

FORWARD OBSERVER 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 projectile contains anti-personnel mines?

- A. RAAMS
- B. ADAMS
- C. MELIOS
- D. AN/TPQ-36

2. Define - Priority Target.

- A. A target on which the delivery of fires takes Precedence over all other fires.
- B. The predetermined attack of Targets of a similar nature.
- C. An area with specific restrictions and in which fires that exceed those restrictions will not be delivered without the coordination through the establishing HGs.
- D. A Planned Target on which fire is to be delivered at a specific time.

3. "Attached" means that those individuals/teams/units are placed under control of a different HQ for the purpose of tactical operations on a temporary basis; this HQ commands and controls, but does not provide logistics, admin, or personnel support.

- A. True
- B. False
- C. Sometimes
- D. Depends on unit

4. A linear target symbol indicates that the target is more than ____ meters but less than ____ meters.

- A. 100, 300
- B. 500, 1000
- C. 150, 400
- D. 200, 600

5. ADAMS projectiles are configured with how many anti-personnel mines per round?

- A. 18
- B. 36
- C. 12
- D. 48

- 6. Which pair correctly matches the weapon to its DANGER CLOSE distance?**
- A. Artillery - 600 meters
 - B. Mortar - 750 meters
 - C. Naval 5 in - 750 meters
 - D. 16 in - 800 meters
- 7. Where is illumination typically planned in defensive operations?**
- A. In front of the line
 - B. On the flanks
 - C. At the command post
 - D. Behind troops silhouette
- 8. When transmitting line 4 of the 9 line CAS Briefing, it is sent in ____.**
- A. Meters above sea level
 - B. Altitude above ground level
 - C. Feet above MSL
 - D. Distance above mean sea level
- 9. Which is the correct expansion of SOSRA?**
- A. Suppress, Observe, Secure, Reduce, and Assault
 - B. Suppress, Obscure, Shield, Reduce, and Assault
 - C. Suppress, Obscure, Secure, Refine, and Assault
 - D. Suppress, Obscure, Secure, Reduce, and Assault
- 10. T or F - The mission of Fire Support is the collective and coordinated employment of the fires of armed aircraft, land- and sea-based indirect fire systems, and electronic warfare (EW) systems against ground targets to support land combat operations.**
- A. TRUE
 - B. FALSE
 - C. Not specified
 - D. Unknown

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which projectile contains anti-personnel mines?

- A. RAAMS
- B. ADAMS**
- C. MELIOS
- D. AN/TPQ-36

Recognize that this question tests which projectile is intended to deliver anti-personnel mines, not other kinds of materiel. ADAMS is a system designed to deploy anti-personnel mines over a target area, so its payload matches the concept of an anti-personnel mine projectile. The AN/TPQ-36 is a fire-finding radar used to locate indirect fire; it doesn't carry or disperse mines. RAAMS and MELIOS are other systems with different roles and payloads, not mine-laying munitions. So the one whose designation clearly indicates mine delivery is the correct choice.

2. Define - Priority Target.

- A. A target on which the delivery of fires takes Precedence over all other fires.**
- B. The predetermined attack of Targets of a similar nature.
- C. An area with specific restrictions and in which fires that exceed those restrictions will not be delivered without the coordination through the establishing HGs.
- D. A Planned Target on which fire is to be delivered at a specific time.

A priority target is the target on which the delivery of fires takes precedence over all other fires. This means, when multiple targets exist and fire support resources are limited, you engage the highest-value or most mission-critical target first to maximize the effect on the objective. It's a way to organize how fires are allocated so that the most important objective gets attention first, guiding planning and execution under constraints. The other descriptions describe different ideas: one is about attacking targets of a similar nature in a predetermined pattern, another refers to restricted areas and the need for coordination before delivering fires beyond those limits, and the last describes firing a target at a specific planned time. Those touch on timing, restrictions, or target type rather than the principal idea of prioritizing which target gets fires first.

3. "Attached" means that those individuals/teams/units are placed under control of a different HQ for the purpose of tactical operations on a temporary basis; this HQ commands and controls, but does not provide logistics, admin, or personnel support.

- A. True
- B. False**
- C. Sometimes
- D. Depends on unit

Attached means a unit is temporarily placed under another headquarters to accomplish a mission, with the gaining HQ directing its tactical actions. However, administrative control and logistics typically remain with the unit's home headquarters. The gaining HQ can issue tasking and oversee how the unit fights, but it does not normally take over the home unit's logistics, admin, or personnel support unless a separate transfer of those responsibilities is arranged. Therefore, the description that the gaining HQ commands and controls but does not provide logistics, admin, or personnel support is not accurate—the home HQ usually continues to handle those support functions.

4. A linear target symbol indicates that the target is more than ____ meters but less than ____ meters.

- A. 100, 300
- B. 500, 1000
- C. 150, 400
- D. 200, 600**

A linear target symbol conveys a distance band rather than an exact range. For this symbol, the intended distance window is between 200 and 600 meters, meaning the target is more than 200 meters away but less than 600 meters. This banded cue helps observers and fires teams estimate range quickly when a precise distance isn't known, allowing them to adjust fire accurately within a practical envelope. The other ranges don't fit because they correspond to different symbols or conventions. The 200–600 meter band is the one matched to a linear target symbol, signaling mid-range distances suitable for this type of target presentation.

