

# NAIT Plumber Period 4 Theory 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>

# 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 of these two piston pumps can be offset from the top of the well?**
  - A. Deep well piston**
  - B. Submersible piston**
  - C. Only the shallow well piston**
  - D. Both shallow and deep well pistons**
- 2. Why is untreated water from lakes rarely collected for drinking?**
  - A. The water is often too cold.**
  - B. It may be contaminated by animals.**
  - C. The water can be too murky.**
  - D. It often contains too many minerals.**
- 3. What is a backflow preventer and where is it used?**
  - A. A device to increase water pressure in plumbing systems**
  - B. A device to prevent leaks in pipes**
  - C. A device that prevents contaminated water from flowing back into potable water**
  - D. A device used to improve water taste**
- 4. What kind of water contamination can an air gap effectively prevent?**
  - A. Contamination from chemical spills only**
  - B. Contamination from dirty water sources**
  - C. Contamination from air pollutants**
  - D. Contamination from biological sources only**
- 5. What is the significance of a plumbing fixture's trap?**
  - A. It keeps a water seal to block sewer gases from entering buildings**
  - B. It regulates water temperature**
  - C. It filters debris from the water supply**
  - D. It connects the fixture to the main sewer line**

- 6. What is the maximum theoretical lift of a centrifugal pump used as a suction pump?**
- A. Close to 25 feet**
  - B. Close to 30 feet**
  - C. Close to 34 feet**
  - D. Close to 40 feet**
- 7. What basic principle does an air gap in plumbing serve?**
- A. Prevents water leakage**
  - B. Creates a vacuum seal**
  - C. Prevents backflow or contamination**
  - D. Increases water pressure**
- 8. Untreated harvested rainwater should not be distributed to which of the following fixture outlets?**
- A. Bathroom sinks**
  - B. Kitchen sinks**
  - C. Showers**
  - D. Washing machines**
- 9. How does a venting system contribute to preventing siphoning in plumbing?**
- A. It adds extra water pressure**
  - B. It equalizes pressure in drainage pipes**
  - C. It filters sewer gases**
  - D. It increases the diameter of pipes**
- 10. What are the three main styles of grease interceptors?**
- A. Recessed, Floor-mounted, and Above-ground**
  - B. Recessed, Semi-recessed, and Floor-mounted**
  - C. Surface, Underground, and Wall-mounted**
  - D. In-ground, Above-ground, and Portable**



## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which of these two piston pumps can be offset from the top of the well?**

- A. Deep well piston**
- B. Submersible piston**
- C. Only the shallow well piston**
- D. Both shallow and deep well pistons**

The correct answer is that only the shallow well piston pump can be offset from the top of the well. Shallow well piston pumps are designed to be installed above ground, and they typically have the capability to operate effectively when offset from the actual water source. This is due to their design, which includes a suction line that can draw water from a well, even if the pump is not directly above it. In contrast, deep well piston pumps, especially submersible types, are designed to be submerged within the well and operate under the water level. Their operation relies on being located at a specific depth to effectively pump water to the surface. If they were offset, it could lead to inefficiencies or inability to maintain prime, as the design is optimized for direct vertical operation from the sub-surface water source. Therefore, only the shallow well piston pump has the flexibility to be installed at a distance from the well, allowing for various configurations in its installation without compromising its functionality.

**2. Why is untreated water from lakes rarely collected for drinking?**

- A. The water is often too cold.**
- B. It may be contaminated by animals.**
- C. The water can be too murky.**
- D. It often contains too many minerals.**

Untreated water from lakes is rarely collected for drinking primarily because it may be contaminated by animals. This contamination can include pathogens such as bacteria, viruses, and parasites that come from animal waste. These microorganisms can pose serious health risks to humans and require thorough treatment processes to ensure the water is safe for consumption. In contrast, the other factors, while potentially relevant in specific contexts, do not address the critical concern of health and safety. For instance, water temperature, murkiness, or mineral content, while they can affect taste or clarity, are not primarily responsible for the serious health risks associated with untreated water. Ensuring that drinking water is free from harmful contaminants is the foremost concern when considering water treatment and safety.

