

# NCOTMB Soldier of the Month Board (SOTMB) 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. UCMJ stands for what?**
  - A. Uniform Code of Military Justice**
  - B. Universal Code of Military Justice**
  - C. Unified Code of Military Justice**
  - D. United Code of Military Justice**
  
- 2. Which Army Value is associated with ethical conduct and truthfulness?**
  - A. Integrity**
  - B. Honor**
  - C. Loyalty**
  - D. Selfless Service**
  
- 3. Which Army Regulation covers Army Training and Leader Development?**
  - A. AR 350-2**
  - B. AR 350-3**
  - C. AR 350-4**
  - D. AR 350-1**
  
- 4. What is the maximum effective range of the M4 for a point target?**
  - A. 600 meters**
  - B. 500 meters**
  - C. 800 meters**
  - D. 1000 meters**
  
- 5. What does JSLIST stand for?**
  - A. Joint Service Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology**
  - B. Joint Service Standard Lightweight Integrated System Technology**
  - C. Joint Service Logistics Integrated Suit Technology**
  - D. Joint System Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology**

- 6. Which NCOER options include a 60-day option?**
- A. 60-day Rater Option**
  - B. 60-day Senior Rater Option**
  - C. 60-day Rater Option; 60-day Senior Rater Option**
  - D. None of the above**
- 7. Which form is developmental counseling conducted on?**
- A. DA Form 4856**
  - B. DA Form 4855**
  - C. DA Form 2166-9-1**
  - D. DA Form 31**
- 8. Which leakage class drips during inspection?**
- A. Class 1**
  - B. No seepage**
  - C. Class 3**
  - D. Class 2**
- 9. What does DANTES Stand for?**
- A. Department of Defense for Nontraditional Education Support**
  - B. Defense Activity for Non Traditional Education Support**
  - C. Defense Activities for Nontraditional Education Services**
  - D. Defence Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support**
- 10. What does TM stand for in equipment maintenance?**
- A. Technical Memorandum**
  - B. Training Manual**
  - C. Technical Manual**
  - D. Technical Series**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. UCMJ stands for what?

- A. Uniform Code of Military Justice**
- B. Universal Code of Military Justice**
- C. Unified Code of Military Justice**
- D. United Code of Military Justice**

The question checks for the official name of the U.S. military justice system. The correct choice is Uniform Code of Military Justice. The word Uniform signals a standardized, nationwide set of laws that applies across all service branches under federal authority. The UCMJ is a statutory framework created by Congress that defines offenses, outlines trial procedures, and prescribes punishments for military personnel, replacing older bodies of military law and guiding courts-martial. The other prefixes—Universal, Unified, or United—are not the actual title of this code, so they don't fit.

## 2. Which Army Value is associated with ethical conduct and truthfulness?

- A. Integrity**
- B. Honor**
- C. Loyalty**
- D. Selfless Service**

Integrity is the Army Value that embodies ethical conduct and truthfulness. It means acting according to a consistent set of moral principles, doing the right thing even when it's difficult, and being honest and accountable in both words and actions. In the military, integrity is the foundation for trust within a team, adherence to laws and regulations, and owning mistakes rather than concealing them. While the other values describe important attitudes—honor as upholding standards, loyalty as allegiance to the mission and teammates, and selfless service as putting others first—they don't capture the explicit commitment to truthfulness and moral uprightness in every situation the way integrity does.

## 3. Which Army Regulation covers Army Training and Leader Development?

- A. AR 350-2**
- B. AR 350-3**
- C. AR 350-4**
- D. AR 350-1**

Training and leader development in the Army is governed by the overarching policy that defines how soldiers are trained and how leaders are developed across the force. The Army Regulation that specifically codifies this whole approach is Army Regulation 350-1. It lays out the full framework, responsibilities, and procedures for planning, executing, and assessing both training and leader development programs, ensuring consistency and alignment across units and components. The other 350-series regulations address related aspects of training and education but do not establish the complete policy for training and leader development across the entire Army, making AR 350-1 the authoritative source for this topic.

4. What is the maximum effective range of the M4 for a point target?

- A. 600 meters
- B. 500 meters**
- C. 800 meters
- D. 1000 meters

The essential idea here is understanding how far the M4 can reliably hit a single, man-sized target with standard ammunition under typical conditions. For a point target, the maximum effective range is about 500 meters. This takes into account the rifle's ballistic performance, sighting system, and the shooter's ability to maintain accuracy and hit probability at that distance. Beyond 500 meters, bullet drop, wind drift, and dispersion reduce accuracy enough that reliably engaging a single target becomes unlikely with standard setup. It helps to know that the same weapon can have a longer effective range for an area target (a larger surface or group)—around 600 meters—since hitting a bigger area is easier even if individual shots are less precise. The other distances listed (600, 800, 1000) exceed what's considered reliable for a single target with the M4, which is why they aren't the correct choice.

