

Navy Officer Candidate School (OCS) Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	16

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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 rank has a collar device of a silver eagle?**
 - A. Captain**
 - B. Commander**
 - C. Lieutenant**
 - D. Chief Warrant Officer Five**

- 2. Which position is held by Admiral Richardson in the chain of command?**
 - A. Chief of Naval Operations**
 - B. Commanding Officer**
 - C. Class Officer**
 - D. Class Chief Petty Officer**

- 3. Which phrase reflects the core identity of the United States Marines according to the Marines' Hymn?**
 - A. We are proud to claim the title**
 - B. First to fight for right and freedom**
 - C. Our flag's unfurled to every breeze**
 - D. To keep our honor clean**

- 4. How many chevrons does a Sergeant (Sgt) wear?**
 - A. 1 chevron**
 - B. 2 chevrons**
 - C. 3 chevrons**
 - D. 3 chevrons above crossed rifles**

- 5. What trait is demonstrated by someone who puts the welfare of others above their own?**
 - A. Integrity**
 - B. Unselfishness**
 - C. Enthusiasm**
 - D. Confidence**

- 6. What type of training is primarily used to handle leadership conflicts at OCS?**
- A. Team-building exercises**
 - B. Conflict resolution training**
 - C. Crisis management simulations**
 - D. Peer mediation workshops**
- 7. What is the purpose of the tactical training phase at OCS?**
- A. To enhance physical fitness**
 - B. To teach candidates about naval operations**
 - C. To prepare for academic exams**
 - D. To practice administrative skills**
- 8. What does the acronym "SEAL" stand for in the context of Navy training?**
- A. Sea, Air, and Land**
 - B. Sea, Energy, and Land**
 - C. Surface, Air, and Land**
 - D. Strategic, Effective, and Land**
- 9. What is the highest rank listed that has no collar device or sleeve insignia?**
- A. Private**
 - B. Private First Class**
 - C. Lance Corporal**
 - D. Corporal**
- 10. Which title corresponds to a Navy E-9 rank?**
- A. Petty Officer Third Class**
 - B. Master Chief Petty Officer**
 - C. Petty Officer Second Class**
 - D. Chief Warrant Officer Two**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which rank has a collar device of a silver eagle?

- A. Captain**
- B. Commander**
- C. Lieutenant**
- D. Chief Warrant Officer Five**

The rank that features a collar device of a silver eagle is the rank of Captain. In the U.S. Navy, a Captain is an officer at the O-6 level. The silver eagle insignia symbolizes authority and leadership, which are key characteristics associated with this rank. The insignia distinguishes a Captain from other ranks and signifies their level of responsibility and command within the Navy's hierarchy. It's important to understand the visual identity of ranks as it plays a critical role in military protocol and the chain of command.

2. Which position is held by Admiral Richardson in the chain of command?

- A. Chief of Naval Operations**
- B. Commanding Officer**
- C. Class Officer**
- D. Class Chief Petty Officer**

Admiral Richardson served as the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) from 2015 to 2019. In this role, he was the highest-ranking officer in the United States Navy and was responsible for the command, utilization of resources, and operational effectiveness of the Navy. The CNO is a key member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and advises the Secretary of the Navy and the President on naval matters. This position is critical within the chain of command as it directly influences strategic direction and readiness of the Navy, while also being pivotal in liaising with other branches of the military and national defense entities. The responsibilities and authority associated with the CNO position underscore its significance compared to other roles in the military hierarchy, such as a Commanding Officer, Class Officer, or Class Chief Petty Officer, which focus more on specific units or training groups.

3. Which phrase reflects the core identity of the United States Marines according to the Marines' Hymn?

- A. We are proud to claim the title**
- B. First to fight for right and freedom**
- C. Our flag's unfurled to every breeze**
- D. To keep our honor clean**

The phrase that best reflects the core identity of the United States Marines according to the Marines' Hymn is one that encapsulates the pride and honor associated with being a Marine. The chosen response emphasizes the significance of the title "Marine," which is not just a label but a symbol of dedication, service, and commitment to the values and mission of the Marine Corps. This sense of pride is intrinsic to the Marine Corps identity, fostering a strong bond among its members and a profound commitment to their duties. While other phrases in the hymn highlight important aspects such as the readiness to fight for freedom and the importance of honor, the essence captured in the chosen phrase conveys a deeper, personal identification with the Marines' values. This connection to identity and title establishes a strong foundation for the culture and ethos within the Marine Corps community, reinforcing the profound sense of belonging and duty that defines Marines.

4. How many chevrons does a Sergeant (Sgt) wear?

- A. 1 chevron**
- B. 2 chevrons**
- C. 3 chevrons**
- D. 3 chevrons above crossed rifles**

A Sergeant (Sgt) in the U.S. Army wears three chevrons. This insignia represents their rank and is a fundamental part of military uniform regulations, symbolizing their leadership role and experience. It is essential to understand that the chevron insignia is used to denote ranks and can vary across different branches of the military. In this case, the three chevrons indicate a non-commissioned officer (NCO) status, signifying that the individual has progressed through their training and is recognized for their capabilities to lead and manage troops. The additional insignia, such as crossed rifles, may appear on the uniforms of other rank levels, but for a Sergeant, it is the three chevrons that are designated.