### 3. What is a backflow preventer and where is it used?

- A. A device to increase water pressure in plumbing systems
- B. A device to prevent leaks in pipes
- C. A device that prevents contaminated water from flowing back into potable water**
- D. A device used to improve water taste

A backflow preventer is a crucial plumbing device designed to keep contaminated water from flowing backward into clean, potable water supplies. It achieves this by ensuring that water flows in one direction only, thereby preventing any potential contamination that could arise from backflow due to pressure fluctuations in the plumbing system. This is particularly important in systems where there is a risk of hazardous substances entering the drinking water supply, such as in irrigation systems that may be connected to chemical fertilizers or other pollutants. The use of backflow preventers is mandated in many plumbing codes for areas where cross-connections might exist, further safeguarding public health. Their installation is commonly found in residential, commercial, and industrial settings where there is a potential for the mixing of potable and non-potable water sources, such as in fire sprinkler systems, irrigation systems, and water fountains. The other options do not accurately describe the function of a backflow preventer. Devices to increase water pressure do not address contamination issues, leak prevention devices focus on stopping leaks without controlling flow direction, and devices that improve water taste do not serve the protective role required for potable water systems.

### 4. What kind of water contamination can an air gap effectively prevent?

- A. Contamination from chemical spills only
- B. Contamination from dirty water sources**
- C. Contamination from air pollutants
- D. Contamination from biological sources only

An air gap is an effective method for preventing contamination from dirty water sources. An air gap involves a physical separation between the nozzle of a water supply outlet and the flood level of the receiving vessel, which creates a barrier that prevents backflow. This design ensures that if there is a drop in pressure in the water supply system, dirty water, which may contain sediments, pollutants, or other harmful substances, cannot be siphoned back into the clean water supply. The air gap acts as a defense mechanism to maintain the integrity of the potable water supply by preventing any backflow from contaminated sources. In contrasting contexts, contamination from chemical spills, air pollutants, or biological sources may involve different methods of prevention and control, but an air gap specifically addresses the risk associated with dirty or potentially polluted water being introduced into the clean water lines, thus highlighting its importance in plumbing and water safety standards.

**5. What is the significance of a plumbing fixture's trap?**

- A. It keeps a water seal to block sewer gases from entering buildings**
- B. It regulates water temperature**
- C. It filters debris from the water supply**
- D. It connects the fixture to the main sewer line**

The significance of a plumbing fixture's trap lies in its primary function of maintaining a water seal that prevents sewer gases from entering the living space of a building. The trap holds a small amount of water at all times, creating a barrier between the inside atmosphere and the sewer system. This water seal is crucial for sanitation and health because sewer gases can be harmful and unpleasant. By ensuring that these gases do not escape into the building, the trap plays a vital role in maintaining indoor air quality and protecting occupants from potential health risks associated with foul odors and toxic gases. Other aspects of plumbing are important as well, but they do not pertain to the primary function of the trap. The regulation of water temperature, for instance, is not a job of the trap but is managed by other plumbing fixtures and systems. Similarly, while traps can capture some debris, they are primarily focused on blocking gases rather than filtering water. Lastly, although a trap does connect to the drainage system, its crucial role is the prevention of gas entry rather than just being a connector to the sewer line.

**6. What is the maximum theoretical lift of a centrifugal pump used as a suction pump?**

- A. Close to 25 feet**
- B. Close to 30 feet**
- C. Close to 34 feet**
- D. Close to 40 feet**

In the context of centrifugal pumps, the maximum theoretical lift, also known as the maximum suction lift, is limited primarily by atmospheric pressure and the specific gravity of the fluid being pumped. For water, which has a specific gravity of 1, the maximum theoretical lift is around 33.9 feet at sea level under standard atmospheric conditions. This corresponds to the value near 34 feet. This limit arises because a centrifugal pump relies on creating a difference in pressure to lift the fluid. As pressure decreases in the suction line, the atmospheric pressure pushes the fluid up into the pump. However, due to factors like vapor pressure of the fluid and friction losses in the suction line, the effective suction lift will be less than this theoretical maximum in practical applications. Therefore, the maximum theoretical lift of 34 feet reflects the ideal conditions for a centrifugal pump working with water at sea level without additional losses.

