

FIRE SUPPORT CERTIFICATION WRITTEN 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

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- 1. Which type of smoke mission is utilized to mask friendly movements?**
 - A. Obscuration
 - B. Screening
 - C. Identification
 - D. Suppression
- 2. What aspect of artillery fire does the 'Height of Burst' correction address?**
 - A. Impact point accuracy
 - B. Effectiveness of munitions
 - C. Accuracy of elevation adjustments
 - D. Detonation timing
- 3. In a military context, what does the term 'fire support mission' refer to?**
 - A. A planned operation using fire support
 - B. A drill for new recruits
 - C. Logistics planning for troop movements
 - D. A session for weapons training
- 4. The armed OH58D can carry which type of machine guns?**
 - A. 7.62mm
 - B. .50 cal
 - C. 12.7mm
 - D. 20mm
- 5. In fire support, what does the term 'Roll Call' refer to?**
 - A. The process of synchronizing unit movements
 - B. The verification of fire support asset readiness
 - C. An evaluation of enemy capabilities
 - D. A checklist for civilian safety
- 6. Which of the following statements about labeling a T on a terrain sketch is true?**
 - A. Description, direction, distance, altitude, grid are all included
 - B. Only description and distance are required
 - C. Only direction and altitude are required
 - D. Labeling is optional

7. While conducting a mortar registration and spotting one airburst and three graze bursts, what should your correction be?
- A. Up 10
 - B. Down 20
 - C. Up 20
 - D. No correction
8. Is it true or false that a program is the predetermined sequential attack of targets of a similar nature?
- A. True
 - B. False
 - C. Depends on the mission
 - D. Only in training scenarios
9. What is the maximum range in meters for the M252/81mm mortar firing High Explosive (HE)?
- A. 5,800 meters
 - B. 6,500 meters
 - C. 7,200 meters
 - D. 8,000 meters
10. Which component is critical for effective coordination in fire support?
- A. Visual identification alone
 - B. Thorough training of all personnel
 - C. A well-defined chain of command
 - D. Rapid deployment of assets

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which type of smoke mission is utilized to mask friendly movements?

- A. Obscuration
- B. Screening**
- C. Identification
- D. Suppression

The type of smoke mission utilized to mask friendly movements is screening. Screening smoke missions are specifically designed to create a veil of obscurity to hide friendly forces from enemy observation and targeting. This is essential for safe maneuvers and repositioning of troops, equipment, or vehicles within or towards a designated area. In screening operations, the smoke's primary purpose is to deny the enemy the ability to accurately observe or engage friendly forces, thereby enhancing operational security. The successful deployment of screening smoke can provide a tactical advantage, allowing movements to occur with minimized risk of detection. Other types of smoke missions might serve different purposes. For instance, obscuration can refer to general efforts to obscure visibility, but it may not be as focused on masking friendly movements specifically. Identification smoke is used to mark targets or positions rather than to conceal troop movements. Suppression smoke is generally aimed at limiting enemy capabilities, often in a more direct confrontation context, rather than focusing on protecting friendly movements. Thus, screening is distinctly focused on camouflage and concealment for friendly forces, which is why it is the correct answer.

2. What aspect of artillery fire does the 'Height of Burst' correction address?

- A. Impact point accuracy
- B. Effectiveness of munitions
- C. Accuracy of elevation adjustments**
- D. Detonation timing

The concept of 'Height of Burst' correction primarily deals with detonation timing for artillery munitions. It focuses on ensuring that a shell detonates at the optimal altitude to maximize its effectiveness against a target. This is particularly important for airburst munitions, which are designed to explode above the ground for a greater dispersal of shrapnel over a wider area, increasing the likelihood of defeating enemy forces or material. By adjusting the Height of Burst, artillery crews can enhance the impact of the munitions and ensure they achieve the desired effect, especially in situations where coverage is critical, such as in open terrain or against dispersed infantry formations. The correction factors in variables such as target type, terrain, and the expected impact area, thus allowing for a more lethal engagement. In this context, while impact point accuracy, effectiveness of munitions, and accuracy of elevation adjustments are all important aspects of artillery fire, they do not specifically address the timing of detonation relative to the height of the target, which is what the Height of Burst correction is fundamentally about. Therefore, the focus on detonation timing directly answers the question concerning the relationship between Height of Burst adjustments and artillery effectiveness.

