal will be protected. The extent of galvanic corrosion depends on the types of metals involved, their respective positions in the electrochemical series, and the characteristics of the electrolyte. Understanding this phenomenon is crucial for water treatment operators to prevent damage to piping systems and other infrastructure in water distribution systems. The other choices, while they may impact water systems in different ways, do not directly cause galvanic corrosion in the manner described.

8. Which of the following is NOT a basic type of water rights?

- A. Riparian
- B. Prescriptive
- C. Appropriative
- D. Reservoir**

The correct choice of "Reservoir" as the option that is NOT a basic type of water rights is based on the definitions and classifications of water rights. Riparian rights pertain to landowners who own property adjacent to a water source, granting them access to a reasonable amount of water for personal use. These rights are typically governed by principles that emphasize sharing water amongst those owning the land next to a river or lake. Prescriptive rights arise when a person uses water without permission for a long enough period, allowing them to acquire those rights through continued use. This principle is similar to the concept of adverse possession in property law, where usage over time can lead to the establishment of rights. Appropriative rights are defined as rights granted to individuals or entities for the use of water that is diverted from its natural source, often on a first-come, first-served basis. This system is prevalent in areas where water is scarce, and users must establish their right to use a certain quantity of water. A reservoir, however, is not a type of water right but rather a physical structure for storing surface water. It does not fit within the categories of rights that describe legal entitlements to use water. Instead, it represents the infrastructure used to manage

9. What is a limitation of the lime softening process?

- A. Cannot remove all hardness effectively**
- B. It is guaranteed to remove color
- C. It is inexpensive
- D. Requires no sludge handling

The lime softening process is primarily used to reduce water hardness by precipitating calcium and magnesium ions, which are responsible for hardness. However, a limitation of this process is that it cannot remove all types of hardness effectively. Lime softening specifically targets carbonate hardness but may be less effective in addressing non-carbonate or some forms of dissolved hardness, especially at lower pH levels or in the presence of certain water chemistry conditions, such as high levels of non-carbonate calcium. This means that while it can significantly reduce hardness in water, it doesn't guarantee complete hardness removal, which is a crucial consideration for water treatment facilities aiming for specific water quality standards. In contrast, other choices highlight characteristics that either don't accurately represent the lime softening process or are inherent benefits not related to limitations. For instance, removing color or being inexpensive are not universally true characteristics of lime softening, as certain waters may not experience significant color removal through this method, and the associated costs can vary depending on the context. Additionally, while sludge handling is part of many treatment processes, lime softening does generate sludge, requiring proper management, countering the claim that it requires no sludge handling.

10. What is the primary reason for placing a chlorine exhaust fan at floor level?

- A. Chlorine gas is lighter than air
- B. Chlorine gas is odorless
- C. Chlorine gas is heavier than air**
- D. To ensure immediate ventilation

The primary reason for placing a chlorine exhaust fan at floor level is because chlorine gas is heavier than air. This characteristic of chlorine means that when it is released, it tends to accumulate at lower levels rather than dispersing upward. By installing the exhaust fan close to the floor, it allows for the effective removal of chlorine gas from the area before it can pose health risks to workers or affect the surrounding environment. Choosing the correct placement of the exhaust fan is crucial for safety, as it improves the ventilation process and helps to maintain air quality by directly targeting the source of potential chlorine accumulation. Proper ventilation measures mitigate the risks associated with chlorine gas exposure, which is essential in facilities that utilize chlorine for water treatment or disinfection processes.

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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://fdepdrinkingwateropc.examzify.com>

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

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