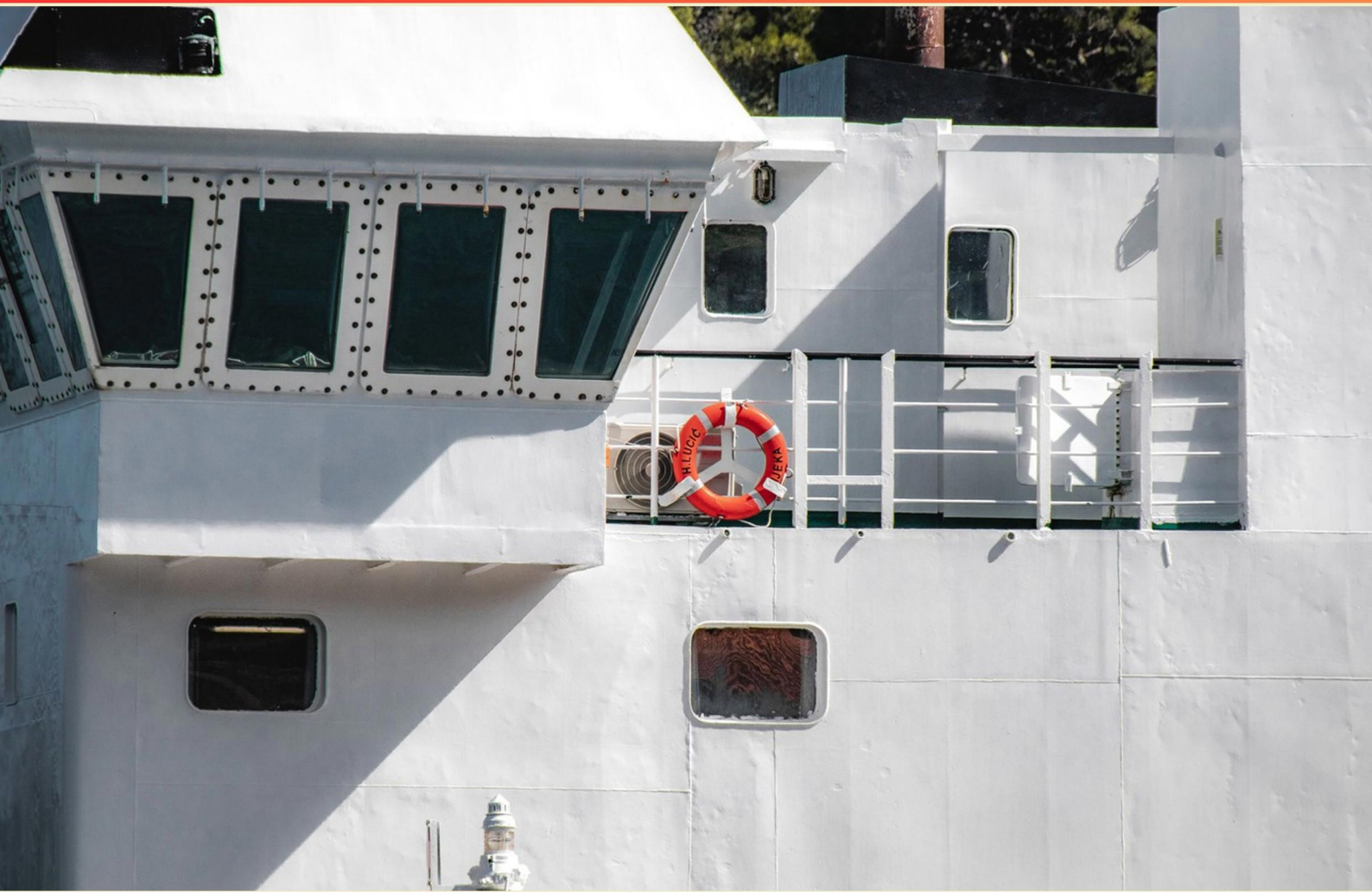


NAVIGATION, SEAMANSHIP, AND SHIPHANDLING (NSS) – OFFICER OF THE DECK (OOD) PHASE 2 PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



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. What color pattern identifies a North Cardinal Buoy?**
 - A. Red & White
 - B. Black & Yellow
 - C. Black & White
 - D. Red & Black

- 2. Which is the recommended response to GPS spoofing?**
 - A. Ensure WSN-7 properly calibrated
 - B. Call SSES
 - C. Ensure GPS systems keyed
 - D. DON'T RESTART GPS SYSTEMS

