

National Investigators Exam (NIE) 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 must police do under S18 PACE when searching after an arrest?**
 - A. Only search for weapons**
 - B. Request permission from the suspect for the search**
 - C. Provide a written plan for gaining entry**
 - D. Conduct the search without any documentation**

- 2. Which of the following best describes volume crime?**
 - A. Involves serious violence or financial gain**
 - B. Any crime affecting community safety**
 - C. Collaborative crime requiring multiple agencies**
 - D. Indictable offences with extensive injuries**

- 3. What is the purpose of screens in a courtroom for witnesses?**
 - A. To ensure privacy from the jury**
 - B. To enhance visibility for the witness**
 - C. To prevent intimidation from the accused**
 - D. To allow for camera recordings**

- 4. What is a primary purpose of intelligence-led policing?**
 - A. To increase the number of arrests**
 - B. To illegally surveil individuals to gather information**
 - C. To target criminals rather than merely responding to crimes**
 - D. To monitor police officer conduct during investigations**

- 5. What authority does S50 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act grant?**
 - A. Power to arrest suspects**
 - B. Power to seize and sift evidence**
 - C. Power to negotiate plea deals**
 - D. Power to conduct interviews with witnesses**

- 6. What is meant by 'perjury'?**
- A. Signing a legal document without reading it**
 - B. The act of lying under oath during legal proceedings**
 - C. Giving false information in a witness statement**
 - D. Failing to appear in court when summoned**
- 7. What defines an offensive weapon legally?**
- A. Any sharp object**
 - B. Made or adapted for causing injury**
 - C. Any item in a fight**
 - D. Weapons over a certain length**
- 8. Which group does the witness charter NOT apply to?**
- A. Expert witnesses**
 - B. Minors under 18**
 - C. Victims of crime**
 - D. Police witnesses**
- 9. What is the requirement for a search under S18(5) of PACE?**
- A. Must inform the suspect before the search**
 - B. Must inform an inspector if efficiency of search is a concern**
 - C. Must have backup officers present**
 - D. Must provide a written record of the search**
- 10. Which of the following is true regarding the justification of indirect discrimination?**
- A. It cannot be justified under any circumstance**
 - B. It can only be justified if it serves a legitimate aim**
 - C. It is always justified if concerning a group**
 - D. It requires proof of negative intent**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What must police do under S18 PACE when searching after an arrest?

- A. Only search for weapons**
- B. Request permission from the suspect for the search**
- C. Provide a written plan for gaining entry**
- D. Conduct the search without any documentation**

Under Section 18 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE), police officers are obligated to conduct searches following an arrest in a manner that is both systematic and justified. This includes the requirement to have a clear, documented plan for entering and searching premises where they believe evidence related to the offense might be found. The correct answer highlights the importance of procedural integrity in police operations, particularly in safeguarding the rights of the individual being searched and ensuring that evidence is properly handled according to legal standards. Without such documentation, there could be grounds for questioning the legality of the search and any potential evidence obtained, making it critical that a plan is in place and followed. In contrast, limiting the search to only weapons would not fulfill the requirements of the law as officers must also search for evidence related to the suspected crime. Requesting permission from the suspect is not required under S18 PACE; rather, the police have the authority to search as part of their lawful duties post-arrest. Finally, conducting the search without any documentation fails to meet legal standards and would likely compromise the validity of any evidence found.

2. Which of the following best describes volume crime?

- A. Involves serious violence or financial gain**
- B. Any crime affecting community safety**
- C. Collaborative crime requiring multiple agencies**
- D. Indictable offences with extensive injuries**

Volume crime refers to criminal offenses that are typically common and have a significant impact on community safety, such as theft, vandalism, and minor assaults. These offenses often occur frequently and can affect a large number of people, which is why they are characterized as volume crimes. This choice appropriately captures the essence of volume crime by emphasizing its effect on community safety and its prevalence. Volume crimes can lead to an increased feeling of insecurity in communities and often require police resources to address effectively. The other choices do not align with the definition of volume crime. Serious violence or financial gain relates more to severe crimes, collaborative crime implies the necessity of multiple agencies for its execution, and indictable offenses with extensive injuries focus on serious offenses rather than the frequency and prevalence that define volume crime.

