NEW YORK STATE CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY (COC) CLASS B PYROTECHNICIAN LICENSE PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE

SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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

1. **Unauthorized marine craft shall be separated from vessel or platform by a minimum of how many feet during loading of fireworks?**

   A. 25 feet

   B. 10 feet

   C. 50 feet

   D. 100 feet

2. **Battery is defined as:**

   A. A single mortar.

   B. A collection of Firework Devices fused together and fired within a short period of time.

   C. A fuse line used to light multiple shells.

   D. A collection of Firework Devices, such as a group of mortars or a bundle of Roman Candles, fused together and fired within a short period of time.

3. **Provide an example of a post-show debrief checklist item.**

   A. Schedule a celebratory meal.

   B. Confirm all devices accounted for, document any misfires, and update inventory and safety records.

   C. Post a show summary on social media.

   D. Replace all batteries regardless of status.

4. **Which statement about manual firing on a floating vessel is not a condition?**

   A. All shells pre-loaded and single break only

   B. Single break only

   C. Shall not exceed 6 inches

   D. Minimum Display Site shall be equal to Electrically Fired Show

5. **Which class is defined as Very Insensitive Explosive?**

   A. Class 1.1G

   B. Class 1.2G

   C. Class 1.3G

   D. Class 1.5G

6. Display Site is defined as:

A. The area for loading the rockets.

B. The immediate area where a fireworks display is to be conducted, including the Discharge Site, the Fallout Area, and the required separation between mortars to the spectator viewing area, but not including the spectator viewing area.

C. Only the Discharge Site.

D. Only the Fallout Area.

7. No person shall act as Certified Pyrotechnician unless?

A. They possess a current Certificate of Competency.

B. They must be licensed by local authority.

C. They must hold a safety certificate.

D. They must attend annual refresher training.

8. A Ready Box during a performance must be located at least how many feet upwind?

A. 20 feet

B. 40 feet

C. 30 feet

D. 60 feet

9. Which practices are risk controls?

A. Reducing maintenance

B. Increasing crowd proximity

C. Proper device selection, pre-use inspections, firing system integrity checks, and adherence to safe timing and perimeters

D. Using older devices first

10. Mortars of any type 6 inches in diameter or less may be reloaded up to how many times?

A. 3 times

B. 10 times

C. Unlimited

D. 7 times

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Unauthorized marine craft shall be separated from vessel or platform by a minimum of how many feet during loading of fireworks?

A. 25 feet

B. 10 feet

C. 50 feet

D. 100 feet

During loading of fireworks, establish a defined exclusion zone around the vessel or platform to protect people and property from sparks, embers, or a potential misfire. Keeping unauthorized marine craft at least 25 feet away creates a safe buffer that accounts for wind shifts and movement of equipment, giving crewmembers room to operate and react if something goes wrong. A smaller distance, like 10 feet, would not provide enough clearance to mitigate a stray spark or debris, while larger distances such as 50 or 100 feet exceed the minimum requirement and aren't necessary unless conditions demand extra caution. So, the minimum safe separation is 25 feet.

2. Battery is defined as:

A. A single mortar.

B. A collection of Firework Devices fused together and fired within a short period of time.

C. A fuse line used to light multiple shells.

D. A collection of Firework Devices, such as a group of mortars or a bundle of Roman Candles, fused together and fired within a short period of time.

A battery is a unit made up of several pyrotechnic devices that are joined so they ignite as one show. It isn't a single mortar, and it isn't just a fuse line lighting many shells. By bundling devices—such as a group of mortars or a bundle of Roman Candles—so they are fused together and fired within a short period, you get a coordinated, rapid sequence of effects. That gathering and shared firing timing is what defines a battery, turning multiple devices into a single firing unit.

3. Provide an example of a post-show debrief checklist item.

A. Schedule a celebratory meal.

B. Confirm all devices accounted for, document any misfires, and update inventory and safety records.

C. Post a show summary on social media.

D. Replace all batteries regardless of status.

After a pyrotechnic show, the debrief centers on safety, accountability, and documentation. The best item for a post-show debrief is one that ensures all devices are accounted for, any misfires are recorded, and inventory and safety records are updated. This approach creates a clear, traceable record of what was used, what fired, and what remains, which is essential for preventing hazardous situations and for regulatory compliance. Documenting misfires enables investigation and corrective actions to improve future performances, while updating inventory and safety records keeps the team aligned on asset status, storage, and ongoing safety practices. Other options don't address these crucial safety and record-keeping aspects. A celebratory meal is not related to post-show safety or documentation. Posting a show summary on social media concerns public communication rather than safety and compliance. Replacing all batteries regardless of status wastes time and resources and isn't a proper debrief activity, since replacements should follow device status and procedural guidelines.

4. Which statement about manual firing on a floating vessel is not a condition?

A. All shells pre-loaded and single break only

B. Single break only

C. Shall not exceed 6 inches

D. Minimum Display Site shall be equal to Electrically Fired Show

Manual firing on a floating vessel is governed by safety rules that keep the operation simple and controllable: pre-loading all shells, limiting to a single break per shell, and restricting shell size to manage risk in the maritime environment. These measures help ensure predictable performance and safer handling on deck. The idea that the minimum display site must be equal to what's required for an electrically fired show doesn't fit the manual firing context, because electric and manual shows are planned with different control methods and distance requirements. The display area for a manual show isn't inherently tied to the electric-show distances, so this particular statement isn't a condition for manual firing on a floating vessel.

