

Inspection Certification Associates (ICA) School Practice Test (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. Which type of flooring is known for its longevity and ease of cleaning?**
 - A. Hardwood flooring**
 - B. Cork flooring**
 - C. Tile flooring**
 - D. Laminate flooring**

- 2. What is the purpose of checking the home's exterior for peeling paint?**
 - A. To assess the color scheme for future renovations**
 - B. To identify potential moisture issues and need for maintenance**
 - C. To estimate the cost of a new paint job**
 - D. To evaluate the overall marketability of the home**

- 3. Which tool is commonly used to find leaks in roofing?**
 - A. Moisture meter**
 - B. Thermal scanner**
 - C. Pressure gauge**
 - D. Acoustic detector**

- 4. Which type of insulation is most commonly used in residential construction?**
 - A. Spray foam insulation**
 - B. Cellulose insulation**
 - C. Fiberglass insulation**
 - D. Mineral wool insulation**

- 5. What type of insulation is commonly found in attics?**
 - A. Cellulose insulation**
 - B. Fiberglass batt insulation**
 - C. Foam board insulation**
 - D. Mineral wool insulation**

6. In which areas of a home should GFCI outlets be installed?

- A. Living Room and Hallways**
- B. Kitchens and bathrooms**
- C. Basements and garages**
- D. Bedrooms and Dining Rooms**

7. What is one indicator of a pest infestation?

- A. Signs of droppings or chew marks on wooden surfaces**
- B. Visible nests in the attic or basement**
- C. Presence of pet hair around the home**
- D. Unusual odors coming from the kitchen**

8. Why must a home inspector assess the driveway during an inspection?

- A. To ensure it matches community standards**
- B. To identify cracks, drainage issues, or structural problems**
- C. To provide decoration suggestions for landscaping**
- D. To estimate the overall value of the property**

9. Where is safety glass specifically required?

- A. In all windows**
- B. At glazing near doors, tubs, or showers**
- C. In kitchen windows**
- D. In bedroom windows**

10. What does the bare cable (no sheathing) at a weatherhead typically indicate?

- A. Hot leg**
- B. Support leg**
- C. Tension wire**
- D. Neutral**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which type of flooring is known for its longevity and ease of cleaning?

- A. Hardwood flooring**
- B. Cork flooring**
- C. Tile flooring**
- D. Laminate flooring**

Tile flooring is known for its longevity and ease of cleaning due to several key characteristics. First, tile is highly durable and resistant to wear, making it a suitable choice for high-traffic areas in homes and businesses. It does not scratch or dent easily, which contributes to its long lifespan. Additionally, tile is resistant to moisture, which helps prevent damage from spills or humidity—making it an excellent option for kitchens and bathrooms. When it comes to cleaning, tile flooring is relatively maintenance-free. Its hard surface does not trap dirt, dust, or allergens, and it can be cleaned easily with water and a mild detergent. Unlike other flooring options that may require special cleaners or methods, tile can handle a variety of cleaning agents without being damaged. This combination of durability and low-maintenance cleaning makes tile flooring a preferred choice for many homeowners looking for longevity in their flooring.

2. What is the purpose of checking the home's exterior for peeling paint?

- A. To assess the color scheme for future renovations**
- B. To identify potential moisture issues and need for maintenance**
- C. To estimate the cost of a new paint job**
- D. To evaluate the overall marketability of the home**

The purpose of checking the home's exterior for peeling paint is primarily to identify potential moisture issues and the need for maintenance. Peeling paint often indicates that there is moisture infiltration occurring beneath the surface, which can lead to further damage such as wood rot, mold growth, and structural problems if not addressed. This inspection helps in understanding the health of the building envelope, ensuring that the property remains protected from the elements. Recognizing these issues early can prevent more significant repairs in the future and maintain the home's integrity. Other considerations, such as evaluating the color scheme for renovations or gauging marketability, while relevant to overall property assessment, do not directly relate to the immediate concerns tied to peeling paint and what it might signify regarding the home's condition.

