

NCCER Rigging 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 type of hitch is commonly used to secure a load when lifting?**
 - A. Choker hitch**
 - B. Vertical hitch**
 - C. Basket hitch**
 - D. Double wrap hitch**

- 2. Which characteristic is the least important when selecting a crane for a lift?**
 - A. Type of load being lifted**
 - B. Whether the loads will be held for long periods of time**
 - C. Operating environment conditions**
 - D. Height of the lift**

- 3. What should be monitored closely during personnel lifting operations to prevent accidents?**
 - A. The weather conditions**
 - B. The time of day**
 - C. The load weight only**
 - D. The operator's experience**

- 4. Which type of jack is commonly used for lifting operations?**
 - A. Screw jack**
 - B. Hydraulic jack**
 - C. Bottle jack**
 - D. Chain jack**

- 5. Which of the following rigging equipment can support a load in two or more directions?**
 - A. Shackles**
 - B. Synthetic slings**
 - C. Spreader beams**
 - D. Chain hoists**

- 6. What is the role of a hoist in a rigging system?**
- A. To secure loads in place**
 - B. To lift and lower loads**
 - C. To measure the weight of the load**
 - D. To assist with rigging design**
- 7. After any structural repair or modification, a personnel lifting platform shall be tested to what percentage of the platform rating?**
- A. 100%**
 - B. 125%**
 - C. 150%**
 - D. 200%**
- 8. Name a common type of rigging inspection.**
- A. Magnetic inspection**
 - B. Visual inspection**
 - C. Ultrasonic inspection**
 - D. X-ray inspection**
- 9. Which term best describes the stability and safety features required for rigging operations?**
- A. Preliminary checks**
 - B. Structural integrity**
 - C. Load calculations**
 - D. Safety protocols**
- 10. What is the primary function of a tagline during a lift?**
- A. Guide the load direction**
 - B. Mark the load weight**
 - C. Hold the load stable**
 - D. Increase lifting power**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What type of hitch is commonly used to secure a load when lifting?

- A. Choker hitch**
- B. Vertical hitch**
- C. Basket hitch**
- D. Double wrap hitch**

The vertical hitch is a widely used rigging technique applied when lifting loads. It is designed to hang the load in a vertical position, maximizing the lifting capacity and stability of the rigging. This hitch is particularly effective for straight lifts directly up, as it provides a secure and balanced method of connecting the load to the lifting device, such as a crane or hoist. One of the key features of the vertical hitch is that it allows for the load to be lifted without any added stresses that can arise from using other types of hitches. When the vertical hitch is utilized correctly, it ensures that the load remains stable and prevents excessive movement during the lift, which is essential for both safety and efficiency on a job site. By using a vertical hitch, riggers can capitalize on its straightforward design to achieve a reliable connection to the load, thereby reinforcing safe lifting practices.

2. Which characteristic is the least important when selecting a crane for a lift?

- A. Type of load being lifted**
- B. Whether the loads will be held for long periods of time**
- C. Operating environment conditions**
- D. Height of the lift**

When selecting a crane for a lift, the type of load being lifted is crucial because different loads have unique handling requirements, weight, and balance characteristics that directly affect the selection of the appropriate lifting equipment. Additionally, understanding the operating environment conditions, such as ground stability, overhead obstructions, and space constraints, is essential for ensuring safety and efficiency. The height of the lift also significantly influences the choice of crane, as different crane models have varying lifting capacities and reach. While the duration for which a load will be held is important, it is typically less critical than the other factors. Holding a load for long periods may require additional considerations for crane stability and load security, but these considerations tend to be secondary to the fundamental aspects of load characteristics, environmental conditions, and lift height. Therefore, while all factors have their significance, the duration the load will be held does not necessitate a fundamental change in the choice of crane in the same way as the other characteristics do.

3. What should be monitored closely during personnel lifting operations to prevent accidents?

- A. The weather conditions**
- B. The time of day**
- C. The load weight only**
- D. The operator's experience**

Monitoring weather conditions during personnel lifting operations is crucial for maintaining safety and preventing accidents. Adverse weather, such as high winds, rain, or lightning, can significantly affect visibility, control of the rigging equipment, and the overall stability of the lift. For instance, strong winds can cause a swinging load, increasing the risk of injury to personnel below or damage to surrounding equipment and structures. Rain or moisture can also make surfaces slippery, complicating the rigging setup and the operation itself. While the time of day, operator's experience, and load weight are all important factors in safe lifting operations, they do not have the immediate impact that weather can have. Weather conditions can change rapidly and can render even the best-planned operations unsafe if not closely monitored. Therefore, focusing on weather conditions is essential to ensure a safe lifting environment for all personnel involved.

4. Which type of jack is commonly used for lifting operations?

- A. Screw jack**
- B. Hydraulic jack**
- C. Bottle jack**
- D. Chain jack**

For lifting operations, you need a jack that can generate a lot of force with smooth, steady control. Hydraulic jacks achieve this by using fluid pressure to multiply the force you apply. When you pump, fluid pressure acts on a piston with a larger area, lifting heavy loads with relatively little manual effort. This makes them ideal for rigging tasks where a lift must be controlled, monitored for alignment, and often performed with cribbing and other safety measures in place. Screw jacks rely on turning a screw to raise the load, which is slower and more manual—unfavorable for heavy, frequent lifts. Bottle jacks are also hydraulic, but their design gives a shorter stroke and lower stability for larger lifts, so they're typically used for lighter or quick lifts rather than longer, controlled rigging lifts. Chain jacks aren't a standard choice for lifting in rigging compared to hydraulic options. So, a hydraulic jack is the most suitable and commonly used for lifting operations.

