

GENERAL SECURITIES REPRESENTATIVE (SERIES 7) PRACTICE EXAM (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. When must a person begin taking withdrawals from a qualified retirement plan?**
 - A. By April 1 after reaching 65
 - B. By April 1 after reaching 70
 - C. By April 1 after reaching 70 1/2
 - D. By December 31 after turning 72
- 2. What is the statute of limitations for bringing an action under arbitration procedures?**
 - A. Two years
 - B. Four years
 - C. Six years
 - D. Ten years
- 3. When an investor writes a call option on stock they own, what is the maximum loss if the option expires?**
 - A. The premium received for the option
 - B. The market value of the stock
 - C. His cost in the stock, less the premium
 - D. The strike price of the option
- 4. What is the primary objective of a variable-rate bond?**
 - A. To maximize interest income
 - B. To protect the principal
 - C. To secure fixed payments
 - D. To provide liquidity
- 5. What is a "call option"?**
 - A. A financial contract granting the holder ownership of an asset
 - B. A contract that allows the holder to sell an asset at a predetermined price
 - C. A financial contract that gives the holder the right to buy an underlying asset at a specified price within a specified timeframe
 - D. A loan agreement secured by an asset

- 6. Which payment method is least suggestive of money laundering?**
- A. Cash
 - B. Wire transfer
 - C. Credit card
 - D. Personal check
- 7. What act requires variable annuities to be registered?**
- A. Securities Act of 1940
 - B. Investment Company Act of 1940
 - C. Securities Act of 1933
 - D. Financial Services Modernization Act
- 8. How are Sallie Mae bonds secured?**
- A. By a specific project fund
 - B. By the full faith and credit of the SLMA
 - C. By collateralized assets
 - D. By state government guarantees
- 9. What is a potential effect on yields if the US dollar is revalued?**
- A. Yields go down
 - B. Yields go up
 - C. Yields remain the same
 - D. Yields become unpredictable
- 10. In what scenario is a call option typically exercised?**
- A. When the market price of the underlying asset falls below the strike price
 - B. When the market price of the underlying asset rises above the strike price
 - C. When the underlying company announces bankruptcy
 - D. When the option nears expiration and the asset's value is doubtful

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. When must a person begin taking withdrawals from a qualified retirement plan?

- A. By April 1 after reaching 65
- B. By April 1 after reaching 70
- C. By April 1 after reaching 70 1/2**
- D. By December 31 after turning 72

The requirement to begin taking withdrawals from a qualified retirement plan, such as a traditional IRA or a 401(k), is linked to specific age milestones. The correct choice indicates that an individual must start taking these withdrawals by April 1 after reaching the age of 70 ½. This rule is known as the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) rule, which was established to ensure that individuals eventually pay taxes on their retirement savings, as these accounts typically carry tax-deferred growth. The age of 70 ½ was the threshold set prior to the changes introduced by the SECURE Act of 2019, which moved the starting age for RMDs to 72 for individuals born after June 30, 1949. However, under the older rules, a person reaching 70 ½ would have needed to begin withdrawing funds or face penalties. Thus, the choice that states "By April 1 after reaching 70 ½" aligns with the pre-SECURE Act regulation regarding the RMDs, demonstrating the importance of knowing both historical and current requirements in retirement planning.

2. What is the statute of limitations for bringing an action under arbitration procedures?

- A. Two years
- B. Four years
- C. Six years**
- D. Ten years

The statute of limitations for bringing an action under arbitration procedures is six years. This time frame is important to ensure that parties involved in a dispute have a reasonable period within which to file a claim after the incident or breach occurs. The six-year period aligns with many contract-related claims and is designed to promote fairness and certainty in the resolution of disputes through arbitration. The rationale for setting the statute of limitations at six years is to balance the rights of parties to seek redress with the need for finality in legal relations. It provides a substantial period for individuals and entities to gather evidence, formulate their claims, and seek legal counsel before pursuing arbitration. The other options reflect shorter or longer time frames that are not consistent with arbitration proceedings. Understanding the statute of limitations is crucial for those working in the securities industry, as it impacts the timing of claims and the resolution of disputes.

