

FIRE SUPPORT TEAM (FIST) CERTIFICATION PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

<https://firesupportteam.examzify.com>



Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

- 1. What is the circular error for CAT IV in meters?**
 - A. 0-6 m
 - B. 31-91 m
 - C. 7-15 m
 - D. 16-30 m
- 2. What is the maximum range, in meters, of the M224/M224A1 60mm mortar?**
 - A. 3500
 - B. 3489
 - C. 3600
 - D. 3689
- 3. What are the five requirements for achieving accurate first-round fire for effect?**
 - A. Accurate Target Location and Size
 - B. Accurate Firing Unit Location
 - C. Accurate Weapon and Ammunition Information
 - D. Accurate Meteorological Information
- 4. Which method of control indicates the observer cannot see the target due to weather, terrain, or other obstacles?**
 - A. Unobserved
 - B. Lost
 - C. Lost Line of Sight
 - D. Cannot Observe
- 5. A _____ is a target that is known to exist in the operational environment, upon which actions are planned.**
 - A. Established Target
 - B. Approved Target
 - C. Priority Target
 - D. Planned Target

6. Which naval surface fire support (NSFS) brevity term is used for a nonscheduled fire mission report?
- A. Honey
 - B. Pepper
 - C. Pickle
 - D. Candy
7. What range of wind speed is best for the production of smoke screens?
- A. 4 to 14 knots
 - B. 0 to 20 knots
 - C. 4 to 20 knots
 - D. 0 to 14 knots
8. True or False: The sequence of spottings is height of burst, range, and deviation.
- A. True
 - B. False
 - C. Depends on the situation
 - D. Not Applicable
9. What task is aimed at rendering a force incapable of achieving its objectives?
- A. Defeat
 - B. Deceive
 - C. Delay
 - D. Destroy
10. While executing a CFF, what spotting would you make if you received a Splash call and after waiting 5 seconds you neither see nor hear the round impact?
- A. Doubtful
 - B. Unobserved
 - C. Lost
 - D. Cannot Observe

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What is the circular error for CAT IV in meters?

- A. 0-6 m
- B. 31-91 m**
- C. 7-15 m
- D. 16-30 m

The circular error for CAT IV is defined as the range within which 50% of the impacts will occur when a particular munition is delivered. For CAT IV, this circular error radius is specifically recognized to be between 31 to 91 meters. This classification helps to quantify the accuracy of munitions based on their design, type, and the systems used for targeting. The boundaries of this range demonstrate the degree of effectiveness for munitions classified in this category, which may include those designed for more significant area effects rather than precision strikes. Understanding this parameter is critical for FIST personnel as they plan and execute fire missions, ensuring they account for the potential dispersion of rounds and its impact on the battlefield. The other options present ranges that do not align with the established definitions and standards for munitions accuracy within the different categories. Recognizing the correct range is essential for mission planning and risk assessment in fire support operations.

2. What is the maximum range, in meters, of the M224/M224A1 60mm mortar?

- A. 3500**
- B. 3489
- C. 3600
- D. 3689

The M224/M224A1 60mm mortar has a maximum range that is officially recorded as approximately 3500 meters when using specific types of ammunition, such as high-explosive rounds. This maximum range is achieved under optimal conditions and allows for effective support from a distance, making the mortar versatile for indirect fire support. Understanding the characteristics of the mortar and its effective range is critical for the planning and execution of fire support missions. The precise range of 3500 meters aligns with standard military references, ensuring that personnel are aware of the capabilities of the equipment in field operations. Knowing this range is essential for coordinating with ground troops and ensuring that artillery support can be effectively utilized without exceeding the limits of the weapon system.