- 3. Which description best summarizes a high-pressure system's weather pattern?**
 - A. Winds blow outward and clockwise around the center; slow moving; good weather
 - B. Winds converge toward center; stormy weather
 - C. Winds cross isobars without pattern
 - D. Winds are nonexistent

- 4. Which horizontal datum is used on nautical charts?**
 - A. NAD83
 - B. ETRS89
 - C. WGS-84
 - D. ED50

- 5. Azimuth is defined as a horizontal angle measured clockwise from which reference line?**
 - A. East base line
 - B. North base line
 - C. South base line
 - D. West base line

6. Which term describes navigational rights in international waters?

- A. Coastal Navigation
- B. High Seas Transit
- C. Territorial Waters
- D. Exclusive Economic Zone

7. Cloud Form Roots: Which cloud form is described as puffy?

- A. Cirrus - wispy
- B. Cumulus - puffy
- C. Stratus - sheet
- D. Nimbus - rain cloud

8. Circle of Equal Altitude (LOP) is

- A. A circle centered on the observer's position with radius equal to the body's altitude measured along the horizon.
- B. A great circle passing through the celestial body.
- C. A line of equal azimuth.
- D. A circular LOP centered on a celestial body's geographic position, with radius equal to the zenith distance ($1^\circ = 60 \text{ NM}$)

9. What is Relative Humidity?

- A. The dryness of the air
- B. The amount of water vapor in the air
- C. The percentage of water vapor in the air compared to the maximum amount of water vapor that air can contain at a particular temperature
- D. The current air temperature

10. What are the 2 portions of propeller current?

- A. Suction Current (forward of propeller) and Discharge Current (provides wash over rudder)
- B. Discharge Current (provides wash over rudder) and Suction Current (forward of propeller)
- C. Intake Current and Exhaust Current
- D. Forward Current and Aft Current

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What color pattern identifies a North Cardinal Buoy?

- A. Red & White
- B. Black & Yellow**
- C. Black & White
- D. Red & Black

Cardinal marks use a black and yellow color scheme to identify their type, with the arrangement of the bands indicating direction. A North Cardinal Buoy is identified by the black-and-yellow pattern, which signals that safe water lies to the north of the mark. This color combination is specific to cardinal marks, distinguishing them from other buoy types that use red/white, black/white, or red/black patterns.

2. Which is the recommended response to GPS spoofing?

- A. Ensure WSN-7 properly calibrated
- B. Call SSES
- C. Ensure GPS systems keyed
- D. DON'T RESTART GPS SYSTEMS**

When GNSS signals are suspected of being manipulated, the priority is to preserve a trustworthy navigation solution while the situation is assessed. Rebooting or power-cycling GPS receivers can cause them to re-acquire signals that may still be spoofed, reintroducing a misleading position and time fix. That's why the recommended action is not to restart the GPS systems. Instead, rely on other navigation sources to maintain safety: use radar to verify relative positions to known objects, gyro or flux gate for heading, the ship's speed log for motion, and perform dead reckoning to sustain a current track. Cross-check any GPS-derived data with these independent sources, and only resume full GNSS trust after confirming the spoofing issue has been resolved through proper procedures. If applicable, report the anomaly per ship's protocols and engage the appropriate authorities.

3. Which description best summarizes a high-pressure system's weather pattern?

- A. Winds blow outward and clockwise around the center; slow moving; good weather**
- B. Winds converge toward center; stormy weather
- C. Winds cross isobars without pattern
- D. Winds are nonexistent

High-pressure systems feature sinking air that spreads out at the surface, creating outward flow from the center. In the Northern Hemisphere, the Coriolis effect deflects this outward motion to the right, resulting in a clockwise circulation around the center. Because the pressure gradient is usually gentle for a broad high, the winds are typically light and slow-moving. This combination—outward and clockwise winds around the center, slow movement, and generally fair, stable weather—best describes a high-pressure system. By contrast, a low-pressure system draws air inward toward the center and tends to bring clouds and storms, and winds crossing isobars isn't the defining pattern of a steady high.

4. Which horizontal datum is used on nautical charts?

- A. NAD83
- B. ETRS89
- C. WGS-84**
- D. ED50

Horizontal datum is the reference model that tells you where coordinates on a chart actually sit on the Earth. For nautical charts, the standard global reference used is WGS-84 because it aligns with GPS data and is adopted across modern charts to keep fixes and chart positions consistent worldwide. Using WGS-84 ensures that a position derived from GNSS matches the charted position without offsets. Other options like NAD83, ETRS89, or ED50 are regional or older datums and can introduce mismatches if used instead of the global standard.