3. In a military context, what does the term 'fire support mission' refer to?

- A. A planned operation using fire support
- B. A drill for new recruits
- C. Logistics planning for troop movements
- D. A session for weapons training

The term 'fire support mission' specifically refers to a planned operation that employs fire support to achieve a tactical objective. This typically involves the use of various types of firepower, such as artillery, air support, or naval gunfire, to provide assistance to ground forces. The mission is characterized by the premeditated coordination of weapon systems to suppress, neutralize, or destroy enemy targets, ensuring that friendly forces can maneuver effectively. In the context of military operations, a fire support mission is critical for enhancing combat effectiveness, providing necessary fire cover, and shaping the battlefield. This coordinated approach is essential for achieving specific mission goals while minimizing friendly casualties. The other options do not accurately reflect the definition of a fire support mission. While drills and training are essential for military readiness, they do not entail the direct application of fire support in an operational context. Similarly, logistics planning is a separate function that deals with the movement and supply of troops rather than the frontline tactical use of fire. Thus, the correct choice encapsulates the essence of what a fire support mission is designed to accomplish in military engagements.

4. The armed OH58D can carry which type of machine guns?

- A. 7.62mm
- B. .50 cal
- C. 12.7mm
- D. 20mm

The armed OH-58D Kiowa Warrior is primarily equipped to carry .50 caliber (12.7mm) machine guns. This heavy caliber provides an effective range and firepower suitable for the helicopter's reconnaissance and support roles, enabling it to engage both ground and air targets with sufficient stopping power. The .50 cal is versatile for operations involving light armor and personnel, making it a suitable choice for the OH-58D's operational requirements. Other machine gun calibers, such as 7.62mm or 20mm, may be found in different weapon systems but are not the main armament for this particular helicopter. The 7.62mm is a lighter round typically used in smaller support roles, while the 20mm is often associated with aircraft that require higher firepower for anti-aircraft applications. Thus, the .50 cal is the most appropriate option for the OH-58D's design and combat capabilities.

5. In fire support, what does the term 'Roll Call' refer to?

- A. The process of synchronizing unit movements
- B. The verification of fire support asset readiness**
- C. An evaluation of enemy capabilities
- D. A checklist for civilian safety

The term 'Roll Call' in the context of fire support refers to the verification of fire support asset readiness. This process ensures that all available fire support units and resources are accounted for and prepared to engage effectively when required. During a 'Roll Call,' personnel will confirm the status of various fire support assets, such as artillery units, aircraft, and other supporting elements, assessing their operational capability and readiness to execute missions. This verification is crucial for effective coordination during military operations, as it allows commanders to understand which assets are available to support their objectives and to plan accordingly. In contrast, the synchronization of unit movements focuses on coordinating maneuvers among different forces, evaluating enemy capabilities assesses the strengths and weaknesses of opposing forces, and a checklist for civilian safety is meant to ensure that non-combatants are protected during operations. These options involve different aspects of military operations but do not specifically capture the concept of 'Roll Call' in fire support.

6. Which of the following statements about labeling a T on a terrain sketch is true?

- A. Description, direction, distance, altitude, grid are all included**
- B. Only description and distance are required
- C. Only direction and altitude are required
- D. Labeling is optional

Labeling a T on a terrain sketch is a critical aspect of effectively communicating essential information for fire support operations. The requirement to include description, direction, distance, altitude, and grid coordinates ensures that anyone reviewing the terrain sketch has a complete understanding of the target's location in relation to other relevant elements. Including all these parameters allows for accurate targeting and facilitates coordination among various units involved in the operation. The description gives context about what the target is, the direction indicates where the target is in relation to the observer, the distance quantifies how far away it is, the altitude ensures that elevation differences are considered, and the grid coordinates provide precise location mapping. This comprehensive labeling is crucial for effective communication and collaboration in the field, leading to successful mission execution. The other options suggest a limited or optional approach to labeling, which would hinder clarity and possibly compromise operational effectiveness.

