

Infantry ALC Marksmanship Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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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 unit of measure is typically used for bullet weight?**
 - A. Grains**
 - B. Ounces**
 - C. Grams**
 - D. Pounds**

- 2. To align your Natural Point of Aim with your target, you must?**
 - A. Stand up and readjust**
 - B. Focus only on the target**
 - C. Adjust your position**
 - D. Validate with another shooter's feedback**

- 3. What does a consistent grouping imply in marksmanship?**
 - A. Inconsistent performance**
 - B. Precision in shooting**
 - C. Unpredictable patterns**
 - D. Common errors**

- 4. Where should trigger placement occur for optimal performance?**
 - A. Naturally on the trigger**
 - B. On the index finger**
 - C. At the tip of the finger**
 - D. Towards the back of the trigger guard**

- 5. What should not be done when a weapon is in the "ready" position?**
 - A. Engaging in conversation with others**
 - B. Aiming the weapon without a target**
 - C. Handling the weapon carelessly**
 - D. All of the above**

6. What does zeroing a firearm ensure?

- A. That the ammunition is compatible
- B. That the sight is aligned with the point of aim
- C. That the firearm is clean and dry
- D. That the firearm can handle various distances

7. What is the formula for calculating MOA for wind when using a 5.56 round?

- A. $(\text{Range(m)} + \text{Velocity(mph)}) / 7$
- B. $(\text{Range(m)} \times \text{Velocity(mph)}) / 7$
- C. $(\text{Velocity(mph)} \times \text{Windage(m)}) / 7$
- D. $(\text{Range(m)} \times \text{Windage(m)}) / 7$

8. Half Value wind typically affects the bullet's trajectory how?

- A. It has no effect.
- B. It affects the bullet twice as much as full value wind.
- C. It affects the bullet half as much as full value wind.
- D. It reverses the bullet's path.

9. What does "engagement area" mean in marksmanship?

- A. A zone where all weapons are unloaded
- B. A designated area where the shooter can engage targets effectively
- C. A restricted area for non-shooters
- D. A safe location for weapon storage

10. How does wear and tear affect the accuracy of a rifle?

- A. It cannot affect accuracy if cleaned regularly
- B. It can lead to misalignment of sights and degradation of parts
- C. It requires immediate replacement of parts
- D. It improves the accuracy over time

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What unit of measure is typically used for bullet weight?

- A. Grains**
- B. Ounces**
- C. Grams**
- D. Pounds**

The unit of measure that is typically used for bullet weight is grains. Grains are a very small unit of weight that is commonly used in the firearms industry, particularly for measuring the weight of bullets, as they provide a more precise measure for small quantities. Since bullets are generally quite light when compared to other objects, using grains allows for finer differentiation in bullet performance and characteristics, which is crucial for factors such as accuracy, recoil, and terminal ballistics. Other units such as ounces, grams, and pounds are not standard in the context of bullet weight in firearms. Ounces are generally used in measuring larger quantities or weight of objects, while grams might be used in certain contexts or regions but are less common in the shooting sports community. Pounds would be too large a unit for individual bullet measurements. Therefore, grains remain the industry-standard measurement for bullet weight, making it the correct choice in this context.

2. To align your Natural Point of Aim with your target, you must?

- A. Stand up and readjust**
- B. Focus only on the target**
- C. Adjust your position**
- D. Validate with another shooter's feedback**

Aligning your Natural Point of Aim with your target primarily involves adjusting your position. The Natural Point of Aim is the point at which your rifle naturally points when your body is in a relaxed and stable position. To achieve this, you must ensure that your body is properly aligned and that your stance, grip, and sight picture are set correctly. By adjusting your position, whether that means shifting your weight, repositioning your feet, or altering your body angle, you can ensure that your aim is automatically directed towards the target without additional strain or effort. This process is crucial for consistent shooting performance because an improper stance can force you to apply muscle tension to hold the rifle on target, which can lead to fatigue and impact your shot accuracy. Thus, the ability to properly align your Natural Point of Aim through positional adjustments is a fundamental skill in marksmanship.

