FIRE ALARM LESSON 5&6 PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE

SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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 the maximum delay allowed for a waterflow switch in a typical fire alarm system?**

   A. 60 sec

   B. 90 sec

   C. 120 sec

   D. 180 sec

2. **In a sprinklered elevator hoistway and machine room, heat detectors must have which temperature rating and RTI?**

   A. Higher temperature rating and higher RTI

   B. Lower temperature rating and higher RTI

   C. Lower temperature rating and lower RTI

   D. Higher temperature rating and lower RTI

3. **Two-hour protection of circuits and a fully sprinklered building corresponds to which survivability level?**

   A. Level 0 survivability

   B. Level 1 survivability

   C. Level 2 survivability

   D. Level 3 survivability

4. **What is the purpose of a zone map or floor plan on a fire alarm panel?**

   A. To power the central battery.

   B. To help operators identify the location of alarms or troubles by zone/device.

   C. To control the color of indicator LEDs on the panel.

   D. To schedule maintenance windows.

5. **Under NFPA 90A, supply-side smoke detection is mandated for HVAC systems with capacity of**

   A. 1500 CFM

   B. 2000 CFM

   C. 3000 CFM

   D. 4000 CFM

6. For NFPA 90A compliance, the interconnection between the FACP and the emergency function control appliance must avoid which class?

A. Class A

B. Class B

C. Class C

D. Class D

7. Which cable type is specified for two hours of direct fire exposure?

A. FPLP-CI

B. FPLP

C. FPLP-C

D. FPLP-CX

8. Fire alarm cables are permitted to be strapped to other conduit.

A. True

B. False

C. Depends on cable type

D. Only with approval

9. Tables ? and ? provide limitations for power-limited circuits.

A. 12A and 12B

B. 11A and 11B

C. 13A and 13B

D. 12C and 12D

10. What is a notification appliance circuit (NAC) and which devices use it?

A. A NAC powers audible and visual warning devices such as horns, bells, and strobes.

B. A NAC powers HVAC components.

C. A NAC provides data communication between panels.

D. A NAC controls lighting circuits.

Answers

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

Explanations

1. What is the maximum delay allowed for a waterflow switch in a typical fire alarm system?

A. 60 sec

B. 90 sec

C. 120 sec

D. 180 sec

Waterflow switches alert the fire alarm system as soon as water starts moving in the sprinkler piping. There's a need to balance prompt notification with avoiding false alarms from minor, non-fire flows. In a typical system, the alarm must be initiated within about 90 seconds of detecting water flow. This keeps occupants and responders informed quickly, while not overreacting to small, incidental flows. A shorter delay, like 60 seconds, could raise nuisance alarms in some situations, whereas longer delays (120 or 180 seconds) would delay warning and could allow more water damage before the alarm sounds.

2. In a sprinklered elevator hoistway and machine room, heat detectors must have which temperature rating and RTI?

A. Higher temperature rating and higher RTI

B. Lower temperature rating and higher RTI

C. Lower temperature rating and lower RTI

D. Higher temperature rating and lower RTI

In sprinklered elevator hoistways and machine rooms, you want heat detectors that respond quickly to a real fire despite the cooling and air movement caused by sprinkler activity. A lower fixed temperature rating means the detector will actuate at a lower temperature, giving earlier warning as soon as heat begins to rise. A lower RTI indicates a faster response to a given rate of temperature increase, helping the detector react promptly even when cooling from sprinkler water slows heat buildup. So the best combination is a lower temperature rating with a lower RTI, because both aspects push the system toward quicker detection in a challenging environment. Higher temperature ratings would delay activation, and higher RTI would slow the response, reducing the chance of early warning in this critical space.

3. Two-hour protection of circuits and a fully sprinklered building corresponds to which survivability level?

A. Level 0 survivability

B. Level 1 survivability

C. Level 2 survivability

D. Level 3 survivability

Survivability level describes how long and how well the fire alarm system can stay operable during a fire, given protective measures in place. When critical circuits are protected for two hours and the building is fully sprinklered, the system is designed to withstand the heat and damage of a fire long enough to keep power and signaling available while fire suppression helps control the scene. This combination represents the highest level of survivability, Level 3, because it combines extended circuit protection with comprehensive fire suppression to maximize the chances that the system continues to function throughout the incident.

