

NATTC Pensacola Personnel Qualification Standards (PQS) 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 action occurs immediately after 'Uncase the colors' in Morning Colors?**
 - A. Post the colors**
 - B. Uncase the colors again**
 - C. Hand salute**
 - D. Ready two**

- 2. General Order #2 specifies you must do which of the following?**
 - A. To quit my post only when properly relieved.**
 - B. To give the alarm in case of fire or disorder.**
 - C. To walk my post in a military manner, keeping always on the alert, and observing everything that takes place within sight or hearing.**
 - D. To call the officer of the deck in any case not covered by instructions.**

- 3. General Order #8 directs you to take which action in the event of fire or disorder?**
 - A. To notify the chain of command.**
 - B. To investigate the incident personally.**
 - C. To delay action until relieved.**
 - D. To give the alarm in case of fire or disorder.**

- 4. What identifies the CDO?**
 - A. Gold pin on the uniform**
 - B. White identification lanyard**
 - C. Blue cuff insignia**
 - D. Red badge with CDO**

- 5. As an internal fire rover, is it permissible to take a 15-minute rest break?**
 - A. Yes, it is allowed**
 - B. Never as I should always be roving**
 - C. Only after completing rounds**
 - D. Only during emergencies**

- 6. What times are colors observed?**
- A. 1200 and 1800**
 - B. 0800 and sunset**
 - C. 0800 and 1600**
 - D. 0600 and 1800**
- 7. Who is the NATTC Executive Officer?**
- A. Captain Harper**
 - B. Captain Polito**
 - C. Captain Brown**
 - D. Commander Smith**
- 8. On the quarterdeck, when you are not wearing both shoulder straps, how should you transport a backpack?**
- A. Fully mounted on back with straps on both shoulders**
 - B. Left on bench**
 - C. Hand carried in the left hand**
 - D. Carried in the right hand**
- 9. What is the authorized reading material while on watch?**
- A. Navy regulations handbook**
 - B. The Blue Jackets Manual**
 - C. The Naval War College Review**
 - D. Crewman's personal novel**
- 10. How many actions occur in Morning Colors before 'Post the colors' is executed?**
- A. Four**
 - B. Five**
 - C. Six**
 - D. Seven**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which action occurs immediately after 'Uncase the colors' in Morning Colors?

- A. Post the colors**
- B. Uncase the colors again**
- C. Hand salute**
- D. Ready two**

In a Morning Colors ceremony, uncase the colors means to take the flags out of their protective case and present them for display. The natural next step is to post the colors, which means raising the flags on the flagstaff so they are visibly displayed and honored. This order keeps the ceremony moving from preparation to proper presentation, allowing the honors (like salutes or music) to follow once the colors are clearly displayed. Uncase again would be redundant, hand salute typically comes after the colors are posted, and ready two is a later preparatory cue rather than the immediate action.

2. General Order #2 specifies you must do which of the following?

- A. To quit my post only when properly relieved.**
- B. To give the alarm in case of fire or disorder.**
- C. To walk my post in a military manner, keeping always on the alert, and observing everything that takes place within sight or hearing.**
- D. To call the officer of the deck in any case not covered by instructions.**

General Order 2 requires a sentry to walk the post in a military manner, stay always on the alert, and observe everything that takes place within sight or hearing. This combination ensures continuous vigilance and immediate awareness of any activity or threat, so the guard can respond quickly and appropriately. The emphasis is on proper posture and constant observation, which is the foundation of effective guard duties. The other statements describe different orders—leaving the post only when properly relieved, sounding an alarm for fire or disorder, reporting violations, and calling the officer of the deck for situations not covered by instructions—which are important but address separate aspects of guard responsibilities.

3. General Order #8 directs you to take which action in the event of fire or disorder?

- A. To notify the chain of command.**
- B. To investigate the incident personally.**
- C. To delay action until relieved.**
- D. To give the alarm in case of fire or disorder.**

The action tested is the immediate alarm in case of fire or disorder. General Order number eight tells you to give the alarm right away to alert everyone and start the emergency response. Fire or disorder can spread quickly, so sounding the alarm without delay ensures others can take protective actions, mobilize responders, and follow the proper safety procedures. Notifying the chain of command is important, but it happens as part of or after the alarm is sounded—the alarm itself is the first step that triggers all subsequent actions. Investigating personally would waste precious seconds and distract from safety, and delaying action until relieved is unsafe in an emergency.