5. Azimuth is defined as a horizontal angle measured clockwise from which reference line?

- A. East base line
- B. North base line**
- C. South base line
- D. West base line

Azimuth is the horizontal angle measured clockwise from true north. This north reference line provides a fixed baseline so directions can be expressed consistently; 0° points to north, 90° to the east, 180° to the south, and 270° to the west. In practice, you take the direction to the object and measure the angle clockwise from that north line. If you used a different reference line, the numbers would shift accordingly.

6. Which term describes navigational rights in international waters?

- A. Coastal Navigation
- B. High Seas Transit**
- C. Territorial Waters
- D. Exclusive Economic Zone

Freedom of navigation on the high seas is the concept being tested. Beyond the reach of coastal states, ships have the right to move, sail, and transit through international waters under international law, subject to safety and other universal rules. The term that best describes these navigational rights is High Seas Transit, which captures the ability to traverse the high seas. The other areas describe different zones: Coastal Navigation is nearshore, Territorial Waters are within 12 nautical miles where the state has sovereignty, and the Exclusive Economic Zone extends up to 200 nautical miles with resource controls but still allows freedom of navigation. So, High Seas Transit aligns with the rights you have in international waters.

7. Cloud Form Roots: Which cloud form is described as puffy?

- A. Cirrus - wispy
- B. Cumulus - puffy**
- C. Stratus - sheet
- D. Nimbus - rain cloud

Puffy clouds come from vertical air movement that builds rounded, cottony masses. The cloud form that matches this description is cumulus—the classic cotton-ball clouds with a flat base and a puffed, bulbous top. Cirrus clouds are wispy and high, stratus form a gray sheet, and nimbus refers to rain-bearing clouds (often associated with cumulonimbus or nimbostratus).

8. Circle of Equal Altitude (LOP) is

- A. A circle centered on the observer's position with radius equal to the body's altitude measured along the horizon.
- B. A great circle passing through the celestial body.
- C. A line of equal azimuth.
- D. A circular LOP centered on a celestial body's geographic position, with radius equal to the zenith distance ($1^\circ = 60 \text{ NM}$)**

The Circle of Equal Altitude is the set of all positions on the Earth from which the celestial body would be seen at the same observed altitude. This locus forms a circle on the Earth's surface with its center at the body's geographic position (the subpoint of the body). The radius of that circle is the zenith distance, which is 90° minus the observed altitude. Since 1 degree of arc on the Earth equals 60 nautical miles, the radius in nautical miles is zenith distance times 60. So the most accurate description is a circular LOP centered on the celestial body's geographic position, with radius equal to the zenith distance.

9. What is Relative Humidity?

- A. The dryness of the air
- B. The amount of water vapor in the air
- C. The percentage of water vapor in the air compared to the maximum amount of water vapor that air can contain at a particular temperature**
- D. The current air temperature

Relative humidity measures how close the air is to being saturated with water vapor at the current temperature. It's not just how much water vapor is present (that would be absolute humidity) and it isn't the air's temperature itself. The key is the saturation amount: the maximum water vapor the air can hold increases with temperature. So relative humidity is the actual amount of water vapor divided by that maximum, expressed as a percentage. For example, if the air contains water vapor at a level that's half of what it could hold at that temperature, the relative humidity is about 50%. If the temperature rises without adding moisture, the air can hold more vapor, so the relative humidity drops; if it cools, the relative humidity rises toward 100% as saturation is approached. This concept is essential for understanding condensation, dew point, and comfort conditions in ships and work areas.

10. What are the 2 portions of propeller current?

- A. Suction Current (forward of propeller) and Discharge Current (provides wash over rudder)
- B. Discharge Current (provides wash over rudder) and Suction Current (forward of propeller)
- C. Intake Current and Exhaust Current
- D. Forward Current and Aft Current

The water flow created by a propeller has two distinct parts that matter for steering. One is the suction current, which is the water drawn toward the propeller on the forward side. The other is the discharge current, the water expelled behind the propeller that forms a wake and washes over the rudder, helping to drive its effectiveness. This wake over the rudder is why the rudder works even when the ship is moving slowly or under power. Terms like intake/exhaust or vague forward/aft currents don't capture these two distinct and interacting parts of the propeller's wake.

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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://nssoodphase2.examzify.com>

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

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