3. What does a consistent grouping imply in marksmanship?

- A. Inconsistent performance
- B. Precision in shooting**
- C. Unpredictable patterns
- D. Common errors

A consistent grouping implies precision in shooting because it indicates that the marksman is able to place their shots closely together on the target. This demonstrates mastery of the fundamental skills of marksmanship, including proper aim, breath control, trigger pull, and follow-through. Each shot within the grouping reflects the shooter's ability to repeat the same technique and maintain focus, resulting in consecutive hits that are tightly clustered. Precision is a critical element in marksmanship, as it not only reflects the shooter's skill level but also increases the likelihood of hitting the intended target, especially in competitive shooting or real-world scenarios. A tightly grouped set of shots suggests a high level of control and consistency in the shooter's performance, rather than one-off shots that might result from varying levels of accuracy.

4. Where should trigger placement occur for optimal performance?

- A. Naturally on the trigger**
- B. On the index finger
- C. At the tip of the finger
- D. Towards the back of the trigger guard

Trigger placement for optimal performance should occur naturally on the trigger, which ensures consistent and controlled operation of the weapon. This placement allows the shooter to effectively apply pressure to the trigger without causing any unnecessary movement of the firearm, which could lead to accuracy issues. When the trigger is pressed naturally, the shooter can engage in a smooth trigger pull, minimizing any anticipation or flinching that may occur if the finger is improperly positioned. This technique supports better shot placement and overall accuracy. While various finger placements are mentioned in the choices, positioning the finger naturally on the trigger aligns with the body's biomechanics, allowing for a more instinctive and comfortable shooting experience. This is particularly relevant in high-stress situations where muscle memory plays a critical role in performance.

5. What should not be done when a weapon is in the "ready" position?

- A. Engaging in conversation with others**
- B. Aiming the weapon without a target**
- C. Handling the weapon carelessly**
- D. All of the above**

When a weapon is in the "ready" position, it is critically important to maintain safety and situational awareness. Engaging in conversation with others can detract from one's focus on the weapon and the environment, increasing the risk of accidents or miscommunication among personnel. Aiming the weapon without a target is highly discouraged because it implies a lack of discipline and could unintentionally create a hazardous situation if the weapon is pointed at someone or something that should not be engaged. Moreover, it risks reinforcing poor habits in weapon handling. Handling the weapon carelessly poses a direct threat to safety procedures, as it can lead to accidental discharges or misuse of the firearm, thereby endangering both the operator and those nearby. Each of these behaviors—engaging in distracting conversations, aiming without a target, and careless handling—compromises safety protocols. Therefore, it is essential that all these actions are avoided when a weapon is in the ready position, thus making "all of the above" the most appropriate answer.

6. What does zeroing a firearm ensure?

- A. That the ammunition is compatible**
- B. That the sight is aligned with the point of aim**
- C. That the firearm is clean and dry**
- D. That the firearm can handle various distances**

Zeroing a firearm is a critical process that ensures the sight is precisely aligned with the point of aim. This means that when a shooter looks through the sights of the firearm and aims at a target, the bullet will hit the target at the desired point. Achieving this alignment typically involves adjusting the sights based on where the bullet impacts relative to the target at a specific distance. Proper zeroing is essential for accuracy because even a slight misalignment can result in significant misses, especially over longer distances. A firearm that is zeroed correctly allows the shooter to engage targets confidently, knowing that the point of aim matches the point of impact as specified. The other options, while related to firearm usage and maintenance, do not capture the primary purpose of zeroing. Compatibility of ammunition and cleanliness of the firearm are important for reliable performance but do not directly pertain to the relationship between aim and impact. Additionally, while firearms can be adjusted for different distances, zeroing specifically refers to aligning the sights for a particular range rather than ensuring functionality at various distances.

