Lean Bronze Certification 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

1. Which statement about takt time is true?

A. It is the rate at which customer demand must be met.

B. It is the total cycle time of the production line.

C. It is the quotient of available operating time divided by customer demand.

D. It is the time between maintenance events.

2. Quality at the source is a principle where quality is measured at every level of a process, not just at the endpoint. What would quality at the source impact?

A. Annual bonus percentages for the employee

B. The retirement of an employee

C. Employees being aware of quality standards and quality benchmarks

D. Installation of replacement parts on the assembly line

3. Who are pioneers of Just in Time techniques in Toyota?

A. Ohno and Shingo

B. Shing and Abe

C. Deming and Dennis

D. Deming and Ohno

4. Sustain metrics often include:

A. Project ROI only

B. Color of desks

C. Process adherence rate

D. Shoe size of workers

5. In its purest form, when items are processed and moved directly from one process to the next one piece at a time, it is known as:

A. A "supermarket" pull system

B. Value Stream Mapping

C. Continuous flow

D. Low volume Production

6. What term describes the practice of a downstream process going to the upstream process to retrieve product?

A. Just in Time

B. Push System

C. Pull System

D. Visual Factory

7. According to lean Production Simplified, what should we do instead of blaming people for failures?

A. Develop a fishbone diagram to find the root cause

B. Retrain the person we are blaming

C. Ask why 5 times to get to the root cause and then develop a plan to grow our people

D. None of the above

8. Which term is described as the foundation for stability in the House of Lean?

A. Kanban

B. Stability

C. Leadership

D. Jidoka

9. Which tool is used to drill down into the root cause by repeatedly asking 'why'?

A. 5 Whys

B. Fishbone Diagram

C. Pareto Analysis

D. Root Cause Analysis

10. During the 5S sort phase where should we put items we don't think we need?

A. In the trash

B. In a storage area away from the work cell

C. In the red tag area

D. In the green tag area

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Which statement about takt time is true?

A. It is the rate at which customer demand must be met.

B. It is the total cycle time of the production line.

C. It is the quotient of available operating time divided by customer demand.

D. It is the time between maintenance events.

Takt time is the pace you must maintain to meet customer demand given the time you have available. It is calculated as the quotient of available operating time divided by customer demand in that period. For example, with an 8-hour shift and demand for 320 units, takt time is 8 hours divided by 320 units = 0.025 hours per unit (about 1.5 minutes per unit). This pace sets the target for the production line and helps determine if the line can meet demand: if the line's actual cycle times push past takt time, you'll miss the deadline; if they're shorter, you have room for efficiency gains or buffers. It's not the total cycle time of the line, nor the time between maintenance events; it's specifically the calculated pace needed to align production with demand.

2. Quality at the source is a principle where quality is measured at every level of a process, not just at the endpoint. What would quality at the source impact?

A. Annual bonus percentages for the employee

B. The retirement of an employee

C. Employees being aware of quality standards and quality benchmarks

D. Installation of replacement parts on the assembly line

Quality at the source means quality checks happen at every step, so everyone involved must know the standards and how quality is measured. When employees are aware of the quality targets and benchmarks, they can spot defects immediately, stop the process to fix issues, and prevent bad output from moving downstream. This unfolds into a culture of defect prevention and continuous improvement, since frontline workers have the information they need to act promptly. The most direct impact is on employees' awareness of quality standards and benchmarks. The other options don't capture this preventative, knowledge-driven effect: bonuses and retirement aren't about day-to-day quality knowledge, and simply installing replacement parts on the line addresses repair rather than empowering people with standards and measurements to prevent defects.

3. Who are pioneers of Just in Time techniques in Toyota?

A. Ohno and Shingo

B. Shing and Abe

C. Deming and Dennis

D. Deming and Ohno

Just in Time at Toyota is about producing only what's needed, when it's needed, and in the right amount, so workflows flow smoothly with minimal waste. Taiichi Ohno is the central figure who shaped the Toyota Production System and drove the JIT approach, introducing pull production, kanban signaling, and the idea of aligning output with actual demand. Shigeo Shingo complemented that work with key process improvements, especially SMED for fast changeovers and ideas that helped prevent defects, which are essential to making smaller lots and frequent, reliable signaling feasible. Put together, Ohno's system design and Shingo's engineering techniques embody the JIT techniques Toyota is known for. Other options mix in figures not primarily associated with pioneering JIT at Toyota. Deming is famed for quality management and statistical process control, influencing Toyota's broader quality culture but not as a JIT pioneer on the Toyota side. The other names listed aren't recognized partners in developing Toyota's JIT methods, and one is even a misspelling of Shingo.

4. Sustain metrics often include:

A. Project ROI only

B. Color of desks

C. Process adherence rate

D. Shoe size of workers

Sustain metrics measure whether improvements stay in place by looking at ongoing performance and whether the new process is being followed. The best answer is process adherence rate because it directly shows if people are consistently following the defined standard work and improved workflow, which is essential to preserving the gains over time. When adherence stays high, the benefits—like reduced waste, stable quality, and shorter cycle times—are likely to persist. Other options don't reflect ongoing process performance: ROI is a financial measure that doesn't guarantee daily process health, and attributes like the color of desks or shoe sizes have no relation to how the process is executed.