3. What is the purpose of screens in a courtroom for witnesses?

- A. To ensure privacy from the jury
- B. To enhance visibility for the witness
- C. To prevent intimidation from the accused**
- D. To allow for camera recordings

The purpose of screens in a courtroom for witnesses primarily revolves around the protection of witnesses from potential intimidation by the accused. In cases where the nature of testimony could be distressing or where the witness may fear retaliation or intimidation from the defendant, having a screen provides a physical barrier. This helps ensure that the witness can provide their testimony comfortably and without the psychological pressure that might arise from direct eye contact or the presence of the accused in close proximity. While other options may present valid scenarios, such as privacy concerns and visibility, the central role of the screen is focused on facilitating a safer environment for witnesses, encouraging them to speak freely and honestly without the fear of intimidation affecting their testimony.

4. What is a primary purpose of intelligence-led policing?

- A. To increase the number of arrests
- B. To illegally surveil individuals to gather information
- C. To target criminals rather than merely responding to crimes**
- D. To monitor police officer conduct during investigations

The primary purpose of intelligence-led policing is to focus on targeting criminals and criminal activities rather than simply responding to crimes after they occur. This proactive approach emphasizes the use of intelligence gathering and analysis to identify potential threats and crime patterns, which allows law enforcement agencies to allocate resources more effectively and prevent crime before it happens. By concentrating on the behavior and operations of individuals engaged in criminal activity, law enforcement can develop strategies that are more efficient and effective, striking at the root of crime rather than just addressing the symptoms. This methodology also enhances community safety overall, as it aims to disrupt and dismantle criminal networks and activities, thereby reducing crime rates in the long term. The other choices do not align with the foundational goals of intelligence-led policing. Increasing the number of arrests does not necessarily correlate with effective policing if those arrests do not contribute to crime prevention. Illegally surveilling individuals contradicts ethical policing practices and could undermine public trust. Monitoring officer conduct, while important for accountability, is not the central focus of intelligence-led policing, which prioritizes crime reduction through targeted intelligence efforts.

5. What authority does S50 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act grant?

- A. Power to arrest suspects**
- B. Power to seize and sift evidence**
- C. Power to negotiate plea deals**
- D. Power to conduct interviews with witnesses**

S50 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act provides law enforcement with the authority to seize and sift through evidence during investigations. This power is crucial because it allows investigators to collect relevant information that may be critical in building a case. The provision ensures that officers can act to prevent the destruction of evidence and maintain its integrity for prosecution purposes. The act is designed to streamline the process of dealing with evidence, making it easier for police officers to perform their duties effectively. This authority is particularly important in maintaining the chain of custody and ensuring that all obtained evidence is handled in compliance with legal standards. The other choices relate to different aspects of police work but do not accurately reflect the specific authority granted under S50. Power to arrest suspects typically falls under different legal statutes. Negotiating plea deals is a function typically associated with prosecutors, not law enforcement officers, while conducting interviews with witnesses falls within general investigative procedures rather than the specific authority related to evidence as outlined in S50.

6. What is meant by 'perjury'?

- A. Signing a legal document without reading it**
- B. The act of lying under oath during legal proceedings**
- C. Giving false information in a witness statement**
- D. Failing to appear in court when summoned**

Perjury specifically refers to the act of deliberately lying while under oath during legal proceedings. This is a serious offense as it undermines the integrity of the judicial system by obstructing justice and compromising the reliability of legal testimonies. When individuals take an oath, they affirm their commitment to tell the truth, and violating this oath by providing false information can lead to significant legal repercussions, including penalties or imprisonment. The other options involve different legal concepts but do not accurately define perjury. Signing a legal document without reading it pertains more to issues of consent or understanding rather than truthfulness. Giving false information in a witness statement can intersect with perjury but may not always occur under oath, which is a critical element of the definition of perjury. Lastly, failing to appear in court when summoned relates to contempt of court rather than the act of lying.