3. What are the five requirements for achieving accurate first-round fire for effect?

A. Accurate Target Location and Size

B. Accurate Firing Unit Location

C. Accurate Weapon and Ammunition Information

D. Accurate Meteorological Information

The five requirements for achieving accurate first-round fire for effect are crucial to ensure that artillery or other fire support assets can effectively hit the target on the first round. Accurate Target Location and Size is foundational because the success of fire support hinges on precisely identifying where the target is located and understanding its dimensions. This ensures that the fire is directed to the correct coordinates and takes into account the target's physical characteristics, which can influence how munitions will impact. If the target is inaccurately located, or its size misjudged, even a well-planned fire mission can miss the intended impact area. While other factors like firing unit location, weapon and ammunition information, and meteorological conditions are also critical to the overall success of a fire mission, the accuracy of the target location and its size is the most essential first step. Without correct target data, no amount of technical precision in firing unit placement, weapon choice, or meteorological assessments can compensate for missing the target entirely.

4. Which method of control indicates the observer cannot see the target due to weather, terrain, or other obstacles?

A. Unobserved

B. Lost

C. Lost Line of Sight

D. Cannot Observe

The method of control that indicates the observer cannot see the target due to weather, terrain, or other obstacles is designated as "Cannot Observe." This term is used to communicate that external factors prevent visual contact with the target, which is crucial for effective fire support operations. In fire support terminology, "Cannot Observe" signifies that the observer is aware of the target's general location but lacks the ability to visually confirm it, which is essential for ensuring that accurate and effective fire missions can be conducted. This may stem from conditions such as heavy fog, obstructions from terrain features, or other visibility impairments that hinder the observer's line of sight. Understanding this concept is vital for fire support personnel, as it informs the decisions and tactics employed when guiding fire missions, ensuring safety and mission effectiveness even when visual confirmation is not possible. Other terms related to observer capability, such as "Unobserved," "Lost," or "Lost Line of Sight," pertain to different contexts of observation and control but do not specifically encapsulate the scenario where visibility is compromised due to external conditions in the way "Cannot Observe" does.

5. A ____ is a target that is known to exist in the operational environment, upon which actions are planned.

- A. Established Target
- B. Approved Target
- C. Priority Target
- D. Planned Target**

The term "Planned Target" refers to a target that has been identified and for which specific actions will be executed. In the context of fire support in military operations, a Planned Target is one that is recognized as present in the operational environment and has been deliberately incorporated into a mission plan. This target might be linked with particular operational objectives and is typically included in a broader targeting strategy. When forces prepare for operations, they engage in a detailed targeting process where known threats or objectives are assessed. A Planned Target reflects this intentional planning stage, as it is not just a target that is acknowledged, but one that has been approved and is set for action in order to contribute effectively to mission success. The focus on "planned" insinuates that there have been formal discussions and decision-making processes around the target, ensuring that tactical considerations are in place and that the response to the target aligns with overall operation goals. Established, approved, or priority targets, while relevant concepts, do not encompass the complete definition of a target being in the operational environment with actions explicitly planned to be taken against it. Thus, "Planned Target" stands out as the most accurate definition in this scenario.

6. Which naval surface fire support (NSFS) brevity term is used for a nonscheduled fire mission report?

- A. Honey
- B. Pepper**
- C. Pickle
- D. Candy

The correct choice is "Pepper," which refers specifically to the naval surface fire support (NSFS) brevity term used for a nonscheduled fire mission report. In operational contexts, brevity codes are implemented to streamline communication and ensure clarity in high-pressure situations. The term "Pepper" conveys that a naval gunfire support asset is firing, but it is not part of a pre-planned or scheduled firing sequence, which is essential for coordinating fires effectively in dynamic and potentially chaotic environments. Understanding terms like "Pepper" is crucial for successful joint operations involving naval assets, as they facilitate rapid communication of fire support needs to enhance synchronization between land forces and naval gunfire. The other terms—"Honey," "Pickle," and "Candy"—do not apply to the nonscheduled fire mission report in this context, thus underscoring the need for precise terminology in military operations.

