

# Field Artillery Captain's Career Course (CCC) Practice Test (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. Should fire support assets be kept in reserve?**
  - A. True**
  - B. False**
  - C. Sometimes**
  - D. Never**
  
- 2. What are the four elements of a Fire Support task?**
  - A. Task, Purpose, Method, Effect**
  - B. Task, Intent, Method, Effect**
  - C. Task, Purpose, Plan, Effect**
  - D. Task, Purpose, Method, Result**
  
- 3. COA development begins after which step?**
  - A. Mission Analysis**
  - B. Orders Production**
  - C. Rehearsals**
  - D. Execution**
  
- 4. Paladin unit reinforcing—who places it?**
  - A. Reinforced HQ**
  - B. Battalion Commander**
  - C. S3**
  - D. FDC**
  
- 5. Which Army doctrine addresses the principle of sustainment?**
  - A. FM 3-0**
  - B. FM 4-0**
  - C. ADP 4-0**
  - D. ADP 5-0**
  
- 6. In the MDMP IPOE context, which step involves Mission Analysis?**
  - A. COA Screening**
  - B. Decision Briefing**
  - C. Mission Analysis**
  - D. Plan Approval**

- 7. Which is a COA screening criterion name to ensure a COA can be compared?**
- A. Distinguishable**
  - B. Complete**
  - C. Feasible**
  - D. Suitable**
- 8. In fire support communications, RXL is an acronym for which concept?**
- A. Release**
  - B. Relay**
  - C. Radio Exchange Link**
  - D. Ranged eXchange Link**
- 9. For ACM separation of fixed and rotary assets, what term describes the coordination level?**
- A. Coordinating Altitude**
  - B. Coordinated Level**
  - C. Separation Level**
  - D. Clearance Level**
- 10. METT-TC includes which factor as a mission variable?**
- A. Mission**
  - B. Civil Considerations**
  - C. Terrain**
  - D. Weather**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. Should fire support assets be kept in reserve?

- A. True
- B. False**
- C. Sometimes
- D. Never

Fire support should be integrated and planned to support the operation's tempo and the commander's intent, not held back as a standing reserve. If fires are kept in reserve, you miss opportunities to shape the fights, respond quickly to evolving conditions, and mass effects at the decisive point. The most effective approach is to preplan and synchronize fires with maneuver, using on-call or readily available assets where needed while maintaining a clear sequencing of fires to exploit targets and maintain momentum. Some flexibility is necessary for urgent counterfire or unanticipated threats, but the default practice is not to keep fire support assets indefinitely in reserve.

## 2. What are the four elements of a Fire Support task?

- A. Task, Purpose, Method, Effect**
- B. Task, Intent, Method, Effect
- C. Task, Purpose, Plan, Effect
- D. Task, Purpose, Method, Result

In a Fire Support task, you specify four elements that together guide what will be done, why it's needed, how it will be carried out, and what end state it should produce. The Task identifies the specific action to be taken by fire support. The Purpose explains why that action is necessary and how it supports the larger mission. The Method describes how the task will be executed—the delivery method, targeting approach, timing, and coordination measures. The Effect states the desired end result on the enemy or objective, such as destruction, suppression, or neutralization. This combination—Task, Purpose, Method, and Effect—is the standard format, and it aligns directly with how fire support is planned and assessed.

## 3. COA development begins after which step?

- A. Mission Analysis**
- B. Orders Production
- C. Rehearsals
- D. Execution

In MDMP, COA development begins after Mission Analysis. You first need to understand the mission, identify the problem to solve, define constraints, key facts, and the commander's intent. Mission Analysis provides the framing and criteria you'll use to judge potential actions, ensuring any Courses of Action you develop are feasible, suitable, and aligned with the mission. Only after this clear understanding do planners generate viable COAs, then proceed to war-gaming/analysis, comparison, and finally orders production. Rehearsals and the actual execution occur later, once a COA has been selected and the plan is in motion.

#### 4. Paladin unit reinforcing—who places it?

- A. Reinforced HQ**
- B. Battalion Commander**
- C. S3**
- D. FDC**

When a Paladin unit is reinforced, the authority and responsibility to place the reinforcing element rests with the reinforced headquarters. That HQ has assumed command of the augmented force and is responsible for tasking, positioning, and integrating the reinforcement into the battalion's fire plan and maneuver. It coordinates with the S3 for timing and with the Fire Direction Centers to ensure the reinforcement supports the overall mission. The S3 may plan and the Battalion Commander authorizes, but the actual placement of the reinforcing unit is executed by the reinforced headquarters. The Fire Direction Center handles firing decisions, not unit placement, so it does not place reinforcements.