3. Which tool is commonly used to find leaks in roofing?

- A. Moisture meter
- B. Thermal scanner**
- C. Pressure gauge
- D. Acoustic detector

A thermal scanner is commonly used to find leaks in roofing because it allows inspectors to detect temperature differences on the roof surface. When there is a leak, moisture can accumulate underneath the roofing materials, affecting their thermal properties. The thermal scanner identifies these disparities, indicating potential problem areas where leaks may be occurring. This method is non-invasive and enables inspectors to pinpoint issues without damaging the roofing structure, making it an effective tool for leak detection. In contrast, while moisture meters are useful for measuring the moisture content in materials, they require direct contact and may not always effectively indicate the precise location of a leak within a roofing system. Pressure gauges are typically used to assess the pressure within a system, which is not directly applicable to identifying leaks in roofing. Acoustic detectors can locate leaks through sound but may not be as commonly employed specifically for roofing compared to thermal imaging techniques.

4. Which type of insulation is most commonly used in residential construction?

- A. Spray foam insulation
- B. Cellulose insulation
- C. Fiberglass insulation**
- D. Mineral wool insulation

Fiberglass insulation is the most commonly used type of insulation in residential construction due to its favorable characteristics. It is made from fine strands of glass and is known for its effectiveness in reducing heat transfer, which is essential for maintaining comfortable indoor temperatures. Fiberglass insulation comes in various forms, including batts, rolls, and loose-fill, allowing for versatility in application across different areas of a home, such as walls, attics, and crawl spaces. This material is also relatively cost-effective compared to other insulation types, making it a popular choice among builders and homeowners. Its resistance to moisture and fire adds to its benefits, enhancing building safety and longevity. Moreover, fiberglass insulation is non-combustible and does not absorb water, which helps prevent mold growth and structural damage. While other insulation types, like spray foam, cellulose, and mineral wool, have their own advantages and specific use cases, fiberglass remains the predominant choice due to its balance of performance, availability, and cost-effectiveness in the residential construction market.

5. What type of insulation is commonly found in attics?

- A. Cellulose insulation**
- B. Fiberglass batt insulation**
- C. Foam board insulation**
- D. Mineral wool insulation**

Fiberglass batt insulation is widely used in attics due to its effective thermal performance and ease of installation. Its design allows it to fit between standard framing, such as rafters and joists, which is typical in attic spaces. Fiberglass is also lightweight, resistant to moisture damage, and non-combustible, making it a preferred choice for many homeowners and builders when constructing or renovating attic spaces. While other types of insulation, such as cellulose or mineral wool, may also be utilized in attics, fiberglass batt insulation remains popular for its balance of cost, performance, and installation convenience.

6. In which areas of a home should GFCI outlets be installed?

- A. Living Room and Hallways**
- B. Kitchens and bathrooms**
- C. Basements and garages**
- D. Bedrooms and Dining Rooms**

GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter) outlets are specifically designed to protect individuals from electric shock by monitoring the flow of electricity and shutting off power when an imbalance is detected. This is particularly important in areas where water and electricity could come into contact, posing a higher risk of electrical shock.

Kitchens and bathrooms are prime locations for GFCI installation due to the increased likelihood of water exposure. In kitchens, the presence of sinks and water sources combined with appliances makes it essential to have GFCI outlets to prevent potential accidents. Similarly, bathrooms typically contain multiple water sources, including sinks, showers, and bathtubs. The combination of these water sources with electrical outlets can create a dangerous environment, and installing GFCI outlets in these areas significantly enhances safety. Other areas, such as the living room, hallways, bedrooms, and dining rooms, do not generally have the same level of risk associated with water exposure. While it's important to practice electrical safety throughout the home, the installation of GFCI outlets is particularly crucial in areas where the likelihood of contact between water and electricity is high, justifying their specific placement in kitchens and bathrooms.

