

NORTH SEATTLE COLLEGE EMT ENTRANCE PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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 of the following is identified by 'B' in DCAP-BTLS?**
 - A. Bites
 - B. Burns
 - C. Bleeding
 - D. Bone injuries
- 2. What muscles are located between the ribs and contract during breathing?**
 - A. Intercostal muscles
 - B. Hyoid muscles
 - C. Thoracic muscles
 - D. Diaphragm muscles
- 3. What does the 'L' in SAMPLE entail?**
 - A. Last oral intake
 - B. Location of injury
 - C. Length of symptoms
 - D. Last medication dosage
- 4. What structures are defined as the lower airway?**
 - A. Nose and pharynx
 - B. Pharynx and larynx
 - C. Trachea, lungs, bronchi, bronchioles, alveoli
 - D. Sinuses and throat
- 5. Which of the following quadrants contains the pancreas?**
 - A. RUQ
 - B. LUQ
 - C. RLQ
 - D. LLQ
- 6. What vital sign is commonly taken to indicate a person's temperature?**
 - A. Heart rate
 - B. Blood pressure
 - C. Thermal body temperature
 - D. Respiration rate

7. Which artery supplies blood to the upper extremities?

- A. Radial artery
- B. Subclavian artery
- C. Femoral artery
- D. Inferior vena cava

8. What is the innermost layer of the skin that contains fat tissue known as?

- A. Epidermis
- B. Dermis
- C. Subcutaneous layer
- D. Hypodermis

9. In the DCAP-BTLS acronym, what does 'D' stand for?

- A. Deformities
- B. Dislocations
- C. Distortions
- D. Diagnostics

10. What does the presence of hyphema in an eye injury indicate?

- A. Swelling
- B. Bluish discoloration
- C. Internal bleeding
- D. Bone fracture

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following is identified by 'B' in DCAP-BTLS?

- A. Bites
- B. Burns**
- C. Bleeding
- D. Bone injuries

In the acronym DCAP-BTLS, which is a mnemonic used by EMTs to remember potential injuries during a primary assessment of a patient, 'B' specifically stands for Burns. Burns can result from various sources such as heat, chemicals, electricity, and radiation, and can cause significant damage to the skin and underlying tissues. Recognizing and assessing burns is crucial in emergency medicine because they require specific treatment and can lead to complications such as infection or shock if not addressed appropriately. Understanding the severity of a burn is also essential for determining transport decisions and treatment options. This highlights the importance of identifying and assessing burns as part of the overall patient evaluation in emergency situations.

2. What muscles are located between the ribs and contract during breathing?

- A. Intercostal muscles**
- B. Hyoid muscles
- C. Thoracic muscles
- D. Diaphragm muscles

The intercostal muscles are the muscles located between the ribs that play a crucial role in the mechanics of breathing. There are two main sets of intercostal muscles: the external intercostals and the internal intercostals. During inhalation, the external intercostal muscles contract, which elevates the ribs and expands the thoracic cavity, allowing air to enter the lungs. Conversely, during exhalation, the internal intercostals can contract to depress the ribs and help push air out of the lungs, especially during forceful breathing. These muscles are essential for efficient respiration, as they assist in changing the volume of the thoracic cavity. The diaphragm, while also critical in the breathing process, is a separate muscle located beneath the lungs that primarily handles the downward movement during inhalation. The hyoid muscles, although involved in movements of the throat and swallowing, do not play a direct role in respiration, nor do thoracic muscles specifically as a distinct category related to respiration. Thus, the intercostal muscles are the correct answer due to their direct involvement in the mechanics of breathing.

3. What does the 'L' in SAMPLE entail?

- A. Last oral intake**
- B. Location of injury
- C. Length of symptoms
- D. Last medication dosage

The 'L' in the SAMPLE acronym stands for "Last oral intake." SAMPLE is a mnemonic used in emergency medicine to help providers gather important information during patient assessments. Each letter represents a different aspect of the patient's history or condition, which is critical for understanding their current state and guiding treatment. In this context, "Last oral intake" refers to the most recent time the patient consumed food or drink, which can provide valuable insights into their medical condition. For example, knowing what and when a patient last ate or drank can help assess for issues such as dehydration, determine the risk of aspiration, or inform treatment decisions, especially in scenarios where surgery or certain medications are considered. The other options, while relevant to patient assessment, do not accurately represent what the 'L' signifies in the SAMPLE acronym. Understanding the importance of the patient's last oral intake is crucial for EMTs and other medical personnel, as it informs further actions and treatment protocols.

