

# North Carolina Correctional Officer Phase 2 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

- 1. What is the statute of limitations for civil actions against a state employee?**
  - A. Two years**
  - B. Three years**
  - C. Five years**
  - D. Ten years**
- 2. Which of the following describes a significant factor in making ethical decisions?**
  - A. Nominal consequences**
  - B. Personal gain**
  - C. High standards**
  - D. Peer pressure**
- 3. How is a riot defined within the context of correctional facilities?**
  - A. A group activity that promotes teamwork**
  - B. A planned event for inmate recreation**
  - C. A group activity that threatens facility security**
  - D. An educational seminar conducted by inmates**
- 4. When documenting behaviors of an inmate, what should be included?**
  - A. Emotional state only**
  - B. Body language and specific actions**
  - C. Opinions on their past behavior**
  - D. General mood without specifics**
- 5. How often is fire inspection and testing conducted in correctional facilities?**
  - A. Monthly**
  - B. Every quarter**
  - C. Twice a year**
  - D. Annually**

- 6. What is meant by "undue familiarity" with offenders?**
- A. Being friendly with offenders**
  - B. Knowing personal details about offenders' lives**
  - C. Understanding offenders' motivations**
  - D. Having regular professional interaction**
- 7. Which of the following is NOT a classification for extinguishing agents mentioned?**
- A. Combustible gases**
  - B. Flammable liquids**
  - C. Electrical wire that is not grounded**
  - D. Non-combustible solids**
- 8. Which term refers to an inmate who works for a shot caller?**
- A. Soldier**
  - B. Warrior**
  - C. Ninja**
  - D. Boss man**
- 9. What is essential for successful communication with inmates?**
- A. Maintaining strict discipline**
  - B. Showing mutual respect**
  - C. Being overly friendly**
  - D. Ignoring inmate concerns**
- 10. What specific item do members of the 5% gang typically place in their right back pocket?**
- A. Bandana**
  - B. Wallet**
  - C. Sock**
  - D. Knife**



## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the statute of limitations for civil actions against a state employee?**

**A. Two years**

**B. Three years**

**C. Five years**

**D. Ten years**

The statute of limitations for civil actions against a state employee in North Carolina is indeed three years. This implies that if an individual wishes to file a civil lawsuit against a state employee, they must do so within three years from the date of the incident that gave rise to the legal claim. This time frame is established to ensure timely resolution of disputes and to enable the preservation of evidence, as time can affect witness recollections and the availability of relevant documentation. The three-year limit is consistent with other civil actions in North Carolina, providing a balance between allowing individuals a reasonable amount of time to seek redress while also encouraging prompt resolution of cases. Understanding this specific statute is crucial for individuals seeking to understand their rights and for law enforcement or correctional officers who may be involved in situations that could lead to civil litigation.

**2. Which of the following describes a significant factor in making ethical decisions?**

**A. Nominal consequences**

**B. Personal gain**

**C. High standards**

**D. Peer pressure**

Making ethical decisions involves evaluating the impact of our choices on ourselves, others, and society as a whole. High standards represent a commitment to ethical principles, integrity, and professionalism, which are critical in a correctional environment. When individuals uphold high standards, they are more likely to consider the broader implications of their decisions, focusing on fairness, justice, and respect for all individuals involved. This approach encourages decision-makers to adopt perspectives that transcend immediate personal interests or pressures, fostering a culture of accountability and responsibility. By adhering to high standards, correctional officers can navigate complex situations with clarity and a sense of duty to uphold ethical norms, ultimately resulting in better outcomes for the correctional environment and those within it.

**3. How is a riot defined within the context of correctional facilities?**

- A. A group activity that promotes teamwork**
- B. A planned event for inmate recreation**
- C. A group activity that threatens facility security**
- D. An educational seminar conducted by inmates**

In the context of correctional facilities, a riot is defined as a group activity that threatens facility security. This definition underscores the chaotic and violent nature of a riot, which often involves inmates acting collectively in a manner that disrupts the order and safety of the facility. During such incidents, the potential for harm to both inmates and staff increases significantly, requiring immediate response from correctional officers and law enforcement. Understanding this definition highlights the seriousness of riots and the critical need for corrections personnel to be trained in conflict resolution, crowd control, and emergency response tactics. Safe and effective management of these situations is essential to maintaining order within the facility and protecting those inside. Other options, while they might describe various group activities, do not capture the essence or severity of a riot in a correctional setting. Activities promoting teamwork or planned recreational events are positive and structured, while an educational seminar conducted by inmates would imply a controlled and constructive environment, none of which aligns with the disorder and threat to security that a riot entails.

**4. When documenting behaviors of an inmate, what should be included?**

- A. Emotional state only**
- B. Body language and specific actions**
- C. Opinions on their past behavior**
- D. General mood without specifics**

In documenting the behaviors of an inmate, it is crucial to capture specific, observable actions and body language. This approach allows for an accurate account of the inmate's conduct and interactions, which can be vital for assessments of behavior, safety protocols, and potential interventions. When staff include details such as posture, gestures, and the context of actions, it provides a comprehensive view that can aid in understanding the inmate's state or intent. By focusing on specific actions and body language, the documentation can serve multiple purposes, such as informing treatment plans, facilitating communication among staff, and contributing to any necessary security measures. This level of detail supports a factual and objective record, which is essential in a correctional environment where clarity and evidence-based observations are key to effective management and resolution of incidents.

