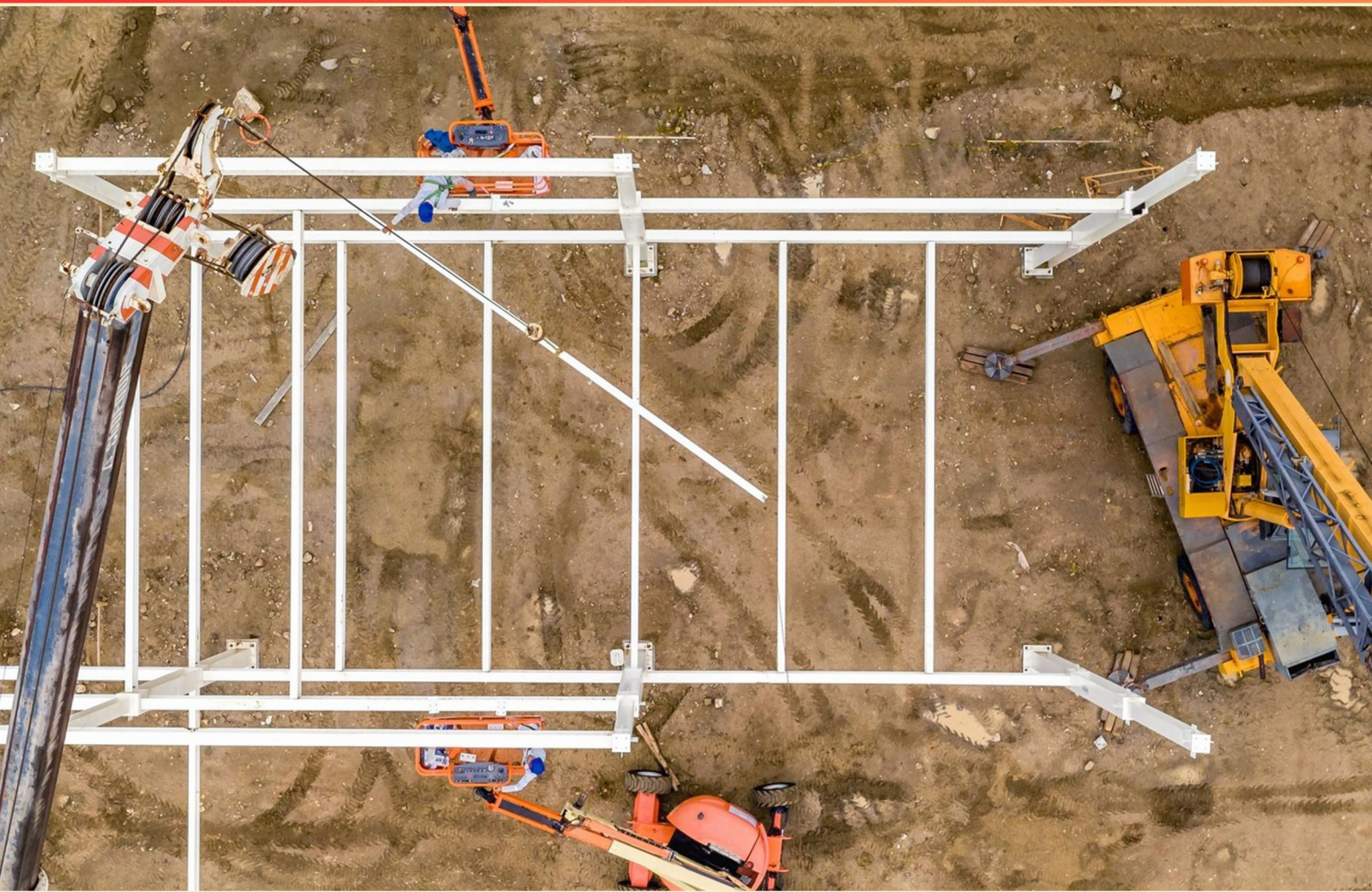


NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF CRANE OPERATORS (NCCCO) CORE PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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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. To ensure load chart ratings are valid, a crane must be level within what percentage?**
 - A. 0.5%
 - B. 1%
 - C. 2%
 - D. 3%
- 2. What function does the holding valve on a vertical outrigger jack perform?**
 - A. Hold pressure in the vertical ram if a hydraulic connection fails
 - B. Release hydraulic fluid when the jack is lowered
 - C. Control the speed of the outrigger extension
 - D. Indicate the level of stability during operation
- 3. What effect does loosely spaced cribbing have on a crane's float pads?**
 - A. Increases mobility and flexibility
 - B. Enhances load distribution
 - C. Decreases stability and strength
 - D. Provides better drainage
- 4. What may be required while traveling a crane without a load on a job site under or near power lines?**
 - A. A dedicated spotter
 - B. Additional counterweights
 - C. An extra crane operator
 - D. Warning lights on the crane
- 5. Under what circumstance can hooks be used without latches?**
 - A. The application does not require it
 - B. The latch is broken
 - C. The application makes use of the latch impractical or unsafe
 - D. The load is lightweight