5. What trait is demonstrated by someone who puts the welfare of others above their own?

- A. Integrity**
- B. Unselfishness**
- C. Enthusiasm**
- D. Confidence**

The trait demonstrated by someone who places the welfare of others above their own is unselfishness. This characteristic reflects a selfless disposition, wherein individuals prioritize the needs and well-being of others, often sacrificing their own interests in the process. Unselfishness is fundamental in leadership and teamwork, particularly in military settings, where the success of a mission often relies on the ability of individuals to support one another and work collaboratively for the common good. In contrast, integrity refers to adhering to moral and ethical principles, which, while important, does not exclusively encompass the idea of prioritizing others' welfare. Enthusiasm relates to a passion or eagerness for tasks, and while it contributes to a positive environment, it doesn't specifically address selflessness. Confidence involves self-assurance in one's abilities, which is crucial for effective leadership but again does not focus on the aspect of prioritizing others. Therefore, unselfishness is the key trait here, as it directly aligns with the behavior of putting others first.

6. What type of training is primarily used to handle leadership conflicts at OCS?

- A. Team-building exercises**
- B. Conflict resolution training**
- C. Crisis management simulations**
- D. Peer mediation workshops**

The focus of training intended to handle leadership conflicts at Officer Candidate School (OCS) is primarily on conflict resolution training. This type of training equips candidates with essential skills to identify, address, and manage conflicts that can arise in leadership scenarios. Conflict resolution training emphasizes communication techniques, problem-solving strategies, and understanding diverse perspectives, all of which are critical in a military environment where teamwork and effective leadership are paramount. Through this training, candidates learn how to navigate challenging interpersonal situations, facilitating a constructive approach to resolving disagreements and fostering a cohesive unit. While team-building exercises, crisis management simulations, and peer mediation workshops play valuable roles in developing leadership and teamwork skills, they do not specifically target the nuances of coping with and resolving conflicts in a leadership context in the way conflict resolution training does.

7. What is the purpose of the tactical training phase at OCS?

- A. To enhance physical fitness**
- B. To teach candidates about naval operations**
- C. To prepare for academic exams**
- D. To practice administrative skills**

The tactical training phase at Officer Candidate School is primarily designed to teach candidates about naval operations. This phase is critical in providing the candidates with a foundational understanding of how the Navy functions in various operational contexts, which includes learning about tactics, strategies, and the roles of personnel within naval operations. This knowledge is essential for future leaders in the Navy, as they must be equipped to make informed decisions based on the intricacies of naval warfare and operations. Understanding naval operations also involves simulating real-world scenarios where candidates can apply their learning and demonstrate their ability to lead effectively. This training emphasizes the importance of teamwork, decision-making under pressure, and recognizing how individual roles contribute to broader mission objectives, all of which are vital skills for a successful naval officer. While enhancing physical fitness, preparing for academic exams, and practicing administrative skills are important aspects of the overall training and development at OCS, the core focus of the tactical training phase is on providing a comprehensive understanding of naval operations, ensuring that candidates are well-prepared for the demands of their future roles in the Navy.

8. What does the acronym "SEAL" stand for in the context of Navy training?

- A. Sea, Air, and Land**
- B. Sea, Energy, and Land**
- C. Surface, Air, and Land**
- D. Strategic, Effective, and Land**

The acronym "SEAL" stands for "Sea, Air, and Land," which reflects the diverse environments in which these elite Navy units operate. This designation highlights the capabilities of Navy SEALs to conduct a wide range of special operations across maritime, aerial, and terrestrial domains, showcasing their versatility and readiness for complex missions. Navy SEALs undergo rigorous training that prepares them for amphibious warfare, counter-terrorism, reconnaissance, and more, making their proficiency in these three environments critical to their operational success. By embodying the "Sea, Air, and Land," the SEALs represent the Navy's commitment to multifaceted combat scenarios and their ability to engage effectively in any setting.

9. What is the highest rank listed that has no collar device or sleeve insignia?

- A. Private**
- B. Private First Class**
- C. Lance Corporal**
- D. Corporal**

The correct answer is Private, as this rank is the entry-level rank in the infantry and does not have any insignia to denote specific collar devices or sleeve insignia. This is representative of the rank structure in the military where new recruits are recognized simply by their uniform rather than by specific insignia that denote rank advancement. Private is the first rank acquired after completing basic training and precedes any advancement to ranks that come with identifying insignia, such as Private First Class, Lance Corporal, and Corporal, which all have some form of collar device or sleeve insignia signifying their respective ranks and responsibilities. This progression indicates increasing levels of experience and expectations within the military hierarchy.

10. Which title corresponds to a Navy E-9 rank?

- A. Petty Officer Third Class**
- B. Master Chief Petty Officer**
- C. Petty Officer Second Class**
- D. Chief Warrant Officer Two**

The rank of Navy E-9 is designated as Master Chief Petty Officer. This is the highest enlisted rank within the Navy, signifying extensive experience, leadership, and technical expertise. Individuals at this rank are expected to serve as key advisors and mentors in their respective fields, effectively leading and managing sailors under their command. This rank also carries significant responsibilities, including participation in decision-making at the command level and involvement in the overall training and development of junior personnel. Achieving the rank of Master Chief Petty Officer requires a strong commitment to service, demonstrated leadership abilities, and a notable career history within the Navy. The other ranks listed do not align with the E-9 pay grade. Petty Officer Third Class and Petty Officer Second Class are lower enlisted ranks, falling within the E-4 and E-5 pay grades, respectively. Chief Warrant Officer Two, while a senior rank, falls into a different category entirely, as it is an officer rank rather than an enlisted rank.

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://navyocs.examzify.com>

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

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