5. Which of the following rigging equipment can support a load in two or more directions?

- A. Shackles**
- B. Synthetic slings**
- C. Spreader beams**
- D. Chain hoists**

Spreader beams are specifically designed to support loads in two or more directions. They distribute the load more evenly and allow for vertical lifting while maintaining stability, which makes them ideal for applications where the load needs to be kept balanced or when lifting from multiple points. The design of a spreader beam enables it to create a wider base of support, reducing the risk of tipping or swaying, and allowing the load to be handled safely and efficiently. On the other hand, while shackles and synthetic slings are essential rigging components, they primarily function to connect the lifting device to the load rather than support it in multiple directions. Chain hoists are used for lifting loads vertically and do not provide multi-directional support on their own. Thus, none of these alternatives offer the same capability to support a load securely from multiple directions as effectively as spreader beams do.

6. What is the role of a hoist in a rigging system?

- A. To secure loads in place**
- B. To lift and lower loads**
- C. To measure the weight of the load**
- D. To assist with rigging design**

The role of a hoist in a rigging system is primarily to lift and lower loads. A hoist is specifically designed to provide the necessary mechanical advantage to elevate heavy materials, which is essential in construction and industrial settings where moving loads efficiently and safely is critical. When employing a hoist, operators can maneuver loads vertically, allowing for precise placement or removal as required by the job. The design of hoists often includes features that enable smooth and controlled operations, making them vital tools for tasks ranging from lifting equipment to positioning materials at different elevations. In contrast, securing loads in place, measuring the weight of the load, and assisting with rigging design are not roles performed by hoists. Securing loads is generally the function of rigging hardware like slings and shackles, while weight measurement is done using scales. Rigging design requires considerations of various factors, including load dynamics and safety, which are typically the responsibilities of a qualified rigger or engineer, rather than the hoist itself.

7. After any structural repair or modification, a personnel lifting platform shall be tested to what percentage of the platform rating?

- A. 100%**
- B. 125%**
- C. 150%**
- D. 200%**

After any structural repair or modification of a personnel lifting platform, it is essential to conduct a test to ensure that the structure is safe for use. Testing at 150% of the platform rating is a standard safety measure within industry practices. This testing requirement is in place to verify the integrity and strength of the repairs or modifications made. Testing at this higher percentage allows for an assessment of the platform's performance beyond its rated capacity, thereby indicating that it can reliably support loads up to its intended maximum weight safely. This safety margin helps identify any potential weaknesses that could pose a risk during actual operational use. This standard reflects a precautionary approach in rigging operations, where personnel safety is paramount. It ensures that any structural changes have not adversely affected the platform's ability to perform safely under loading conditions. Therefore, testing at 150% confirms that the platform is still compliant with safety regulations and operational requirements.

8. Name a common type of rigging inspection.

- A. Magnetic inspection**
- B. Visual inspection**
- C. Ultrasonic inspection**
- D. X-ray inspection**

Visual inspection is a fundamental and common method used to evaluate rigging equipment. During a visual inspection, an individual examines the rigging gear, such as slings, hooks, chains, and other components, to identify any visible signs of wear, damage, or defects. This type of inspection is crucial because it allows for immediate identification of issues that could compromise the safety and effectiveness of the rigging system, such as frayed cables, cracked hooks, or signs of corrosion. Visual inspections are typically performed regularly and are often the first line of defense in maintaining rigging equipment. They do not require special equipment, making them practical for everyday use on job sites. While other inspection methods can provide more detailed insights into the integrity of materials, visual inspection remains essential due to its efficiency and the ease with which it can be performed. Regular visual inspections help ensure that rigging equipment is safe to use and meets industry standards, ultimately promoting a safer working environment.

9. Which term best describes the stability and safety features required for rigging operations?

- A. Preliminary checks**
- B. Structural integrity**
- C. Load calculations**
- D. Safety protocols**

The term that best describes the stability and safety features required for rigging operations is structural integrity. Structural integrity refers to the ability of a rigging system to withstand both the loads it is designed to carry and any dynamic forces that may occur during operation. This concept is crucial in ensuring that all components, such as cables, slings, and anchors, can support the intended weights without collapsing or experiencing failure. When rigging operations are conducted, ensuring structural integrity involves assessing the materials and their conditions, the design of the rigging system, and the overall configuration of the setup. Factors including load distribution, the strength of components, and environmental conditions must all be taken into account to maintain safety during operations. The other terms, while relevant to rigging, do not encapsulate the overarching concern of stability and safety as comprehensively. Preliminary checks refer to inspections conducted before operations start, which are important but do not directly describe the inherent stability of the rig itself. Load calculations are critical for determining the right equipment and configurations needed to support particular weights, yet they are a part of ensuring structural integrity rather than a term that encompasses all safety features. Safety protocols, on the other hand, refer to guidelines and rules designed to ensure safe practices, but again do not

10. What is the primary function of a tagline during a lift?

- A. Guide the load direction**
- B. Mark the load weight**
- C. Hold the load stable**
- D. Increase lifting power**

The primary function of a tagline during a lift is to guide the load direction. By using a tagline, riggers can safely control and direct the movement of a load being lifted, especially in tight or crowded spaces where precision is crucial. This helps prevent potential accidents, such as the load swinging or hitting surrounding structures and personnel. The importance of guiding load direction cannot be overstated, as it enhances safety and efficiency throughout the lifting process. Taglines enable workers to maneuver the load into its desired position, reducing the risk of unexpected movements that could be hazardous. Other functions mentioned are not the main purpose of a tagline. For instance, while a tagline can help stabilize a load to a certain extent, its primary role is not stability, but rather direction control. Furthermore, it does not provide information about the weight of the load nor does it amplify lifting power; those functions belong to different aspects of rigging techniques and equipment.

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://nccerrigging.examzify.com>

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

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