

# IATA Packing and Shipping Dangerous Goods Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

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# Table of Contents

<b>Copyright</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Table of Contents</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>How to Use This Guide</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Questions</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Answers</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Explanations</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Next Steps</b> .....	<b>16</b>

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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 agency governs the transport of dangerous goods in the United States?**
  - A. DOT**
  - B. USPS**
  - C. ICAO**
  - D. EPA**
  
- 2. Select the correct Proper Shipping Name for the Shipper's Declaration below. (Ebola Virus Disease Blood)**
  - A. UN3373 Biological Substance, Category B**
  - B. UN3475 Corrosive Liquid, Not Otherwise Classified**
  - C. UN2900 Infectious Substance, affecting animals**
  - D. UN2814 Infectious Substance, Affecting humans (Ebola virus)**
  
- 3. What type of packaging must be used to pack the refrigerated Ebola Virus Disease Blood sample?**
  - A. Foam-lined cardboard box only**
  - B. Plastic bag with lid**
  - C. Double packaging with absorbent material**
  - D. UN specification marked triple packaging with an insulated liner**
  
- 4. FedEx requires the use of FedEx Ship Manager when generating a Shipper's Declaration, and other non-FedEx software must be FX-18 compliant.**
  - A. True**
  - B. False**
  - C. Only for domestic shipments**
  - D. Not required**
  
- 5. Which packaging element is a packaging requirement for the TB Sputum sample?**
  - A. Cushioning and absorbent materials**
  - B. Desiccant pack only**
  - C. Vacuum-sealed bag**
  - D. Insulated outer container**

- 6. Select the appropriate job aid to determine the classification assigned to TB Sputum.**
- A. CDC biosafety guide**
  - B. DOT job aid**
  - C. WHO laboratory manual**
  - D. IATA job aid**
- 7. Which statement best describes the proper classification for a tissue sample used in HLA typing when shipped on dry ice by air via FedEx?**
- A. It Must Be Transported by Ground Only**
  - B. It Should Be Classified as an Exempt Human Specimen**
  - C. It Requires a Full Hazard Declaration**
  - D. It Must Be Accompanied by a Category A Labeling**
- 8. Select the appropriate job aid to determine the classification assigned to this whole blood sample (Ebola Virus Disease Blood).**
- A. CDC job aid**
  - B. WHO job aid**
  - C. DOT job aid**
  - D. IATA job aid**
- 9. When shipping Category B infectious substances by air, which documentation is required?**
- A. An itemized list of contents and air waybill**
  - B. A full safety data sheet and packing list**
  - C. Only a commercial invoice**
  - D. No documents are required**
- 10. For the TB Sputum sample, which option indicates Category B as the classification?**
- A. UN3373**
  - B. Category A**
  - C. Category B**
  - D. Non-infectious**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which agency governs the transport of dangerous goods in the United States?**

- A. DOT**
- B. USPS**
- C. ICAO**
- D. EPA**

In the United States, the Department of Transportation is the federal authority that governs the transport of dangerous goods. It enforces the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR), which cover how dangerous goods must be classified, packaged, labeled, marked, documented, and trained for transport across all modes, with PHMSA taking the lead and the FAA applying these rules to air transport. The United States Postal Service handles mail shipments under its own hazmat rules, not the overarching governance of dangerous goods transport. The International Civil Aviation Organization sets international standards, but it is not a U.S. agency. The Environmental Protection Agency focuses on environmental protection, not the regulatory framework for transporting dangerous goods.