7. What range of wind speed is best for the production of smoke screens?

A. 4 to 14 knots

B. 0 to 20 knots

C. 4 to 20 knots

D. 0 to 14 knots

The production of smoke screens is most effective when the wind speed falls within the range of 4 to 14 knots. This range is optimal because it allows the smoke to disperse adequately across the intended area without being blown away too quickly or not filling the area effectively. When the wind speed is too low (close to zero), the smoke may not spread as intended, leading to insufficient cover. On the other hand, if the wind speed exceeds 14 knots, the smoke could be dispersed too rapidly, diminishing its effectiveness as a concealment tool. Therefore, the 4 to 14 knots range strikes a balance that facilitates the creation of a useful smoke screen that can obscure the area without being adversely affected by environmental conditions.

8. True or False: The sequence of spottings is height of burst, range, and deviation.

A. True

B. False

C. Depends on the situation

D. Not Applicable

The statement is true because the sequence of spottings is indeed height of burst, range, and deviation. This method is used in fire support coordination to effectively communicate the necessary adjustments needed for accurate target engagement. Height of burst is communicated first to indicate whether the rounds are hitting above, below, or at the desired altitude, which is critical for ensuring that the munition's effectiveness is maximized against the target. Next, the range is addressed, which tells whether the rounds are impacting short or long relative to the target distance. Lastly, deviation is used to denote any lateral correction needed, indicating if the rounds are hitting to the left or right of the intended target. This sequencing ensures that all aspects of the round's impact are covered systematically, reducing the chance of miscommunication and increasing the efficiency of targeting adjustments.

9. What task is aimed at rendering a force incapable of achieving its objectives?

- A. Defeat**
- B. Deceive
- C. Delay
- D. Destroy

The task aimed at rendering a force incapable of achieving its objectives is defeat. In the context of military operations, defeat refers to actions taken to undermine or eliminate an enemy's ability to successfully conduct operations, thereby achieving your strategic goals while preventing the adversary from achieving theirs. This can involve a combination of direct engagements, targeting logistics, morale, and command and control capabilities. Defeat encompasses a broader sense of impact on the enemy's overall capabilities, as opposed to simply inflicting physical damage, which is more associated with destruction. While destruction can lead to defeat, the concept of defeat is more comprehensive, focusing on the enemy's operational effectiveness, cohesion, and will to fight, ultimately leading to their failure to achieve their goals. The other choices, while relevant in different contexts, do not specifically represent the overall aim of rendering an enemy incapable of operating effectively. For instance, deceiving an enemy might mislead them about one's intentions or capabilities but does not directly disable their ability to achieve their objectives. Delaying an enemy can provide tactical advantages but does not necessarily incapacitate them. Destroying forces can contribute to their defeat but is not the same as the broader strategic aim of defeating a force.

10. While executing a CFF, what spotting would you make if you received a Splash call and after waiting 5 seconds you neither see nor hear the round impact?

- A. Doubtful
- B. Unobserved
- C. Lost**
- D. Cannot Observe

The correct answer is that "Lost" is the appropriate spotting to make when you receive a Splash call and, after waiting five seconds, you neither see nor hear the round impact. This term indicates that the observer has lost track of the projectile's path, which can happen due to several factors such as low visibility, noise interference, or other environmental conditions that prevent tracking. In this context, "Lost" highlights the situation where it's unclear whether the round has impacted correctly or if there was a failure in the delivery of the round itself. Spotting as "Lost" is crucial because it informs the firing unit that the observer cannot provide accurate corrections based on the impact, and further communication may be necessary to determine the next steps. The other options, while related to spotting, do not correctly capture the situation of losing track of the ordinance. "Doubtful" generally conveys uncertainty about whether the round was effective or not, but in this case, the observer has definitively lost visual or auditory contact with the rounds. "Unobserved" implies that the rounds were fired but could not be tracked, yet would not necessarily communicate that the observer lost the track after the Splash call. "Cannot Observe" might suggest that conditions prevent observation entirely, which

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://firesupportteam.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE