

FIXED/SWING CRANE OPERATIONS PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

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

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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. OSHA 1926.1431, a platform must be rigged by keeping the platform within how many degrees of level?**
 - A. Within 10 degrees of level
 - B. Within 5 degrees of level
 - C. Within 15 degrees of level
 - D. Within 20 degrees of level
- 2. Outriggers may be less than fully extended when?**
 - A. Only when the operator approves
 - B. When the crane is at full extension
 - C. See load chart for this operation
 - D. When the ground is dry
- 3. What is the manufacturer's recommended wind speed limit for crane operation?**
 - A. 25 mph
 - B. 30 mph
 - C. 35 mph
 - D. 40 mph
- 4. Cranes idle for three months or more must have which inspections before returning to service?**
 - A. Annual and periodic
 - B. Frequent and periodic
 - C. Comprehensive only
 - D. None required
- 5. The number of rope layers on a drum directly affects what aspect of operation?**
 - A. Hoist speed
 - B. Rope wear
 - C. Available line-pull
 - D. Sheave alignment

- 6. Before crane lift operations begin the crew must**
- A. Begin lifting immediately
 - B. Start hoist
 - C. Inspect rope only
 - D. Conduct a pre-lift meeting
- 7. When signaling to a crane operator, which element comes second after the function or direction?**
- A. Distance or speed
 - B. Distance only
 - C. Speed only
 - D. Load weight
- 8. Which two controls are required to prevent uncontrolled swing when traveling with a suspended load?**
- A. Swing brake and swing lock
 - B. Travel brake and steering lock
 - C. Boom up and load hoist
 - D. Travel alarm and load limiter
- 9. The rated tipping capacity when outriggers are properly set is which percentage?**
- A. 75%
 - B. 90%
 - C. 95%
 - D. 85%
- 10. During a test load, the applied load must not exceed what percentage of the manufacturer's rating?**
- A. 110%
 - B. 100%
 - C. 120%
 - D. 130%

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. OSHA 1926.1431, a platform must be rigged by keeping the platform within how many degrees of level?

A. Within 10 degrees of level

B. Within 5 degrees of level

C. Within 15 degrees of level

D. Within 20 degrees of level

Keeping a suspended platform within a small tolerance of level is essential for stability and safety. When the platform is level, the weight of the worker and any tools stays as close as possible to the center of gravity of the platform together with its load. This reduces lateral forces on the suspension lines and minimizes the chance of tipping or swaying that could cause a fall or sudden movement when the crane hoists, lowers, or moves the platform. The specific requirement of staying within 10 degrees of level means you won't have a steep tilt that would push you toward the edge, change the load path, or compromise fall protection equipment. If the platform tipped more than this, the load could shift unpredictably, increasing the risk of the platform rotating, the lines going slack or unevenly loaded, and the worker being exposed to a higher fall potential. In practice, you check the level with a suitable level once the platform is rigged and before lifting. If you can't bring it within 10 degrees of level, you must adjust the rigging or composition of the lines until the surface is essentially horizontal, then proceed with lift only when that condition is met. So, the best practice is to keep the platform within 10 degrees of level.

2. Outriggers may be less than fully extended when?

A. Only when the operator approves

B. When the crane is at full extension

C. See load chart for this operation

D. When the ground is dry

Outriggers are chosen to create the crane's stable footprint for a specific lift, based on the load, radius, boom length, and ground conditions. The load chart is the reference that tells you exactly how far to extend the outriggers for a given lift. In some cases, the chart allows or even requires less than full extension because that configuration still keeps the crane within its rated capacity and maintains stability for that particular load and radius. So, the safest and most accurate way to determine whether outriggers can be less than fully extended is to check the load chart for that operation. The other factors—operator approval, full extension by default, or dry ground alone—do not determine the correct outrigger setting.

3. What is the manufacturer's recommended wind speed limit for crane operation?

A. 25 mph

B. 30 mph

C. 35 mph

D. 40 mph

Wind adds lateral force on the crane and its load, so operators must stay within the wind speed the manufacturer specifies. This limit creates a safe operating envelope where stability and control are reliable. The standard limit in many practice materials is 30 mph, which is why this choice is the best answer. Winds at or above this speed increase the risk of load sway, crane tipping, and loss of control, so operations are halted or postponed to protect workers and equipment. Lower values like 25 mph would be more restrictive, while higher values such as 35 or 40 mph exceed typical manufacturer limits and raise safety risk. Always refer to the crane's manual and use the wind speed indicator as your guide.