5. Which class is defined as Very Insensitive Explosive?

A. Class 1.1G

B. Class 1.2G

C. Class 1.3G

D. Class 1.5G

The idea being tested is how explosives are classified by sensitivity within Class 1 hazards. Very Insensitive Explosives are designated as Class 1.5, a category used for materials that are so resistant to initiation that a detonation is unlikely under ordinary handling. The "G" suffix is the compatibility group used in some regulatory systems to further specify packaging or segregation, but the key takeaway is that Very Insensitive Explosive corresponds to Class 1.5. So, the choice that identifies a Very Insensitive Explosive is the one labeled as 1.5G. The other classifications describe higher sensitivity and different hazard types: 1.1 involves mass explosion hazard, 1.2 involves projection hazard, and 1.3 involves fire hazard with no significant blast.

6. Display Site is defined as:

A. The area for loading the rockets.

B. The immediate area where a fireworks display is to be conducted, including the Discharge Site, the Fallout Area, and the required separation between mortars to the spectator viewing area, but not including the spectator viewing area.

C. Only the Discharge Site.

D. Only the Fallout Area.

Display Site refers to the area where a fireworks display is conducted and includes the safety boundaries around it: the Discharge Site where the mortars are loaded and fired, the Fallout Area where debris and fallout may land, and the required separation distance to the spectator viewing area. It does not include the spectator viewing area itself. This matters because safety rules rely on defining all zones that could be affected by the display so barriers and distances can be set to protect the public and workers. The other options describe only part of this overall zone (loading area, only the discharge site, or only the fallout area) and don't capture the full scope of the safety boundaries.

7. No person shall act as Certified Pyrotechnician unless?

A. They possess a current Certificate of Competency.

B. They must be licensed by local authority.

C. They must hold a safety certificate.

D. They must attend annual refresher training.

A current Certificate of Competency is what allows someone to act as a Certified Pyrotechnician. This certificate is the official proof that you've completed the required training and passed the state's exams on safe handling, storage, and use of pyrotechnic devices. It's issued by the state regulatory authority and must be kept current; if it lapses, you're not legally allowed to perform pyrotechnic work until you renew it. Local licensing or other certificates aren't the decisive credential for this role, and while ongoing safety training or refresher courses may be part of the program, they don't substitute for maintaining a valid, current Certificate of Competency.

8. A Ready Box during a performance must be located at least how many feet upwind?

A. 20 feet

B. 40 feet

C. 30 feet

D. 60 feet

Safety around ignition equipment is the main idea here. The Ready Box, which holds ignition materials, must be set far enough away from the firing area so that heat, sparks, and any misfire fallout don't reach it or the personnel handling it. Setting it at a minimum distance of thirty feet upwind provides a practical safety buffer while keeping the box reasonably accessible for quick lighting and prep during a performance. Placing it closer would raise the risk of ignition from stray sparks or heat reaching the box, while placing it much farther away creates unnecessary logistical challenges without a clear safety gain under typical conditions. So, thirty feet upwind is the standard minimum.

9. Which practices are risk controls?

A. Reducing maintenance

B. Increasing crowd proximity

C. Proper device selection, pre-use inspections, firing system integrity checks, and adherence to safe timing and perimeters

D. Using older devices first

Risk controls are the practices and procedures put in place to reduce the chance of something going wrong and to limit harm if it does. In this context, the best way to control risk is to choose devices that fit the site and audience, inspect each device before use to catch any damage or defects, verify that the firing system will operate reliably, and follow safe timing and perimeter rules so ignition happens where and when people aren't exposed to danger. Choosing proper devices ensures the display is appropriate for the environment and the electrical or electronic firing setup, minimizing the chance of misfires or inappropriate effects. Pre-use inspections catch damaged fuzes, cracked shells, or other defects that could cause unintended ignition or failure to fire. Firing system integrity checks confirm that the initiation sequence will work as intended, preventing misfires, delays, or simultaneous firings that could create hazardous conditions. Adhering to safe timing and perimeters keeps spectators and crew at a safe distance and ensures blasts and debris stay within controlled areas. Reducing maintenance, increasing crowd proximity, or using older devices first would not reduce risk and can actually raise it by increasing the chance of malfunctions, injuries, or uncontrolled effects.

10. Mortars of any type 6 inches in diameter or less may be reloaded up to how many times?

A. 3 times

B. 10 times

C. Unlimited

D. 7 times

Safety limits on reuse of mortar tubes are about controlling structural fatigue and heat damage. When a mortar is fired, the bore and walls endure heat and stress, and repeated use leads to wear, cracks, and potential misalignment or rupture. For mortars six inches in diameter or smaller, the regulated maximum number of reloads is seven; after that, the tube should be retired from service unless a thorough inspection shows no damage and approval to continue. After each firing, inspect for cracks, bulging, or other signs of wear; any damage means the tube should be retired. This rule helps keep equipment in a known safe condition and reduces the risk of a catastrophic failure during a display.

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://nystatecocclassbpyro.examzify.com

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