

GFA LIGHTING AND ELECTRIC PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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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. What best describes a 'zip' light?**
 - A. They are a self-contained bounce light
 - B. A color-changing LED fixture
 - C. A frosted soft light with no lens
 - D. A compact daylight LED
- 2. Do 120V and 220V snakebites have the same number of conductors in this context?**
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Only the 120V has 3
 - D. Only the 220V has 3
- 3. Which fixture uses a lens with engraved concentric circles?**
 - A. Fresnel
 - B. PAR
 - C. LEKO
 - D. LED Panel
- 4. What are the filters called that will take down the exposure in a selected part of the frame and will not affect color?**
 - A. Neutral Density Grads
 - B. Polarizing Filter
 - C. Diffusion Filter
 - D. Color Correction Filter
- 5. Which is a true benefit of using a larger light source?**
 - A. Softer light
 - B. Harder shadows
 - C. More color dispersion
 - D. Less brightness

- 6. How many actual amps does a 5k Fresnel pull?**
- A. 25A
 - B. 41.5A
 - C. 50A
 - D. 60A
- 7. Referencing the above question, what is the correct answer expressed in paper amps?**
- A. 40A
 - B. 50A
 - C. 60A
 - D. 70A
- 8. Which term describes a group of 512 DMX channels used for lighting control?**
- A. Universe
 - B. Bridge
 - C. Segment
 - D. Rack
- 9. What does DC stand for in the described voltage description?**
- A. Direct current
 - B. Dynamic current
 - C. Direct charge
 - D. Duty cycle
- 10. What accessory is used to control and adjust the flicker of a tungsten bulb?**
- A. Magic gadget
 - B. Dimmer
 - C. Relay
 - D. Stabilizer

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What best describes a 'zip' light?

A. They are a self-contained bounce light

B. A color-changing LED fixture

C. A frosted soft light with no lens

D. A compact daylight LED

Zip lights are compact, self-contained fixtures designed for quick setups on location. The key feature is that they're meant to be used by bouncing light off nearby surfaces, which creates soft, diffuse illumination without needing extra equipment. Their self-contained nature means they have their own power source and control, making them ideal for fast shoots and on-the-go lighting. The other options describe capabilities (color-changing LEDs, diffusion-only fixtures, or simple daylight LEDs) that don't capture the main use case of a zip light, which is quick, portable bounced light.

2. Do 120V and 220V snakebites have the same number of conductors in this context?

A. Yes

B. No

C. Only the 120V has 3

D. Only the 220V has 3

In this context, the number of conductors is about what the circuit needs to carry current and provide a grounding path, not the voltage alone. A 120V setup typically uses a hot, a neutral, and an equipment grounding conductor—three conductors. A 240V setup that doesn't require a neutral uses two hot conductors plus a grounding conductor, which is also three conductors. So they share the same conductor count in this scenario. If a neutral were needed on the 240V side, you'd be looking at four conductors, but that's not the case here.

3. Which fixture uses a lens with engraved concentric circles?

A. Fresnel

B. PAR

C. LEKO

D. LED Panel

The light-shaping element here is the Fresnel lens design. The engraved concentric circles are grooves cut into the lens so it can bend light effectively while staying thin and light. That stepped, ringed surface creates a soft-edged beam with adjustable focus simply by changing the distance between the lamp and the lens. In stage lighting, this combination gives a warm, wash-like spread that can be sharpened or softened as needed. Other fixtures use different optics: a reflector-based unit like the PAR has no grooved lens, an ellipsoidal (LEKO) uses a different, more precise lens arrangement for sharper edges, and an LED panel relies on diffusers and LED arrays rather than a single grooved Fresnel lens. So the lens with engraved concentric circles is characteristic of a Fresnel.

4. What are the filters called that will take down the exposure in a selected part of the frame and will not affect color?