7. What is one indicator of a pest infestation?

- A. Signs of droppings or chew marks on wooden surfaces**
- B. Visible nests in the attic or basement**
- C. Presence of pet hair around the home**
- D. Unusual odors coming from the kitchen**

One indicator of a pest infestation is the signs of droppings or chew marks on wooden surfaces. Pest droppings can provide clear evidence of their presence, as different types of pests leave distinctive droppings that help identify the specific species involved. Chew marks indicate that pests are not only present but actively gnawing on materials within the home, which can lead to structural damage and the potential for further infestation. Recognizing these signs is crucial for early detection and effective pest management, as they signal that action may be needed to control the pests and prevent any additional damage or health risks associated with an infestation. While visible nests in the attic or basement can also indicate a pest problem, they are less immediately identifiable and may not always be present in every type of infestation. Presence of pet hair around the home may be normal and does not specifically denote a pest issue. Unusual odors from the kitchen could suggest various problems, including spoiled food or plumbing issues, rather than being a direct indicator of a pest infestation. Hence, the signs of droppings or chew marks are a reliable and commonly recognized indicator of pest activity.

8. Why must a home inspector assess the driveway during an inspection?

- A. To ensure it matches community standards**
- B. To identify cracks, drainage issues, or structural problems**
- C. To provide decoration suggestions for landscaping**
- D. To estimate the overall value of the property**

Assessing the driveway during a home inspection is crucial for several reasons, primarily centered around safety and functionality. A home inspector looks for cracks, drainage issues, or structural problems because these can indicate underlying issues that may lead to more significant damage if not addressed. For example, cracks can evolve into more extensive structural problems, and poor drainage can cause water to pool, leading to erosion or damage to the driveway's substructure. Identifying these issues can help inform potential buyers and current homeowners about necessary repairs or maintenance, influencing their decisions and negotiations related to the property. While other choices touch on aspects of home value and aesthetics, they do not directly address the practical concerns that an inspector focuses on regarding the driveway's condition and safety. Thus, recognizing and reporting on these specific issues is a core component of a thorough and responsible home inspection.

9. Where is safety glass specifically required?

- A. In all windows
- B. At glazing near doors, tubs, or showers**
- C. In kitchen windows
- D. In bedroom windows

Safety glass is specifically required at glazing near doors, tubs, or showers due to the increased risk of impact and injuries in these areas. When people interact with doors or are in spaces like bathrooms, the likelihood of accidentally colliding with glass is higher, which can lead to severe injuries if regular glass were to shatter. Safety glass, which can be tempered or laminated, minimizes the risk of injuries as it either shatters into small, blunt pieces or remains intact, preventing sharp fragments from causing harm. While options suggesting safety glass in all windows, kitchen windows, or bedroom windows may have their own safety considerations, they do not address specific safety codes and regulations that dictate the use of safety glass in high-risk areas like those near doors, tubs, or showers.

10. What does the bare cable (no sheathing) at a weatherhead typically indicate?

- A. Hot leg
- B. Support leg
- C. Tension wire
- D. Neutral**

The presence of bare cable at a weatherhead typically indicates the neutral conductor in overhead service drop systems. The neutral wire is usually left uninsulated for several reasons, including identification and to ensure that it can safely dissipate any induced voltage or stray currents that may occur. In residential electrical systems, the neutral conductor provides a return path for current to complete the circuit, and it is often color-coded as white or gray. However, at the point where the service connects to the utility's system, using bare wire can help distinguish it from the phase conductors, which are insulated. This practice also allows for easier identification during installation and maintenance, as well as providing a physical grounding point that contributes to safety. This contrasts with the other options. A "hot leg" would generally be insulated and colored according to the phase; a "support leg" could refer to structural components rather than electrical conductors; and a "tension wire" would also most likely be insulated if it were a part of the electrical system. Thus, bare cable at the weatherhead primarily signifies the role of the neutral conductor in the electrical service entry.

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://icaschool.examzify.com>

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

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