- 6. What happens to the minimum clearances as power line voltages intensify?**
- A. Decrease
 - B. Remain the same
 - C. Increase
 - D. Become irrelevant
- 7. How often should a crane operator check the load charts before making a lift?**
- A. Only during maintenance
 - B. Before each lift
 - C. Once a month
 - D. Whenever convenient
- 8. What can the ground pressure exerted by a crane to the ground approach?**
- A. The weight of the crane only
 - B. The weight of the suspended load only
 - C. Both the weight of the crane and the suspended load
 - D. The combined weight of the surrounding equipment
- 9. When inspecting the boom on a telescopic boom crane, which item should be inspected?**
- A. Hydraulic fluid levels
 - B. Wear pads
 - C. Electrical connections
 - D. Counterweights
- 10. Which clearance is necessary when working near power lines above 50kV?**
- A. 10 ft
 - B. 15 ft
 - C. 20 ft
 - D. 25 ft

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. To ensure load chart ratings are valid, a crane must be level within what percentage?

- A. 0.5%
- B. 1%**
- C. 2%
- D. 3%

A crane must be level within 1% to ensure that load chart ratings are valid. This specification is crucial because a crane that is not level can significantly affect its stability and load capacity. When the crane is tilted, uneven weight distribution can lead to an increased risk of tipping or failure, which poses serious safety hazards. Maintaining a level position ensures that the load is balanced and that the crane operates within its designed parameters. This is essential for safe lifting operations, as the load chart provides critical information regarding the crane's lifting capability based on various factors including load radius and configuration. Operating outside the specified level tolerance could invalidate the load chart data, posing risks to both operators and on-site personnel.

2. What function does the holding valve on a vertical outrigger jack perform?

- A. Hold pressure in the vertical ram if a hydraulic connection fails**
- B. Release hydraulic fluid when the jack is lowered
- C. Control the speed of the outrigger extension
- D. Indicate the level of stability during operation

The holding valve on a vertical outrigger jack is essential for maintaining safety and stability during crane operation. Its primary function is to hold pressure in the vertical ram of the jack if there is a hydraulic connection failure. This is crucial because, in the event of a hydraulic system malfunction, the holding valve prevents the jack from retracting unexpectedly, which could lead to a loss of support and potentially dangerous situations. By ensuring that the pressure remains in the ram, the holding valve keeps the outrigger extended and stable until the operator can safely address the hydraulic issue. This function highlights the importance of safety mechanisms in crane operations, contributing to overall equipment reliability and operator safety.

3. What effect does loosely spaced cribbing have on a crane's float pads?

- A. Increases mobility and flexibility
- B. Enhances load distribution
- C. Decreases stability and strength**
- D. Provides better drainage

Loosely spaced cribbing negatively impacts a crane's float pads by decreasing stability and strength. When cribbing is not packed tightly, it can create uneven support underneath the crane. This unevenness leads to a lack of proper weight distribution across the float pads, which can cause them to sink or shift under load. As a result, the risk of tipping or losing balance increases significantly. By ensuring the cribbing is tightly spaced, you create a solid and stable base for the crane, allowing it to operate more safely and effectively. Proper cribbing practices are essential to maintain the integrity and strength of the crane's setup while minimizing the risk of accidents associated with instability.

4. What may be required while traveling a crane without a load on a job site under or near power lines?

- A. A dedicated spotter**
- B. Additional counterweights
- C. An extra crane operator
- D. Warning lights on the crane

When traveling a crane without a load under or near power lines, having a dedicated spotter is often required as a safety measure. The role of the spotter is crucial in helping the crane operator maintain situational awareness regarding the proximity of the crane to the power lines. Power lines pose significant hazards due to the risk of electrocution, and the use of a spotter can help ensure the crane does not inadvertently come too close to these dangers. The spotter can provide visual guidance that the crane operator may not have when focusing on maneuvering the crane. This added layer of communication can be invaluable in preventing accidents, as they are positioned to observe any potential risks and can signal when adjustments are necessary. While other safety measures like additional counterweights, having an extra crane operator, or installing warning lights on the crane may contribute to overall safety on a job site, they do not specifically address the immediate risk posed by the presence of power lines. Therefore, the requirement for a dedicated spotter directly aligns with the need to safely navigate these electrical hazards.

5. Under what circumstance can hooks be used without latches?

- A. The application does not require it
- B. The latch is broken
- C. The application makes use of the latch impractical or unsafe**
- D. The load is lightweight

Hooks can be used without latches specifically when the application makes use of the latch impractical or unsafe. This is recognized in the industry because there are certain scenarios where using a latch could actually create a hazard rather than prevent one. For example, in situations where the hook is being used in a manner that may cause the latch to obstruct the load or interfere with the lifting process, it may be safer to operate without a latch. This does not negate the need for safety, rather it emphasizes that safety practices can vary depending on the context and nature of the lifting operation. In other cases, such as a broken latch, it is essential to repair or replace the latch before proceeding. Additionally, using hooks without latches under lightweight load conditions does not justify their removal because safety standards typically apply regardless of load weight. Finally, if the application does not require a latch, it still does not justify the absence of one unless specific safety evaluations determine that it is practical to operate without it. Hence, safety protocols are always prioritized in crane operations.