**5. How often is fire inspection and testing conducted in correctional facilities?**

- A. Monthly**
- B. Every quarter**
- C. Twice a year**
- D. Annually**

Fire inspection and testing in correctional facilities is critical for ensuring the safety of inmates and staff, as well as maintaining compliance with safety regulations. Conducting these inspections every quarter provides a systematic approach that allows for regular assessment of fire safety measures and equipment. This frequency helps to identify potential hazards and ensures that all fire safety systems, such as alarms, extinguishers, and emergency exit routes, are functioning properly. Inspections every quarter allow for timely interventions and corrective actions, which can prevent accidents or incidents from occurring. It reflects a proactive rather than a reactive approach to fire safety management, which is especially vital in correctional environments where the unique population characteristics may present additional challenges. In contrast, less frequent inspections, such as annually or semi-annually, may not sufficiently address ongoing safety concerns or emerging issues, putting the facility and its occupants at greater risk. Therefore, quarterly inspections are a best practice in maintaining high standards of fire safety in correctional facilities.

**6. What is meant by "undue familiarity" with offenders?**

- A. Being friendly with offenders**
- B. Knowing personal details about offenders' lives**
- C. Understanding offenders' motivations**
- D. Having regular professional interaction**

"Undue familiarity" with offenders refers specifically to knowing personal details about their lives. This concept is important in the context of correctional facilities because developing a close or overly personal relationship with inmates can undermine the professional boundaries necessary for maintaining security and order within the institution. When a correctional officer has knowledge of an offender's personal life, it can lead to biased treatment, favoritism, or the compromise of professional integrity. The importance of maintaining professional boundaries is paramount in corrections, as it ensures that officers remain neutral and focused on their duties without allowing personal feelings or relationships to interfere with their responsibilities. Understanding an offender's motivations may aid in security practices, but it should not lead to personal intimacy that could jeopardize the officer's objectivity or authority. Regular professional interactions are essential for effective communication and management within a correctional environment, but these interactions must remain professional and not cross into personal territory.

**7. Which of the following is NOT a classification for extinguishing agents mentioned?**

- A. Combustible gases**
- B. Flammable liquids**
- C. Electrical wire that is not grounded**
- D. Non-combustible solids**

The classification for extinguishing agents typically includes various materials that can either fuel a fire or be used to put it out. Non-combustible solids refer to materials that do not ignite or burn, which is why they do not fit the category of extinguishing agents. Instead, they are often part of the building structure or safety equipment that aids in fire containment and prevention. On the other hand, combustible gases, flammable liquids, and electrical hazards are all materials that can contribute to fire and need specific extinguishing methods tailored to their properties. Understanding these classifications is essential for effective fire safety training and emergency response in correctional facilities. Non-combustible solids play a role in fire safety, but they are not considered extinguishing agents.

**8. Which term refers to an inmate who works for a shot caller?**

- A. Soldier**
- B. Warrior**
- C. Ninja**
- D. Boss man**

The term "soldier" refers to an inmate who works for a shot caller, indicating a subordinate role within a criminal organization or prison gang. In the context of prison culture, a soldier typically undertakes tasks or enforces the orders given by a higher-ranking member, often the shot caller, who is responsible for major decisions and leadership within the group. This hierarchical structure supports the functioning of the gang and reflects the power dynamics present in the environment. The use of "soldier" signifies a sense of loyalty and duty, as these inmates are often expected to carry out the shot caller's directives while adhering to the rules and expectations of the group. Being a soldier can involve participating in various activities, including defending the gang's interests, participating in illegal activities, or handling specific tasks assigned by the leadership. In contrast, the other terms do not carry the same meaning within this specific context. "Warrior" may imply a more active combat role or a sense of fighting prowess beyond the organizational loyalty typically associated with being a soldier. "Ninja" suggests stealth or skill that doesn't align with the structure of prison gangs, while "Boss man" refers to a leadership position rather than someone who serves under a leader. Thus, "soldier"

**9. What is essential for successful communication with inmates?**

- A. Maintaining strict discipline**
- B. Showing mutual respect**
- C. Being overly friendly**
- D. Ignoring inmate concerns**

Successful communication with inmates hinges on showing mutual respect. Establishing a respectful dialogue creates an environment where inmates feel valued and heard. When correctional officers demonstrate respect, it fosters trust and encourages open communication. This is crucial in a correctional setting, as it supports the officer's authority while also promoting a more positive and cooperative atmosphere. Cultivating mutual respect can lead to better interactions and potentially reduce tensions within the facility. It helps in addressing inmate concerns effectively, enhances compliance with rules, and facilitates rehabilitation efforts. The focus on respect ensures that communication is not one-sided but rather a constructive exchange that benefits both officers and inmates. Other approaches, such as maintaining strict discipline, can sometimes create barriers in communication, while being overly friendly might undermine the necessary professional boundaries required in a correctional environment. Ignoring inmate concerns is counterproductive and can lead to increased frustration and distrust. Therefore, mutual respect stands out as the foundational element for effective communication.

**10. What specific item do members of the 5% gang typically place in their right back pocket?**

- A. Bandana**
- B. Wallet**
- C. Sock**
- D. Knife**

Members of the 5% gang are known to place a sock in their right back pocket as a way of signaling their gang affiliation. This practice serves both as a recognizable identifier and a subtle means of communication within the gang culture. The sock typically carries significance and can sometimes contain items that may be useful in certain situations, which may further convey their association with this particular group. Understanding the symbolic meanings behind different items can be important in a correctional setting, as awareness of such indicators can help officers manage interactions and maintain the safety and order within the facility. Recognizing what represents various gangs helps in training and prepares officers for the realities they may encounter while on duty.



## 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://nccorrectionalofficerphase2.examzify.com>**

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