7. What defines an offensive weapon legally?

- A. Any sharp object
- B. Made or adapted for causing injury**
- C. Any item in a fight
- D. Weapons over a certain length

The legal definition of an offensive weapon focuses on the intent and design of the item in question. An offensive weapon is characterized as one that is made or adapted specifically for the purpose of causing injury to a person. This distinction is critical because it emphasizes the weapon's intended use rather than simply its physical characteristics or the situations in which it is wielded. In contrast, identifying an item merely as any sharp object lacks the specificity and legal grounding necessary to categorize it as an offensive weapon. While sharp objects can be used in an offensive manner, not all sharp objects are created or modified for that specific purpose. Similarly, categorizing an item as any item in a fight ignores the necessary criteria that relate to its construction or adaptation for causing harm. This broader definition also fails to meet the legal standards which require a focus on the weapon's intent and design. Lastly, defining an offensive weapon solely based on length does not capture the essence of what constitutes a weapon. Many weapons can be effective regardless of their size or length, and therefore, the criteria for defining an offensive weapon must include its design and intended use. Thus, the emphasis on being made or adapted for causing injury provides a precise legal definition that captures the intent behind the weapon's existence, making it

8. Which group does the witness charter NOT apply to?

- A. Expert witnesses**
- B. Minors under 18
- C. Victims of crime
- D. Police witnesses

The witness charter is designed to provide support and protections to certain individuals involved in the legal process, ensuring their rights and well-being during investigations and trials. While it specifically applies to vulnerable groups such as victims of crime and minors under 18, it also includes provisions that extend to a range of witnesses, including police witnesses. In regard to expert witnesses, they are typically not covered under the witness charter in the same way as the aforementioned groups. This is because expert witnesses are brought into the legal process primarily for their specialized knowledge and analysis, rather than to recount personal experiences or victimization. Their role is to provide technical insights that assist in the understanding of evidence or complex matters, and thus they do not require the same protections and support as victims or minors, who may face emotional or psychological challenges in the courtroom setting.

9. What is the requirement for a search under S18(5) of PACE?

- A. Must inform the suspect before the search**
- B. Must inform an inspector if efficiency of search is a concern**
- C. Must have backup officers present**
- D. Must provide a written record of the search**

The requirement under S18(5) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) focuses on the necessity of informing an inspector when the efficiency of a search is a concern. This section stipulates that if the officer conducting the search believes that the efficiency of the search may be at risk, they are obligated to notify an inspector. This is important as it helps maintain oversight of the search process and ensures that protocol is followed, particularly in complex situations where evidence gathering may be compromised. The other choices, while they may have relevance to general search protocols, do not specifically align with the stipulations of S18(5) of PACE. For instance, informing a suspect before the search, having backup officers, or providing a written record are not mandatory under this specific subsection and would depend on the context of the search and other procedural guidelines rather than this particular requirement.

10. Which of the following is true regarding the justification of indirect discrimination?

- A. It cannot be justified under any circumstance**
- B. It can only be justified if it serves a legitimate aim**
- C. It is always justified if concerning a group**
- D. It requires proof of negative intent**

The statement that indirect discrimination can be justified if it serves a legitimate aim is accurate because legal frameworks often provide the means to assess whether policies or practices that indirectly disadvantage a group can be defended. In these contexts, a distinction is made between practices that are ostensibly neutral but may impact certain groups more significantly than others. To be justified, the action must pursue an objective that is legitimate, such as promoting equality, public health, or safety, and must be necessary to achieve that objective. This means there is a clear, acceptable reason for the policy or practice in question, and it must be proportionate to the aim being pursued. This legal concept acknowledges that while the intention might not be discriminatory, a practice may lead to unequal outcomes, hence requiring a justification that focuses on the need for the action rather than simply its effects. In contrast, options suggesting that indirect discrimination cannot ever be justified or that it requires proof of negative intent misunderstand the legal framework governing discrimination. While protective measures are critical, they do not negate the possibility that indirect discrimination may be justified under specific circumstances when justified by a legitimate aim. The idea that it is always justified concerning a group overlooks the nuanced nature of indirect discrimination, which can sometimes lead to unintentional harm.

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://nationalinvestigatorexam.examzify.com>

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

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