6. What happens to the minimum clearances as power line voltages intensify?

- A. Decrease
- B. Remain the same
- C. Increase**
- D. Become irrelevant

As power line voltages intensify, the minimum clearances required for crane operations increase. This is because higher voltages create a greater risk of electrical arcing and shock hazards. To ensure safety, the distance between power lines and cranes must be increased to prevent accidental contact or arcs that could lead to serious injuries or equipment damage. Regulatory standards and guidelines emphasize the importance of maintaining adequate distance, which is directly proportional to the voltage levels of the power lines. Therefore, as the voltage increases, so do the necessary clearances, making it crucial for operators to be aware of these requirements when working near power lines. Maintaining increased clearances helps to ensure compliance with safety regulations and protects workers and equipment in the vicinity of high voltage power lines.

7. How often should a crane operator check the load charts before making a lift?

- A. Only during maintenance
- B. Before each lift**
- C. Once a month
- D. Whenever convenient

A crane operator should check the load charts before each lift to ensure safe and effective operation. Load charts provide critical information about the crane's lifting capacities at various configurations, such as boom length and angle, load weight, and environmental conditions. By reviewing these charts before every lift, the operator can verify that the planned lift is within the safe operating limits of the crane, thereby reducing the risk of accidents or equipment failure. Regularly consulting the load charts is essential for adapting to any changes in the load being lifted, as well as considering the specific conditions at the job site. Variability in factors such as ground stability, rigging methods, and equipment setup may necessitate a reevaluation of the lift each time. This precaution helps uphold safety standards, ensures compliance with regulations, and protects both personnel and property during lifting operations.

8. What can the ground pressure exerted by a crane to the ground approach?

- A. The weight of the crane only
- B. The weight of the suspended load only
- C. Both the weight of the crane and the suspended load**
- D. The combined weight of the surrounding equipment

The ground pressure exerted by a crane is determined by examining both the weight of the crane itself and the weight of any suspended load. When a crane is operational, it transfers a portion of its weight along with the weight of the load it is lifting to the ground beneath it. The crane's own weight is a critical factor because it impacts the center of gravity and stability of the crane, while the weight of the suspended load must also be considered since it adds additional pressure to the ground as it is lifted. The combined effect of these weights ensures that the total ground pressure is greater than the weight of the crane alone or the load alone, thereby making the combined weight essential for calculating the overall impact on the ground. This understanding is crucial for ensuring that the ground can support the crane's operation without risking structural failure or instability. Proper assessment of ground pressure is also vital for selecting appropriate locations for crane setup and ensuring safety throughout the lifting process.

9. When inspecting the boom on a telescopic boom crane, which item should be inspected?

- A. Hydraulic fluid levels
- B. Wear pads**
- C. Electrical connections
- D. Counterweights

When inspecting the boom on a telescopic boom crane, it is essential to check the wear pads. These components play a critical role in the operation and stability of the crane's boom. Wear pads help to reduce friction and prevent damage to the boom's extension and retraction mechanisms. Over time, these pads can wear down due to constant movement and exposure to the elements, which could lead to uneven wear or even failure of the boom's ability to extend and retract smoothly. Regular inspection of wear pads ensures that they remain in good condition, which is crucial for safe operation and helps prevent more extensive repairs or accidents. While hydraulic fluid levels, electrical connections, and counterweights are all important aspects of crane maintenance and safety, they are not specific to the boom itself. Hydraulic fluid levels are relevant to the crane's overall hydraulic system, electrical connections pertain to the electrical systems that may control various crane functions, and counterweights are associated with maintaining balance during operation. Thus, although those elements should also be inspected as part of routine maintenance, the focus on wear pads for the boom specifically highlights an important safety concern in ensuring the functionality and reliability of the telescopic boom.

10. Which clearance is necessary when working near power lines above 50kV?

- A. 10 ft
- B. 15 ft
- C. 20 ft**
- D. 25 ft

When working near power lines that operate above 50kV, a clearance of 20 feet is required. This distance is defined to ensure the safety of workers and equipment by minimizing the risk of electrical hazards, such as arc flash or electric shock. High-voltage power lines can generate significant electric fields, and the recommended clearance provides a buffer zone to protect personnel from these dangers. This standard is in line with regulations set forth by organizations like OSHA and the National Electrical Safety Code, which emphasize the importance of maintaining appropriate distances from live electrical conductors to prevent accidents and injuries. Ensuring a minimum of 20 feet also accounts for the potential for equipment to sway or for personnel to inadvertently come too close while performing tasks.

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://ncccocore.examzify.com>

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

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