4. Cranes idle for three months or more must have which inspections before returning to service?

- A. Annual and periodic
- B. Frequent and periodic**
- C. Comprehensive only
- D. None required

When a crane has been idle for three months or more, a thorough re-check before putting it back into service is essential. The appropriate approach combines two levels of inspection: frequent inspections and periodic inspections. Frequent inspections are ongoing checks performed by the operator, typically daily or before each shift, focusing on safety-critical items like controls, brakes, hooks, limit switches, and obvious wear or damage. Periodic inspections are conducted by a qualified person at scheduled intervals and provide a more in-depth review of the crane's structural, mechanical, and electrical systems. After a long layup, components can deteriorate or seize without obvious signs at a quick glance, so relying on just a single type of inspection isn't enough. The operator-level checks help catch immediate safety issues, while the periodic inspection ensures a comprehensive assessment of all safety-critical parts. A comprehensive (annual) inspection is important too, but it doesn't replace the need for the combined frequent and periodic checks before returning to service. So, before resuming operation after three months idle, the crane should undergo both frequent and periodic inspections.

5. The number of rope layers on a drum directly affects what aspect of operation?

- A. Hoist speed
- B. Rope wear
- C. Available line-pull**
- D. Sheave alignment

The main idea is that drum diameter sets how much rope the hoist can effectively pull with a given torque. The rope pull you get is essentially torque divided by the drum radius. As you wind more rope, the drum's effective radius increases, so the same motor torque yields a smaller force on the rope. In other words, increasing rope layers reduces the available line-pull. Hoist speed is mostly about motor RPM and gearing, not the drum's wrap count. Rope wear can be influenced by load and rope condition, but the direct, immediate effect of adding layers is not wear. Sheave alignment depends on rope path and pulleys, not how much rope sits on the drum.

6. Before crane lift operations begin the crew must

- A. Begin lifting immediately
- B. Start hoist
- C. Inspect rope only
- D. Conduct a pre-lift meeting**

Before crane lift operations begin, a pre-lift meeting brings the crew together to review the plan, roles, and safety controls. This step ensures everyone understands the lift path, load weight and rigging method, crane capacity, ground and overhead hazards, exclusion zones, weather considerations, and the chosen communication methods and emergency procedures. It assigns responsibilities for the operator, signaler, riggers, and spotters, and confirms that all equipment is ready and within limits. By discussing these elements, the team can spot and address potential hazards before movement starts, reducing the risk of load drops, crane instability, or injuries. Starting to lift without this briefing skips essential coordination and can overlook critical factors; inspecting rope alone only covers a single item and misses the broader planning and safety controls.

7. When signaling to a crane operator, which element comes second after the function or direction?

A. Distance or speed

B. Distance only

C. Speed only

D. Load weight

In signaling to a crane operator, you communicate what the crane should do first, then specify how much to move or how fast to move. After the function or direction, the next element is either the distance to travel or the speed of the movement, so the operator can execute the move precisely and safely. For example, you might say to move the load a certain distance, or to move it slowly to control swing. If you only gave distance, the speed would be undefined; if you only gave speed, the operator wouldn't know which direction to move. Load weight isn't part of this signaling step, since the operator already uses that information through load ratings and rigging knowledge.

8. Which two controls are required to prevent uncontrolled swing when traveling with a suspended load?

A. Swing brake and swing lock

B. Travel brake and steering lock

C. Boom up and load hoist

D. Travel alarm and load limiter

When a load is suspended and the crane moves, the load behaves like a pendulum and can swing out of control. To stop that from happening, you use two mechanisms: a swing brake and a swing lock. The swing brake dampens and slows the swinging motion as you travel, helping keep the load from building up rapid oscillations. The swing lock then immobilizes the load by locking the rotation or slewing so the load cannot swing freely while in motion. Together, they actively restrain and fix the load's position during travel, reducing the risk of collisions or tipping. The other options don't specifically address preventing pendulum motion: travel brake and steering lock deal with overall movement, boom up and load hoist handle vertical positioning, and travel alarm with load limiter warn or limit but don't stop swing.

9. The rated tipping capacity when outriggers are properly set is which percentage?

A. 75%

B. 90%

C. 95%

D. 85%

Outriggers dramatically increase the crane's stability by widening the base, but even with them out, lifts must stay within a safety margin to account for dynamic forces, wind, ground conditions, and imperfect techniques. To provide that margin, the rated tipping capacity is taken at 85% when outriggers are properly set. This conservative value keeps the lift well inside the tipping point while still using the crane's capacity effectively. The other percentages would push closer to or beyond the tipping threshold (either too optimistic or too conservative), whereas 85% reflects the standard safe practice for outriggered operation.

10. During a test load, the applied load must not exceed what percentage of the manufacturer's rating?

A. 110%

B. 100%

C. 120%

D. 130%

During a test load, you want to prove the crane can handle more than its rated capacity, but you must stay within a safe margin. Limiting the test to 110% of the manufacturer's rating provides a controlled overload that verifies strength without pushing the hardware beyond what it's designed to safely handle. Going to 120% or 130% would risk overstressing components such as cables, hooks, gears, and the hoist, potentially causing damage or failure. Using exactly 100% leaves no extra margin to reveal hidden issues, so 110% is the prudent, accepted limit for a test load.

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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://fixedswingcraneop.examzify.com>

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

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