4. What is the purpose of a zone map or floor plan on a fire alarm panel?

A. To power the central battery.

B. To help operators identify the location of alarms or troubles by zone/device.

C. To control the color of indicator LEDs on the panel.

D. To schedule maintenance windows.

A zone map or floor plan on a fire alarm panel provides a visual view of the building showing zones and devices and the real-time status of each. This lets the operator see exactly which area is signaling, so they can quickly locate the source of an alarm or trouble and direct occupants or responders to that location. It helps with fast, accurate response and safe navigation during an incident. The map isn't about powering the system, choosing LED colors, or scheduling maintenance—those tasks are handled by other parts of the system or separate procedures.

5. Under NFPA 90A, supply-side smoke detection is mandated for HVAC systems with capacity of

A. 1500 CFM

B. 2000 CFM

C. 3000 CFM

D. 4000 CFM

NFPA 90A requires smoke detection on the supply side of an HVAC system when the system can move a large amount of air, because bigger systems can spread smoke quickly through ducts. The threshold used in the standard is 2000 CFM. If the supply airflow is at least 2000 CFM, a smoke detector in the supply duct is mandated to enable rapid detection and a quick control response (such as shutting down fans or closing dampers) to limit smoke distribution. Systems below 2000 CFM aren't mandated to have supply-side smoke detection, though other detection options may still be used.

6. For NFPA 90A compliance, the interconnection between the FACP and the emergency function control appliance must avoid which class?

A. Class A

B. Class B

C. Class C

D. Class D

The interconnection between the Fire Alarm Control Panel and an emergency function control appliance is a life-safety path that must stay reliable and continuously supervised. Class C is avoided because it does not meet the required reliability and monitoring standards for these critical interconnections, which could leave emergency functions like elevator recall, door holds, or damper control unable to operate when needed. In practice, circuits used for these interconnections are designed to provide redundancy or proper supervision (Class A or Class B), ensuring the emergency functions activate or de-activate correctly during a fire or power issue.

7. Which cable type is specified for two hours of direct fire exposure?

A. FPLP-CI

B. FPLP

C. FPLP-C

D. FPLP-CX

Cables used in fire alarm circuits have fire-resistance ratings that specify how long they can withstand direct flame exposure. When a requirement calls for survive two hours of direct fire, you need a cable that is explicitly rated for that duration. The FPLP-CI variant is designed for a two-hour direct-fire exposure, making it the appropriate choice to meet that requirement. The other variants carry different ratings or are intended for different conditions, so they wouldn't satisfy the two-hour criterion. Always verify the exact rating from the manufacturer or the applicable standard, but for a two-hour direct exposure need, this variant matches that spec.

8. Fire alarm cables are permitted to be strapped to other conduit.

A. True

B. False

C. Depends on cable type

D. Only with approval

Fire alarm cables have strict support rules that require they be secured to structural elements or with listed supports, not strapped to another conduit. Strapping a low voltage fire alarm cable to a conduit can crush or damage the cable insulation, create stress points as the metal expands or vibrates, and make inspections or maintenance harder. To meet the requirements, these cables are installed with appropriate supports independent of conduit, or they're run inside a raceway designed for them. So, the idea of strapping fire alarm cables to conduit isn't allowed.

9. Tables ? and ? provide limitations for power-limited circuits.

A. 12A and 12B

B. 11A and 11B

C. 13A and 13B

D. 12C and 12D

Power-limited circuits are restricted circuits designed to operate with limited voltage and current, so the installation rules are tightly defined to keep energy levels safe and predictable. To make sure everything on these circuits stays within those safe boundaries, the code uses dedicated tables that lay out the exact limits installers must follow. The tables identified here are the ones that specify the limitations for power-limited circuits, covering what conductors can be used, how much current each circuit can carry, and how many loads or devices can be connected to a single power-limited run. This standardized guidance helps ensure proper protection, insulation choices, and overall safety for fire alarm and related systems. Other tables in the code address different circuit types or conditions, so they don't apply to the specific restrictions that govern power-limited circuits.

10. What is a notification appliance circuit (NAC) and which devices use it?

A. A NAC powers audible and visual warning devices such as horns, bells, and strobes.

B. A NAC powers HVAC components.

C. A NAC provides data communication between panels.

D. A NAC controls lighting circuits.

A notification appliance circuit is the dedicated low voltage path from the fire alarm control panel to the devices that warn occupants. It powers and signals the audible and visual warning devices, such as horns, bells, strobes, or speaker-strobes, so people hear and see an alarm. This circuit is designed to provide enough current for all connected appliances and to be supervised so the panel can detect faults like open circuits or shorts. It's separate from feeds for HVAC, data communications, or general lighting, which follow other systems. When an alarm activates, the panel sends power and signaling over the notification appliance circuit to drive the warning devices.

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://firealarmlesson5and6.examzify.com

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