#### 5. Which Army doctrine addresses the principle of sustainment?

- A. FM 3-0**
- B. FM 4-0**
- C. ADP 4-0**
- D. ADP 5-0**

Sustainment as a warfighting function ensures forces have the logistics, maintenance, personnel services, medical support, and other services needed to stay in the fight. The Army's enduring doctrine that defines this function, its scope, and how it integrates with planning and execution across all operations is ADP 4-0. It explains the components of sustainment—logistics, personnel services, maintenance, and health service support—and how planners anticipate needs, coordinate support, and adapt to changing conditions to maintain continuous readiness. While field manuals provide procedures and detailed methods for execution, the proponent doctrine for sustainment at the Army level is ADP 4-0.

#### 6. In the MDMP IPOE context, which step involves Mission Analysis?

- A. COA Screening**
- B. Decision Briefing**
- C. Mission Analysis**
- D. Plan Approval**

Understanding the mission, environment, and intelligence implications is handled in the Mission Analysis step. In the IPOE context, this step is where you digest higher commander's intent, constraints, and the intelligence picture of the operational environment, and you identify information gaps, critical intelligence requirements, and initial assumptions. This forms the problem framing and planning criteria that drive everything that follows, including IPB, CCIRs, and initial planning guidance. The other steps are about developing, evaluating, and choosing courses of action, or obtaining approval, not about building the mission understanding itself.

7. Which is a COA screening criterion name to ensure a COA can be compared?

**A. Distinguishable**

**B. Complete**

**C. Feasible**

**D. Suitable**

Distinguishable is the best fit because, when screening COAs, you need each option to differ in meaningful ways so you can compare them objectively. If COAs look the same on the critical dimensions, the evaluation won't reveal trade-offs, and you won't be able to tell which one is better. Distinguishable ensures there are differences in outcomes, risks, or resource use that let you rank and select the most favorable option. The other criteria matter too in evaluating a COA—completeness ensures it covers required actions, feasibility checks whether it can be done, and suitability confirms it supports the mission. But they don't guarantee you can compare COAs; distinguishability specifically enables meaningful comparison.

8. In fire support communications, RXL is an acronym for which concept?

**A. Release**

**B. Relay**

**C. Radio Exchange Link**

**D. Ranged eXchange Link**

RXL describes a relay function in fire support communications. A relay is an intermediate node that receives a message and forwards it to the next point, extending reach when direct radio paths are blocked by terrain or distance. In practice, if the forward observer cannot reach the fire direction center directly, a relay station processes and retransmits the mission data, ensuring the request for fires (and any updates) makes it to the guns or enabling unit. This keeps the communication chain intact and timely. The other terms don't fit because they describe different concepts or aren't standard in this context: release is about authorizing an action to terminate, and the other two terms would imply a different kind of radio linkage rather than the forwarding role that a relay provides.

9. For ACM separation of fixed and rotary assets, what term describes the coordination level?

**A. Coordinating Altitude**

**B. Coordinated Level**

**C. Separation Level**

**D. Clearance Level**

In ACM separation of fixed and rotary assets, the coordination level describes how tightly airspace management and fire support are aligned for safe operations. The term chosen communicates that a formal, recognized level of coordination is in place between the elements planning and executing the missions, so everyone understands the timing, routes, altitudes, and restrictions involved. It isn't about a vertical parameter or permission to enter airspace; it's about the state of coordination itself. The other terms would imply altitude, a vague separation descriptor, or just clearance, none of which conveys the active coordination status between fixed and rotary assets.

**10. METT-TC includes which factor as a mission variable?**

**A. Mission**

**B. Civil Considerations**

**C. Terrain**

**D. Weather**

In METT-TC, the factor that acts as the mission variable is the mission itself. The mission defines what you are tasked to accomplish—the purpose, the end state, and the specific tasks you must perform as directed by higher headquarters. It drives all planning decisions, including task organization, sequencing, and resource allocation, because everything is aimed at achieving that defined objective. The other METT-TC factors—Enemy, Terrain and Weather, Time, and Civil Considerations—describe conditions and constraints you must anticipate and adapt to during execution. They shape how you accomplish the mission, but they are not the mission variable itself. For example, terrain and weather influence routes and timing; civil considerations affect how you operate in the area; time defines the window you have to complete the mission.

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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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

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

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

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

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