**7. What basic principle does an air gap in plumbing serve?**

- A. Prevents water leakage**
- B. Creates a vacuum seal**
- C. Prevents backflow or contamination**
- D. Increases water pressure**

An air gap in plumbing serves the fundamental purpose of preventing backflow or contamination. This principle is crucial for maintaining the safety and integrity of potable water supplies. An air gap provides a physical separation between the water supply and potential contaminants that could be present in wastewater or non-potable sources. By introducing this space, it ensures that in the event of a pressure drop in the plumbing system - such as during a sudden demand for water or a pipe break - contaminated water is unable to siphon back into the drinking water supply. The air gap effectively eliminates the possibility of harmful substances entering safe drinking water, hence conforming to health regulations and standards that dictate safe plumbing practices. The other options do not align with the primary role of an air gap. While it might impact water pressure indirectly, it does not inherently increase pressure, nor does it contribute to sealing or leakage prevention in the conventional sense. Thus, understanding the air gap's function as a barrier against contamination is key to safe plumbing design.

**8. Untreated harvested rainwater should not be distributed to which of the following fixture outlets?**

- A. Bathroom sinks**
- B. Kitchen sinks**
- C. Showers**
- D. Washing machines**

Untreated harvested rainwater should not be distributed to kitchen sinks primarily due to health and safety concerns. Kitchen sinks are commonly used for food preparation and dishwashing, which involve direct contact with items that will be ingested. Rainwater can contain contaminants such as bacteria, pathogens, and pollutants that may have accumulated during the collection process, making it unsafe for these applications. While bathroom sinks, showers, and washing machines may also have some risks, they are typically not involved in the direct serving of food or preparation of meals in the same way that kitchen sinks are. Therefore, kitchen sinks are subject to stricter health regulations regarding water quality, necessitating the use of treated or potable water to ensure safety for culinary purposes. Using untreated rainwater in such settings poses a higher risk of exposure to harmful microorganisms and contaminants, hence it is advised against.

**9. How does a venting system contribute to preventing siphoning in plumbing?**

- A. It adds extra water pressure**
- B. It equalizes pressure in drainage pipes**
- C. It filters sewer gases**
- D. It increases the diameter of pipes**

A venting system plays a crucial role in the functionality of plumbing by maintaining an equal pressure within the drainage system. When water flows through the pipes during drainage, it can create a vacuum effect that may draw water out of traps in fixtures, leading to siphoning. By allowing air to enter the drainage pipes, the venting system prevents this vacuum formation, thus equalizing the pressure within the pipes. This equalization is vital because it ensures that the water seal in traps remains intact, which keeps sewer gases from escaping into living spaces and helps maintain proper drainage flow. Without sufficient venting, the pressure differential created by draining water could lead to unwanted siphoning, adversely affecting the system's performance. The other options, while they may be functions of the plumbing system, do not directly relate to preventing siphoning in the context of how venting operates. Therefore, the correct answer highlights the essential function of venting in maintaining pressure equilibrium within the drainage system, effectively preventing siphoning.

**10. What are the three main styles of grease interceptors?**

- A. Recessed, Floor-mounted, and Above-ground**
- B. Recessed, Semi-recessed, and Floor-mounted**
- C. Surface, Underground, and Wall-mounted**
- D. In-ground, Above-ground, and Portable**

The three main styles of grease interceptors are indeed classified as recessed, semi-recessed, and floor-mounted. Recessed interceptors are designed to be installed within the floor, providing an effective way to separate grease from wastewater without taking up valuable surface area. Semi-recessed interceptors are partially buried and can be integrated into flooring, allowing for easy access while maintaining a sleek installation. Floor-mounted interceptors, as the name suggests, are placed on the floor surface, making them easily accessible for maintenance and cleaning. This classification helps plumbing professionals choose the appropriate interceptor based on site-specific conditions and requirements, ensuring efficient grease management in kitchens and food service establishments.



## 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://naitplumberperiod4.examzify.com>**

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