3. When an investor writes a call option on stock they own, what is the maximum loss if the option expires?

- A. The premium received for the option
- B. The market value of the stock
- C. His cost in the stock, less the premium**
- D. The strike price of the option

When an investor writes a call option on stock they own, also known as a covered call strategy, the maximum loss occurs if the option expires and the investor still holds the stock. In this case, the loss comes into play if the stock price decreases significantly. The investor initially paid a certain amount for the stock, known as the cost basis. When the call option is written, the investor receives a premium, which adds to their total return if the stock position remains unchanged. Therefore, if the option expires worthless (the underlying stock price is less than the strike price at expiration), the investor's potential loss is equal to the cost of the stock minus the premium received from writing the option. This means that option C reflects the correct understanding: the maximum loss is indeed the cost in the stock less the premium received. If the stock's market value drops significantly, the investor will be left with the devaluation of the stock, offset slightly by the premium received, which allows them to recover some losses. The reasoning behind this concept is crucial for investors employing options strategies, highlights the risk management aspects of stocks, and describes their potential outcomes in fluctuating markets.

4. What is the primary objective of a variable-rate bond?

- A. To maximize interest income
- B. To protect the principal**
- C. To secure fixed payments
- D. To provide liquidity

The primary objective of a variable-rate bond is to protect the principal against fluctuating interest rates, making the correct answer B. Variable-rate bonds, also known as floating-rate bonds, have interest payments that adjust based on prevailing market rates. This adjustment mechanism helps mitigate the risk of interest rate hikes, which could otherwise reduce the bond's market value. By having a variable rate, these bonds offer a safeguard against inflation and changing economic conditions, allowing investors to maintain the purchasing power of their interest income over time. While each of the other options represents objectives that some types of bonds may address, they do not capture the essence of the variable-rate bond's structure aimed at ensuring the stability of principal in response to market changes.

5. What is a "call option"?

- A. A financial contract granting the holder ownership of an asset
- B. A contract that allows the holder to sell an asset at a predetermined price
- C. A financial contract that gives the holder the right to buy an underlying asset at a specified price within a specified timeframe**
- D. A loan agreement secured by an asset

A call option is indeed a financial contract that gives the holder the right, but not the obligation, to purchase an underlying asset at a specified price, known as the strike price, within a predetermined time period. This characteristic is key because it allows investors to leverage their positions without the requirement to buy the asset outright initially. The holder benefits from price increases in the underlying asset, as they can execute the option to buy at a lower strike price even if the market price has risen. The specificity of the time frame is also crucial; the option must be exercised before its expiration date, after which it becomes worthless if not exercised. This feature affects the premium paid for the call option, as longer time frames often lead to higher premiums due to the greater potential for profit. In contrast, other definitions such as those pertaining to ownership of an asset or agreements to sell do not accurately describe a call option. Thus, the correct understanding highlights the right to purchase, which distinguishes call options from other financial agreements.

6. Which payment method is least suggestive of money laundering?

- A. Cash
- B. Wire transfer
- C. Credit card
- D. Personal check**

The use of personal checks is the least suggestive of money laundering compared to the other payment methods listed. Personal checks are typically linked to a specific banking account that can be traced back to the individual or entity depositing or cashing the check. This traceability provides a clear record of the transaction, including the identity of the person making the payment. In money laundering schemes, the goal is often to obscure the source of illicit funds and make the transactions difficult to trace. Cash is the most anonymous and easily transferred without a paper trail, making it highly susceptible to money laundering. Wire transfers can also involve significant anonymity, especially if they cross borders, complicating tracing efforts. Credit cards, while providing a record of transactions, can sometimes be used in a way that limits clear identification of the source of funds. The personal check's inherent traceability offers financial institutions and authorities a more straightforward pathway to investigate and understand the transactions, making it less likely to be used for illicit purposes compared to cash, wire transfers, or credit cards.