5. ADAMS projectiles are configured with how many anti-personnel mines per round?

- A. 18
- B. 36**
- C. 12
- D. 48

ADAMS rounds are built to deliver a dense, uniform field of anti-personnel mines, and the payload per round is 36 mines. This number is chosen to create effective area denial coverage while staying within the dispenser's mechanical limits and maintaining reliable deployment in flight. The arrangement ensures the mines spread out quickly after firing, producing a predictable barrier to slow or funnel movement in the targeted area. If you use fewer mines, the field becomes too sparse to be reliably effective; using more would exceed the design capacity and could compromise deployment reliability.

6. Which pair correctly matches the weapon to its DANGER CLOSE distance?

- A. Artillery - 600 meters**
- B. Mortar - 750 meters
- C. Naval 5 in - 750 meters
- D. 16 in - 800 meters

Danger close is the distance within which the effects of indirect fire pose an unacceptable risk to friendly forces, so fire support must be coordinated with extra caution. Different weapons have different blast and fragmentation characteristics, so standard danger-close distances are defined. For artillery, the accepted danger-close distance is 600 meters. Mortars and naval 5-inch guns are set at 750 meters, and the larger 16-inch naval guns at 800 meters. Because this follows the established risk thresholds used in planning and calling for fire, the pairing of artillery with 600 meters is the correct match. The other options assign distances that don't align with these standard tables.

7. Where is illumination typically planned in defensive operations?

- A. In front of the line
- B. On the flanks
- C. At the command post
- D. Behind troops silhouette**

Illumination in defense is arranged to make attacking movement visible while keeping your own positions as concealed as possible. When light is placed behind the troops' silhouettes (relative to the expected enemy direction), advancing enemies walk into a bright backdrop, turning them into clear silhouettes against that light. This makes their movement easy to detect and engage, while the defenders stay largely in shadow, preserving concealment of exact positions. Lighting in front would expose and reveal the defenders, lighting on the flanks can create unnecessary exposure or mislead detection, and lighting the command post would give away where decisions are being made.

8. When transmitting line 4 of the 9 line CAS Briefing, it is sent in ____.

- A. Meters above sea level
- B. Altitude above ground level
- C. Feet above MSL**
- D. Distance above mean sea level

Line 4 conveys the target's elevation above mean sea level, expressed in feet. This provides a single, universal vertical reference for aircraft and weapons teams, ensuring the target's height is clear regardless of local terrain or observer location. Using feet above mean sea level (MSL) avoids ambiguity that would come from referring to altitude above ground level (AGL) or to a distance measure. The unit is feet here, which is standard in this briefing; meters would only apply if a metric convention were explicitly requested.

9. Which is the correct expansion of SOSRA?

- A. Suppress, Observe, Secure, Reduce, and Assault
- B. Suppress, Obscure, Shield, Reduce, and Assault
- C. Suppress, Obscure, Secure, Refine, and Assault
- D. Suppress, Obscure, Secure, Reduce, and Assault**

SOSRA is a five-step assault sequence used to plan and execute taking an objective. The idea is to methodically shape the fight: first suppress enemy fire to allow your team to move, then obscure the area so the enemy can't see or track your approach, then secure the objective area to prevent counterattacks, next reduce the defenders within or around the objective, and finally assault to seize and hold the position. Obscure is the right term because concealment and breaking the enemy's line of sight are essential before pressing forward. Observing or seeking information isn't the focus here; this is about making the attack easier and safer by hiding your movement. Secure follows to establish a safe perimeter or foothold, reducing distractions from nearby threats. Reduce targets the defenders themselves, thinning their numbers or effectiveness before the assault. And assault is the culmination—moving in to take control. So the sequence with concealment (obscure) and the progression from suppression to secure, reduce, and finally assault best captures how this tactic is applied.

10. T or F - The mission of Fire Support is the collective and coordinated employment of the fires of armed aircraft, land- and sea-based indirect fire systems, and electronic warfare (EW) systems against ground targets to support land combat operations.

A. TRUE

B. FALSE

C. Not specified

D. Unknown

Fire Support is about delivering and coordinating all the effects needed on the battlefield to support ground operations. That means bringing together air-delivered fires, indirect-fire systems on land and at sea, and other combat effects that can shape or disrupt the enemy, including electronic warfare assets that degrade the opponent's sensors, communications, and command-and-control. By integrating these diverse capabilities, units can apply the right effects at the right time to achieve the commander's objectives on the ground. Including electronic warfare makes sense because disrupting or suppressing the enemy's ability to observe, communicate, and respond creates favorable conditions for the other fires to be accurate and effective. Since doctrine describes the mission in terms of the collective and coordinated use of these fires to support land combat operations, the statement is true.

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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://forwardobserver.examzify.com>

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

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