5. In its purest form, when items are processed and moved directly from one process to the next one piece at a time, it is known as:

A. A "supermarket" pull system

B. Value Stream Mapping

C. Continuous flow

D. Low volume Production

One-piece flow, also called continuous flow, is the pattern where a single item moves from one operation to the next as soon as it’s completed, with little to no batching or waiting between steps. This keeps work-in-process small and creates a steady, uninterrupted progression from start to finish, which minimizes lead times and waste. The idea is to produce and move one unit at a time along the line, driven by the downstream process being ready. Value stream mapping is a tool to visualize and analyze the entire flow of material and information, helping you see where waste and delays occur and where one-piece flow could be introduced. It isn’t the movement pattern itself. A supermarket pull system uses a buffer to pull material through the process, which can support flow but relies on inventory buffers, not pure one-piece flow. Low volume production describes capacity levels, not the method of moving items between processes.

6. What term describes the practice of a downstream process going to the upstream process to retrieve product?

A. Just in Time

B. Push System

C. Pull System

D. Visual Factory

Pull system is the practice where a downstream process requests or retrieves product from upstream only as it's needed, rather than upstream pushing items downstream on a fixed schedule. In this approach, the downstream step signals the upstream step (often via a Kanban signal or similar) to produce or move the item, so inventory and work-in-process are pulled through the system by actual demand. This reduces waste from overproduction and excess inventory and helps synchronize production with actual consumption. It contrasts with a push system, where upstream production is driven by forecasts and pushes items forward regardless of immediate downstream need. The described scenario—downstream pulling from upstream by going upstream to retrieve product—is a classic example of a pull system. Just-in-time embodies this pull philosophy, delivering items exactly when needed, while Visual Factory focuses on making status and flow visible rather than the pull mechanism itself.

7. According to lean Production Simplified, what should we do instead of blaming people for failures?

A. Develop a fishbone diagram to find the root cause

B. Retrain the person we are blaming

C. Ask why 5 times to get to the root cause and then develop a plan to grow our people

D. None of the above

In lean thinking, failures are signals to improve the process, not reasons to blame people. The practice of asking why five times is a simple, practical way to drill down to the true root cause, rather than stopping at a surface issue or attributing it to an individual. Once the underlying cause is found, the next step is to fix the system and support the people involved, turning the experience into a chance to grow their capability. This pairing of root-cause investigation with a plan to develop the team embodies the lean emphasis on continuous improvement and learning. While tools like a fishbone diagram can help map potential causes, they don't, by themselves, ensure we address root causes and build people up. Blaming someone or simply retraining the blamed person misses the Lean path of systemic improvement and growth.

8. Which term is described as the foundation for stability in the House of Lean?

A. Kanban

B. Stability

C. Leadership

D. Jidoka

Stability serves as the base of the Lean House because it provides a predictable, repeatable operating context. When work is standardized and processes are stable, you can actually see problems clearly, measure the impact of changes, and drive improvements without constant wild variation getting in the way. This reliable baseline is what lets the other Lean elements work effectively—such as stopping defects when they occur (Jidoka) and producing only what is needed just in time (flow and pull). Tools like Kanban help manage flow, but they rely on that underlying stability to function consistently. Leadership supports creating and sustaining stable operations, but the foundational idea itself is stability, which makes the entire system capable of sustained improvement.

9. Which tool is used to drill down into the root cause by repeatedly asking 'why'?

A. 5 Whys

B. Fishbone Diagram

C. Pareto Analysis

D. Root Cause Analysis

The idea being tested is using iterative questioning to reach the root cause. This approach, known as the 5 Whys, starts with the problem and asks why it happened; the answer becomes the basis for the next why, and repeating this process typically reveals underlying issues rather than just the surface symptoms. It's a simple, targeted way to trace cause and effect and to surface a clear corrective action that addresses the real problem. Other tools have different strengths: a Fishbone Diagram helps brainstorm and organize a wide range of potential causes into categories, a Pareto Analysis helps prioritize issues by impact or frequency, and Root Cause Analysis is the broader process that may employ multiple techniques (including 5 Whys) to determine underlying causes. For example, if a machine stops, you'd ask why it stopped, why the breaker tripped, why the motor overheated, and so on, until you identify a root cause such as inadequate maintenance scheduling, then implement a fix to address that underlying issue.

10. During the 5S sort phase where should we put items we don't think we need?

A. In the trash

B. In a storage area away from the work cell

C. In the red tag area

D. In the green tag area

During the sort phase, you separate what's needed from what isn't. If you're unsure about an item, you flag it with a red tag and move it to the red tag area. This keeps the work area clear while you make a deliberate decision later—whether to keep, relocate, or discard it. It's not meant to be trash or distant storage yet; it's a temporary holding space for items that require evaluation. The red tag area thus supports a clean, thoughtful reduction of clutter and ensures only clearly needed items stay in place.

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://leanbronze.examzify.com

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