7. What act requires variable annuities to be registered?

- A. Securities Act of 1940
- B. Investment Company Act of 1940
- C. Securities Act of 1933**
- D. Financial Services Modernization Act

The Securities Act of 1933 requires variable annuities to be registered because it was designed to ensure that investors receive significant information about securities being offered for sale. The Act mandates that any security sold in interstate commerce must be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) unless an exemption applies. Variable annuities fall under the definition of securities due to their investment component, which involves a pooled investment vehicle. As such, they must comply with the registration requirements established by this Act to provide transparency and protect investors. The other options—such as the Securities Act of 1940, the Investment Company Act of 1940, and the Financial Services Modernization Act—do not specifically address the registration of variable annuities in the same way as the 1933 Act. The Investment Company Act, for example, focuses on the regulation of investment companies and their offerings, while the Financial Services Modernization Act primarily concerns the deregulation of financial services and does not pertain directly to the registration of variable annuities.

8. How are Sallie Mae bonds secured?

- A. By a specific project fund
- B. By the full faith and credit of the SLMA**
- C. By collateralized assets
- D. By state government guarantees

Sallie Mae bonds are primarily secured by the full faith and credit of the Student Loan Marketing Association (SLMA). This means that the bonds are backed by the financial strength and the creditworthiness of Sallie Mae itself, which is a significant aspect of the bond's appeal to investors. When a bond is secured in this manner, it invokes a commitment from the issuer, suggesting that they will meet their debt obligations, often backed by various income streams that the organization generates. Sallie Mae as a federal agency has the ability to leverage its status to ensure bondholders are paid, and this assurance is critical for investors looking for a safer investment option. Consequently, this use of full faith and credit offers a level of security because it implies government support or involvement, ultimately enhancing the confidence of investors in those bonds. Other options involve different forms of security typically used in the bond market, such as project-specific funds or collateralized assets, which may apply to other types of municipal or corporate bonds but do not apply to Sallie Mae bonds in this context. The idea of state government guarantees also pertains to various bonds but isn't pertinent to the specific structure of Sallie Mae bonds. This reveals important distinctions in how different securities are backed and the implications for

9. What is a potential effect on yields if the US dollar is revalued?

- A. Yields go down**
- B. Yields go up
- C. Yields remain the same
- D. Yields become unpredictable

When the U.S. dollar is revalued, it typically means that the dollar has increased in value relative to other currencies. This revaluation can lead to a variety of economic effects, but one common consequence is a decline in yields, particularly for domestic bonds. As the dollar appreciates, imports become cheaper while exports may decline in competitiveness due to higher prices in foreign markets. This situation can lead to decreased inflationary pressures as import prices fall. Low inflation generally results in lower interest rates because investors will demand less compensation for the reduced risk of inflation eating into their returns. Consequently, bond yields, which are influenced by interest rates, tend to go down. Additionally, if foreign investors find U.S. assets attractive due to the stronger dollar, they might increase their demand for U.S. bonds. This heightened demand can push bond prices up, and since yields and prices move in opposite directions, yields would consequently decrease. Thus, a revaluation of the U.S. dollar creates conditions that often lead to a reduction in yields, making the choice stating that yields go down the correct one.

10. In what scenario is a call option typically exercised?

- A. When the market price of the underlying asset falls below the strike price
- B. When the market price of the underlying asset rises above the strike price**
- C. When the underlying company announces bankruptcy
- D. When the option nears expiration and the asset's value is doubtful

A call option is typically exercised when the market price of the underlying asset rises above the strike price. This scenario is favorable for the holder of the call option because exercising it allows them to purchase the underlying asset at a predetermined price (the strike price), which is now lower than the current market price. This results in an immediate profit for the option holder, as they can buy low and potentially sell at the higher market price. In contrast, exercising a call option when the market price is below the strike price would not make financial sense, as the holder would be paying more for the asset than its current market value. Situations like a company announcing bankruptcy or approaching expiration without certainty about the asset's value do not create typical scenarios for exercising call options, as they would lead to a loss or unfavorable conditions.

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://finra-series7.examzify.com>

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

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