**2. Select the correct Proper Shipping Name for the Shipper's Declaration below. (Ebola Virus Disease Blood)**

- A. UN3373 Biological Substance, Category B**
- B. UN3475 Corrosive Liquid, Not Otherwise Classified**
- C. UN2900 Infectious Substance, affecting animals**
- D. UN2814 Infectious Substance, Affecting humans (Ebola virus)**

Understanding how infectious substances are classified for air transport is essential. Ebola virus in blood is a pathogen that can cause serious, life-threatening disease in humans, so it falls under the high-risk category for shipping. The correct proper shipping name reflects this: UN2814 Infectious Substance, Affecting humans (Ebola virus). This naming indicates the material contains a pathogen that can cause disease in people and requires the more stringent Category A handling and labeling. The other options don't fit. UN3373 Biological Substance, Category B is used for diagnostic specimens not expected to cause severe disease and generally not for known dangerous pathogens like Ebola. UN2900 Infectious Substance, Affecting animals is for pathogens primarily affecting animals, not humans. UN3475 Corrosive Liquid is unrelated to infectious materials.

**3. What type of packaging must be used to pack the refrigerated Ebola Virus Disease Blood sample?**

**A. Foam-lined cardboard box only**

**B. Plastic bag with lid**

**C. Double packaging with absorbent material**

**D. UN specification marked triple packaging with an insulated liner**

When shipping an infectious substance that must be kept refrigerated, you must use UN specification packaging that provides triple containment and temperature control. This means there is a primary leakproof container, a secondary leakproof container with absorbent material between the layers, and an outer UN-marked packaging. The insulated liner inside the packaging helps maintain the required cold temperature throughout transport, protecting both the sample and people handling it. Other options fall short because they don't meet UN specification or provide sufficient containment. A foam-lined box, or a simple plastic bag, lacks the necessary triple containment and regulatory markings. A double packaging with absorbent material only has two containment layers and still isn't UN-specified. The triple packaging with an insulated liner covers both the leakproof containment and the temperature control required for refrigerated infectious substances.

**4. FedEx requires the use of FedEx Ship Manager when generating a Shipper's Declaration, and other non-FedEx software must be FX-18 compliant.**

**A. True**

**B. False**

**C. Only for domestic shipments**

**D. Not required**

The main idea here is that the Shipper's Declaration for dangerous goods must be generated through FedEx's own system or through software that meets FedEx's data standards. Using FedEx Ship Manager ensures the declaration is formatted exactly as FedEx requires, with all the necessary fields validated and populated correctly for regulatory compliance. If you use external software, it must produce an FX-18-compliant declaration so FedEx can import and process the information without errors. This FX-18 compliance acts as a bridge between non-FedEx tools and FedEx's data validation and workflow, helping prevent misprints, missing data, or formatting issues that could delay or jeopardize the shipment. In short, for any dangerous goods shipment, you either generate the declaration in FedEx Ship Manager or use third-party software only if it outputs FX-18-compliant data.

**5. Which packaging element is a packaging requirement for the TB Sputum sample?**

- A. Cushioning and absorbent materials**
- B. Desiccant pack only**
- C. Vacuum-sealed bag**
- D. Insulated outer container**

Packing infectious substances like a TB sputum sample requires effective containment to prevent any leakage during transport. Cushioning and absorbent materials are essential components because cushioning protects the inner container from shocks and movement, while absorbent materials trap any liquid that might escape if the primary container leaks. This combination helps ensure that, even in the event of a breakage, the liquid is contained within the secondary packaging and does not reach the outer packaging or the outside environment. Desiccant packs alone do not address the need for physical protection or liquid containment. A vacuum-sealed bag is not, by itself, an accepted packaging solution for infectious substances and could fail to provide the necessary containment. An insulated outer container is used for temperature control, not as a standard requirement for all TB sputum shipments.

**6. Select the appropriate job aid to determine the classification assigned to TB Sputum.**

- A. CDC biosafety guide**
- B. DOT job aid**
- C. WHO laboratory manual**
- D. IATA job aid**

TB sputum is an infectious substance, so determining its transport classification must use the guidance that matches the mode of shipment and regulatory body. For ground shipping within the United States, the Department of Transportation (DOT) Hazardous Materials Regulations require using a DOT job aid to determine the correct shipping name, hazard class, and packing requirements. This tool is specifically designed to translate infectious substances into the proper DOT category and packaging rules, ensuring safe and compliant road transport. The other resources serve different purposes. The CDC biosafety guide focuses on biosafety practices and containment in laboratory settings, not on how substances are classified for transport. The WHO laboratory manual likewise centers on biosafety in the lab. The IATA materials cover air transport classifications and packaging, which applies to air shipments—not ground. So for determining the classification assigned to TB sputum when shipping by road, the DOT job aid is the appropriate resource.