4. What identifies the CDO?

- A. Gold pin on the uniform**
- B. White identification lanyard**
- C. Blue cuff insignia**
- D. Red badge with CDO**

The person in charge on deck, the Command Duty Officer, is identified by a red badge bearing the letters CDO. This red badge is a clear, universal signal that allows everyone onboard to recognize who has command authority during the watch, ensuring quick and correct direction and decision-making when needed. The other items don't designate that role—gold pins are for other awards or qualifications, blue cuff insignia indicate rank or specialty, and a white identification lanyard is used for different purposes and does not identify the CDO.

5. As an internal fire rover, is it permissible to take a 15-minute rest break?

- A. Yes, it is allowed**
- B. Never as I should always be roving**
- C. Only after completing rounds**
- D. Only during emergencies**

The main idea here is that this watch requires continuous vigilance. An internal fire rover must stay alert and moving to detect any signs of fire and respond immediately. Taking a 15-minute rest would create a gap in coverage and delay detection and response if a fire starts or spreads. Rest is only acceptable if someone officially relieves you so your post remains continuously watched; otherwise, you stay roving. That's why the choice that says you should never take a break is the best fit—the responsibility is to maintain uninterrupted monitoring. The other options imply resting under circumstances that would leave the area unwatched or delay critical actions, which isn't appropriate for this duty.

6. What times are colors observed?

- A. 1200 and 1800
- B. 0800 and sunset**
- C. 0800 and 1600
- D. 0600 and 1800

Colors ceremonies mark the start and end of the workday with the flag: the morning colors typically occur around 0800, and the evening colors are observed at sunset. So the pair that fits this routine is 0800 and sunset. Other options place colors at times that don't align with the traditional start-and-end-of-day schedule (noon, mid-afternoon, or pre-dawn times), which is why they aren't correct.

7. Who is the NATTC Executive Officer?

- A. Captain Harper
- B. Captain Polito
- C. Captain Brown
- D. Commander Smith**

The Executive Officer is the deputy to the Commanding Officer, responsible for daily operations, readiness, safety, and ensuring smooth mission execution. At NATTC Pensacola, this deputy role is held by an officer with the rank of Commander, which aligns with how many Navy training commands are structured. Commander Smith fits this pattern, making him the person who typically fills the executive officer position. The other options list Captains, who are more often the commanding officers of their units rather than the deputy, so they don't match the usual XO assignment.

8. On the quarterdeck, when you are not wearing both shoulder straps, how should you transport a backpack?

- A. Fully mounted on back with straps on both shoulders
- B. Left on bench
- C. Hand carried in the left hand**
- D. Carried in the right hand

When you're on the quarterdeck and you're not wearing both shoulder straps, you carry the backpack by its handle in your left hand. This keeps the right hand free for salutes, commands, or signaling, and prevents the pack from swinging or getting in the way as you move and interact with others. Carrying it on the back isn't allowed since the straps aren't being worn, leaving you without proper support and balance. Leaving the pack on a bench isn't appropriate while you're in the area, and carrying it in the right hand would tie up that hand and slow your response to duties or instructions.

9. What is the authorized reading material while on watch?

- A. Navy regulations handbook
- B. The Blue Jackets Manual**
- C. The Naval War College Review
- D. Crewman's personal novel

Reading while on watch relies on having an official, portable reference that covers shipboard procedures and responsibilities. The Blue Jackets Manual functions as that primary source because it consolidates how the crew is organized, who's in charge, and what the standard watchstanding duties and procedures are. It provides the authoritative guidance for daily operations, routine checks, and emergency actions, so you can consult it quickly if something comes up without pulling in unrelated material. Other options aren't appropriate: a general Navy regulations handbook isn't the standard pocket reference sailors carry on watch, an academic periodical like the Naval War College Review isn't a practical field manual for day-to-day watch duties, and a crewman's personal novel could distract you from duties and isn't an official reference.

10. How many actions occur in Morning Colors before 'Post the colors' is executed?

- A. Four
- B. Five**
- C. Six
- D. Seven

Morning Colors follows a fixed, formal sequence where every movement and action is timed and observable. Before the command to post the colors is given, five distinct actions take place. First, the color detail reports in and forms at the color line. Second, the colors are brought forward from storage and prepared for posting. Third, the color guard moves into position, takes proper bearing, and aligns with the color staff. Fourth, the guard and deck are checked for readiness and the area is cleared of distractions. Fifth, the duty detail signals readiness and the area is confirmed as ready to proceed. Only after these steps is the command to post the colors executed.

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://nattcpensacolapqs.examzify.com>

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

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