7. What is the formula for calculating MOA for wind when using a 5.56 round?

- A. (Range(m) + Velocity(mph)) / 7
- B. (Range(m) x Velocity(mph)) / 7**
- C. (Velocity(mph) x Windage(m)) / 7
- D. (Range(m) x Windage(m)) / 7

The formula for calculating Minute of Angle (MOA) for wind when using a 5.56 round is determined by taking into account the relationship between range, wind speed, and the horizontal deflection necessary to accurately hit a target in windy conditions. To address the specifics of option B, it combines the range in meters with the velocity in miles per hour, reflecting how both distance to the target and the effects of wind speed impact horizontal dispersion. Multiplying the range by the wind velocity provides a direct relationship of how far the projectile may deviate due to wind over a distance. The division by 7 serves as a conversion factor to translate this result into MOA, which is a practical measurement used by marksmen to gauge adjustments needed for windage. MOA is particularly important because it allows shooters to make fine adjustments for wind effects at specific distances, ensuring greater accuracy in their aim. This application is relevant for all shooting situations where external factors like wind can significantly impact the flight path of the bullet, especially with rounds like the 5.56 which can be affected by varying environmental conditions.

8. Half Value wind typically affects the bullet's trajectory how?

- A. It has no effect.
- B. It affects the bullet twice as much as full value wind.
- C. It affects the bullet half as much as full value wind.**
- D. It reverses the bullet's path.

Half value wind refers to a wind that does not exert its full lateral force on a bullet as it travels towards the target. Since the full value wind represents the maximum force impacting the bullet's lateral movement, a half value wind would correspond to a situation where the wind is blowing at a reduced intensity, specifically at 50% of what a full value wind would apply. In practical terms, this means that the bullet is influenced to a lesser degree compared to a full value wind. Therefore, when calculating bullet trajectory adjustments for wind, a half value wind requires a shooter to make adjustments that are only half as significant as those required for a full value wind. This understanding is crucial for precise marksmanship, as accurate adjustments based on wind conditions directly affect the bullet's impact point downrange. By recognizing that a half value wind has a proportional impact, shooters can become adept at making effective corrections in various shooting conditions.

9. What does "engagement area" mean in marksmanship?

- A. A zone where all weapons are unloaded
- B. A designated area where the shooter can engage targets effectively**
- C. A restricted area for non-shooters
- D. A safe location for weapon storage

The term "engagement area" in marksmanship refers to a designated area where the shooter can effectively engage targets. This concept emphasizes the importance of spatial awareness and tactical planning in marksmanship. An engagement area is defined based on factors such as distance, terrain, and line of sight, which are crucial for maximizing the effectiveness of the shooter's fire and ensuring that they can engage targets accurately and efficiently. By identifying and utilizing a defined space for engagement, a shooter can optimize their position and strategy, ensuring that they are able to leverage cover and concealment, while also considering angles of fire and potential risk to non-targeted areas. This understanding is essential for maintaining safety and effectiveness in shooting scenarios, whether they be in training or operational situations.

10. How does wear and tear affect the accuracy of a rifle?

- A. It cannot affect accuracy if cleaned regularly
- B. It can lead to misalignment of sights and degradation of parts**
- C. It requires immediate replacement of parts
- D. It improves the accuracy over time

Wear and tear can significantly affect the accuracy of a rifle primarily by leading to misalignment of the sights and degradation of parts. Over time, components such as the barrel, bolt, and sights may wear down due to regular use and environmental factors. This wear can cause precise parts to loosen, leading to a misalignment that impacts bullet trajectory. Additionally, degradation of internal components, such as the trigger mechanism or the chamber area, can cause failures or inconsistencies in firing, further affecting accuracy. Regular cleaning may help maintain some aspects of the rifle, but it cannot fully counteract the physical effects of wear on critical components. Hence, understanding the impact of wear and tear is essential for ensuring optimal performance and accuracy in marksmanship.

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://infantryalcmarksmanship.examzify.com>

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

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