**7. Which statement best describes the proper classification for a tissue sample used in HLA typing when shipped on dry ice by air via FedEx?**

- A. It Must Be Transported by Ground Only**
- B. It Should Be Classified as an Exempt Human Specimen**
- C. It Requires a Full Hazard Declaration**
- D. It Must Be Accompanied by a Category A Labeling**

Shipping a tissue sample for HLA typing on dry ice by air makes the package a dangerous goods shipment. Dry ice (carbon dioxide in solid form) is classified as a Class 9 hazardous material, and air transport requires formal hazard communication. The way to comply is to provide a Shipper's Declaration for Dangerous Goods, which is the binding document that lays out the correct hazard class, UN number, packing method, quantity, and emergency contact. In other words, a full hazard declaration is required to legally and safely transport this by air. This isn't about Category A labeling, which is reserved for infectious substances that must be treated as higher-risk products. It also isn't an exempt human specimen shipment, because the presence of dry ice elevates the material to dangerous goods. Ground-only transport isn't relevant here since the shipment is by air.

**8. Select the appropriate job aid to determine the classification assigned to this whole blood sample (Ebola Virus Disease Blood).**

- A. CDC job aid**
- B. WHO job aid**
- C. DOT job aid**
- D. IATA job aid**

For air transport, classification and packaging of infectious substances are governed by the IATA standards. The IATA job aid is the official reference used by shippers and airlines to determine the correct classification (such as UN numbers and whether something is Category A or Category B), and to select the appropriate packing instructions, labeling, and documentation. In this scenario, a whole blood sample from Ebola Virus Disease is a material that would be treated as an infectious substance, Category A, for air transport, so you'd follow the IATA guidance to assign the correct UN number and packing requirements. While health organizations like the CDC or WHO provide public health and clinical guidance, they do not provide the air-transport-specific classification tools used in shipping by air. DOT governs ground transport and has its own rules, not the international air rules. Therefore, the IATA job aid is the appropriate reference.

**9. When shipping Category B infectious substances by air, which documentation is required?**

- A. An itemized list of contents and air waybill**
- B. A full safety data sheet and packing list**
- C. Only a commercial invoice**
- D. No documents are required**

When shipping Category B infectious substances by air, you must have the air waybill and an itemized list of contents. The air waybill is the official transport document used by airlines and authorities to track and route the shipment, while the itemized contents list provides a precise breakdown of what is inside the package, including the number and type of items. This combination ensures proper handling, regulatory verification, and any necessary emergency response information. A full safety data sheet is not required for Category B infectious substances, as SDSs pertain to chemical hazards and do not substitute the required transport documentation. A commercial invoice alone does not furnish the essential hazard and contents details, and having no documents would be non-compliant and unsafe.

**10. For the TB Sputum sample, which option indicates Category B as the classification?**

- A. UN3373**
- B. Category A**
- C. Category B**
- D. Non-infectious**

When shipping infectious substances, there are two main categories to decide between: Category A for high-risk pathogens that require the most stringent packaging, and Category B for diagnostic or clinical specimens that may be infectious but are not considered high risk. A TB sputum sample collected for diagnostic testing falls into the latter: it is a clinical specimen that may contain infectious materials, but it is not a known high-risk pathogen requiring Category A packaging. Therefore the appropriate classification is Biological Substance, Category B. The UN number often associated with this category is UN 3373, but the test question is asking for the category itself. Non-infectious would be incorrect because the sample can contain infectious material, and Category A would be reserved for more hazardous, high-consequence pathogens.

## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://iatapackshipdangerousgoods.examzify.com>**

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

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