- A. Neutral Density Grads**
- B. Polarizing Filter
- C. Diffusion Filter
- D. Color Correction Filter

Graduated neutral density filters are designed to darken a specific part of the frame while leaving colors unchanged. They have a gradient that smoothly reduces light across the transition, so you can hold back the brightness of bright skies or windows while the rest of the scene remains at normal exposure. Because they're neutral in color, they don't shift the color balance of the scene, only the exposure. This is different from a polarizing filter, which cuts light but also influences color and contrast; a diffusion filter softens detail and reduces contrast; and a color correction filter changes the overall color temperature. The graduated neutral density filter is the right tool when the goal is to darken part of the frame without altering color.

5. Which is a true benefit of using a larger light source?

- A. Softer light**
- B. Harder shadows
- C. More color dispersion
- D. Less brightness

Using a larger light source changes how the light wraps around the subject. When the source is bigger, it appears more spread out in the scene, so light comes from many angles rather than a single direction. This broadens the shadow's penumbra, making the edges softer and the transition from light to dark more gradual. The result is a more even, flattering illumination with less harsh contrast and fewer noticeable shadows. Larger sources don't inherently make colors disperse more or reduce brightness; the key benefit shown here is the softer light that helps preserve detail and texture while reducing sharp shadows.

6. How many actual amps does a 5k Fresnel pull?

- A. 25A
- B. 41.5A**
- C. 50A
- D. 60A

Current drawn by a load is power divided by voltage. A 5,000-watt Fresnel on a typical 120-volt supply pulls about $5000 / 120 = 41.7$ amps, which is best represented as 41.5 amps in practical rounding. That's why the correct choice is the around-41-amp figure. If you fed the lamp from a higher voltage, the current would be smaller (for example, ~24 A at 208 V), but on the common 120 V venue supply, it's about 41.5 A. The other numbers don't fit because they would require different voltages or wattage.

7. Referencing the above question, what is the correct answer expressed in paper amps?

- A. 40A
- B. 50A**
- C. 60A
- D. 70A

The main idea is to size protective devices from a calculated load and report that result as the nearest standard ampacity used on the paper calculations. After summing all loads and applying any demand factors, you get a current value that must be carried safely. You then pick the smallest standard rating that can accommodate that calculated load. In this case, the paper-amps result falls between the 40 A and 50 A standard sizes, so the appropriate paper-amps rating is 50 A. A 40 A rating would be too small for the calculated load, while 60 A or 70 A would be larger than necessary for this calculation.

8. Which term describes a group of 512 DMX channels used for lighting control?

- A. Universe**
- B. Bridge
- C. Segment
- D. Rack

In DMX lighting, a universe is a block of 512 channels that carries a complete DMX data frame. Each channel controls one parameter (like a dimmer, color value, or effect), so a single universe can drive up to 512 different controls. When you need more than 512 channels, you add another universe, typically labeled as Universe 2, Universe 3, and so on, each with its own 512 channels. The other terms aren't used to describe this grouping: a bridge is a device that converts between protocols (for example, Art-Net to DMX), a segment isn't a standard DMX grouping, and a rack refers to a physical enclosure for equipment.

9. What does DC stand for in the described voltage description?

- A. Direct current**
- B. Dynamic current
- C. Direct charge
- D. Duty cycle

DC stands for Direct current. This means the current flows in one direction and the voltage maintains a constant polarity over time, unlike alternating current where the direction and magnitude change periodically. Direct current is produced by batteries and DC power supplies and is used for most small electronics. The other terms aren't standard ways to describe current types: dynamic current isn't a common designation, direct charge isn't the correct terminology, and duty cycle refers to the proportion of time a signal is on in a pulsed waveform, not the basic type of current.

10. What accessory is used to control and adjust the flicker of a tungsten bulb?

A. Magic gadget

B. Dimmer

C. Relay

D. Stabilizer

Dimmer. Tungsten bulbs are a resistive load, so their brightness follows the voltage they receive. A dimmer changes the effective voltage by trimming parts of each AC cycle (phase-cut dimming), letting you adjust light output and, as a result, influence how noticeable any flicker is. It's the standard accessory for controlling and smoothing the light from tungsten lamps. The other options aren't meant for this purpose: a relay is just a switch to turn power on or off; a stabilizer keeps voltage steady but doesn't provide gradual brightness control; and a "magic gadget" isn't a real device.

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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://gfallightingelec.examzify.com>

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

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