7. While conducting a mortar registration and spotting one airburst and three graze bursts, what should your correction be?

- A. Up 10
- B. Down 20
- C. Up 20**
- D. No correction

When conducting a mortar registration, it's essential to analyze the types of bursts observed to determine the necessary corrections. In this case, having one airburst and three graze bursts indicates that rounds are impacting high and closer to the target. An airburst occurs when a round detonates above the ground, and a graze burst is when the round impacts the ground just above or at the surface. With one airburst and three graze bursts, the mortar fire is likely impacting well above the intended target due to the airburst and just below it with the graze bursts. To adjust for this pattern, an upward correction is necessary because the airburst suggests that the initial rounds are falling too low in elevation, and an upward adjustment would bring the fire closer to the desired point of impact. Hence, a correction of "Up 20" would be appropriate to adjust the firing solution upwards, allowing for a more precise strike on the target based on the observed distances of the bursts.

8. Is it true or false that a program is the predetermined sequential attack of targets of a similar nature?

- A. True**
- B. False
- C. Depends on the mission
- D. Only in training scenarios

The statement is true because a program in military terminology refers to a structured and systematic approach to engaging multiple targets that share similar characteristics or require a coordinated attack. This involves planning and executing a sequence of actions against those targets, which is essential for maximizing the effectiveness of fire support operations. Programs are designed to ensure that resources are used efficiently and that the engagements achieve the desired operational effects. In practice, this means that the targeting sequence is carefully planned and executed based on the nature of the targets, their threat level, and their strategic significance. This approach not only improves the rate of fire and accuracy but also enhances coordination among different units involved in the operation. In other words, by utilizing a programmatic approach, military forces can optimize their tactics to achieve specific objectives effectively.

9. What is the maximum range in meters for the M252/81mm mortar firing High Explosive (HE)?

- A. 5,800 meters**
- B. 6,500 meters
- C. 7,200 meters
- D. 8,000 meters

The maximum range for the M252/81mm mortar firing High Explosive (HE) rounds is indeed 5,800 meters. This range is achieved using the standard HE ammunition, allowing the mortar to effectively support infantry operations over a significant distance. The M252 mortar system is designed for precision and impact, making it an essential tool for indirect fire support on the battlefield. Understanding the capabilities of the M252, including its maximum range, is vital for proper planning and execution of fire support operations. Knowing the effective range helps ensure that the mortar can provide adequate coverage while staying within its operational parameters. The other range options exceed the known maximum for the M252, highlighting the importance of using accurate data when making tactical decisions related to mortar employment.

10. Which component is critical for effective coordination in fire support?

- A. Visual identification alone
- B. Thorough training of all personnel
- C. A well-defined chain of command**
- D. Rapid deployment of assets

A well-defined chain of command is essential for effective coordination in fire support because it establishes clear lines of authority and responsibility. This framework ensures that every member of the team understands their role, where to report actions and intelligence, and how to respond to changes in the situation. In fire support operations, timing and communication are crucial; therefore, having a structured command system facilitates rapid decision-making and coordination among different units involved in the operation. When everyone knows who is in charge and how commands flow through the ranks, it reduces the chances of miscommunication and enhances the effectiveness of the fire support provided. While the thorough training of all personnel and the rapid deployment of assets are indeed important components of successful operations, they do not replace the need for a clear and effective chain of command that can integrate these elements cohesively. Visual identification can support coordination, but without a strong command structure, it cannot ensure the comprehensive synchronization needed during complex fire support scenarios.

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:

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

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