5. What does JSLIST stand for?

- A. Joint Service Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology**
- B. Joint Service Standard Lightweight Integrated System Technology
- C. Joint Service Logistics Integrated Suit Technology
- D. Joint System Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology

The question tests your ability to recall what the acronym JSLIST stands for. The best answer is Joint Service Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology. This expansion reflects how the program is designed for use across multiple military services (Joint Service), aims to be easier to wear and move in than older gear (Lightweight), and represents a complete protective ensemble built around a suit designed with integrated protective technology (Integrated Suit Technology). The phrase "Suit Technology" emphasizes that this is a protective suit system, not just a fabric or separate components, and that it incorporates engineering to provide effective protection. The other options change key words—Standard, Logistics, or System—so they no longer match the official designation of the protective ensemble.

6. Which NCOER options include a 60-day option?

- A. 60-day Rater Option
- B. 60-day Senior Rater Option
- C. 60-day Rater Option; 60-day Senior Rater Option**
- D. None of the above

Early rating options let feedback be provided before the full evaluation period ends. In NCOERs, there is a 60-day option for both roles involved in the evaluation: the rater and the senior rater. The 60-day Rater Option allows the immediate supervisor to submit input after 60 days, while the 60-day Senior Rater Option allows the next-level supervisor to provide input after 60 days. Since both roles have their own 60-day pathway, the option that lists both is the correct choice. Choosing only one misses the existence of the other, and selecting none would be inaccurate because these 60-day options do exist for each role.

## 7. Which form is developmental counseling conducted on?

- A. DA Form 4856**
- B. DA Form 4855**
- C. DA Form 2166-9-1**
- D. DA Form 31**

Developmental counseling is recorded on the Developmental Counseling Form. This form is specifically designed to document the counseling session, including the purpose, topics discussed, and a concrete development plan with goals, actions, timelines, and follow-up. It also captures accountability through signatures from both the counselor and the service member, ensuring progress is tracked over time. The other forms serve different administrative purposes—one supports performance evaluations, another handles leave requests, and the remaining form is used for a purpose unrelated to developmental counseling—so they aren't used to document these counseling sessions.

## 8. Which leakage class drips during inspection?

- A. Class 1**
- B. No seepage**
- C. Class 3**
- D. Class 2**

Leakage classifications are used to describe how a leak appears during inspection, ranging from no leakage to seepage and then to dripping. Seeing actual droplets form and fall from a joint or surface indicates the dripping category, which is the highest level of visible leakage in this scale. That's why this option is the best match for "drips during inspection." The other categories describe no seepage or only seepage without droplets, which don't fit the observation of dripping.

## 9. What does DAN TES Stand for?

- A. Department of Defense for Nontraditional Education Support**
- B. Defense Activity for Non Traditional Education Support**
- C. Defense Activities for Nontraditional Education Services**
- D. Defence Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support**

This question tests knowing the exact expansion of the DAN TES acronym and the organization it represents. DAN TES stands for Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support. It's a U.S. Department of Defense field activity dedicated to providing and coordinating non-traditional education opportunities for service members, including testing programs and educational counseling. That active form—Defense Activity—plus the phrase Non-Traditional Education Support—is why this choice is the best match. The other options don't fit because they either misstate the entity (Department of Defense as a whole rather than a specific activity), use the plural "Activities" (which implies multiple units rather than the single Defense Activity), or use British spelling or different terms (Defence, Education Services) that don't align with the official name.

**10. What does TM stand for in equipment maintenance?**

- A. Technical Memorandum**
- B. Training Manual**
- C. Technical Manual**
- D. Technical Series**

In equipment maintenance, TM stands for Technical Manual. This is the official, detailed guide technicians use for performing repairs, maintenance, and troubleshooting, and it includes procedures, diagrams, torque specs, lubrication points, and safety notes. You'll often see a TM number assigned to a specific piece of equipment, like TM 9-xxx, which ensures everyone follows the exact, approved steps. The other terms describe different kinds of documents—Technical Memorandum is a technical note or memo, not the primary maintenance guide; Training Manual is meant for teaching how to operate or maintain but is not the hands-on reference for a specific piece of equipment; Technical Series isn't the standard designation used for equipment maintenance references.

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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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://ncotmbsotmb.examzify.com>**

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

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