4. What structures are defined as the lower airway?

- A. Nose and pharynx
- B. Pharynx and larynx
- C. Trachea, lungs, bronchi, bronchioles, alveoli**
- D. Sinuses and throat

The lower airway is defined as the part of the respiratory system that begins at the trachea and includes structures that are involved in the passage of air and gas exchange. This includes the trachea, which is the windpipe leading to the bronchi, then extending into the bronchi, bronchioles, and finally reaching the alveoli, where the exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide takes place. The trachea serves as the main conduit for air entering the lungs, dividing into the right and left bronchi, which further branch into smaller bronchioles that end in the alveoli. This entire section of the respiratory system is crucial for the effective functioning of breathing and gas exchange. In contrast, the other options include structures that do not fall within the lower airway definition. The nose and pharynx comprise the upper airway, primarily involved in filtering, humidifying, and warming the air before it reaches the lower airway. The pharynx and larynx are also part of the upper airway; the larynx, while important for voice production and protecting the trachea during swallowing, does not include the structures that are primarily responsible for gas exchange. The sinuses and throat are further indications of upper airway components and are

5. Which of the following quadrants contains the pancreas?

- A. RUQ
- B. LUQ**
- C. RLQ
- D. LLQ

The pancreas is primarily located in the upper left quadrant of the abdomen. This anatomical positioning is important for understanding various abdominal conditions and pathologies related to the organs in that area. The pancreas has both an endocrine function, producing hormones like insulin, and an exocrine function, producing digestive enzymes. In the context of the quadrants, the upper left quadrant (LUQ) encompasses not only the pancreas but also the stomach, spleen, and part of the kidney, among other structures. Knowing the correct quadrant helps in diagnosing issues related to abdominal pain or other symptoms that may be indicative of pancreatic disease, such as pancreatitis or pancreatic cancer. While the right upper quadrant contains organs such as the liver and gallbladder, the lower quadrants are associated with various other organs and structures that do not include the pancreas, reinforcing the importance of recognizing its location in the LUQ for both clinical assessments and education.

6. What vital sign is commonly taken to indicate a person's temperature?

- A. Heart rate
- B. Blood pressure
- C. Thermal body temperature**
- D. Respiration rate

The essential vital sign used to indicate a person's temperature is thermal body temperature. When assessing a patient's health, body temperature provides critical information regarding their metabolic state and potential presence of infection or illness. Normal body temperature typically falls within a range of 97°F to 100.4°F (around 36.1°C to 38°C). Any significant deviation from this range can indicate fever, hypothermia, or other medical conditions that may require further investigation or intervention. In clinical practice, measuring thermal body temperature can be accomplished through various methods, including oral, rectal, tympanic (ear), or axillary (underarm) readings, each providing useful insights depending on the context of the examination.

7. Which artery supplies blood to the upper extremities?

- A. Radial artery
- B. Subclavian artery**
- C. Femoral artery
- D. Inferior vena cava

The subclavian artery is the primary artery responsible for supplying blood to the upper extremities, which includes the arms, shoulders, and hands. It branches off from the aorta (on the left side) and the brachiocephalic artery (on the right side) and continues into the arm as the axillary artery and then the brachial artery. These branches play a crucial role in delivering oxygenated blood to the muscles and tissues of the upper limbs necessary for movement and function. In contrast to the subclavian artery, the radial artery mainly supplies blood to the forearm and hand but does not serve as the main source for the upper extremities as a whole. The femoral artery primarily supplies blood to the lower limbs, and the inferior vena cava does not supply blood; rather, it is responsible for returning deoxygenated blood from the lower body back to the heart. Thus, the subclavian artery is the correct answer for blood supply to the upper extremities.

8. What is the innermost layer of the skin that contains fat tissue known as?

- A. Epidermis
- B. Dermis
- C. Subcutaneous layer**
- D. Hypodermis

The innermost layer of the skin that contains fat tissue is known as the subcutaneous layer. This layer, also referred to as the hypodermis, is primarily composed of loose connective tissue and fat cells. Its main functions include providing insulation to help regulate body temperature, serving as an energy reserve, and acting as a cushion to protect underlying structures such as muscles and bones from impact or injury. The subcutaneous layer is pivotal in connecting the skin to the underlying fascia of bones and muscles, allowing for movement and flexibility. This layer also contains larger blood vessels and nerves that branch into the upper layers of the skin. While the epidermis is the outermost layer responsible for barrier functions and protection, and the dermis lies beneath it, providing structure and support through collagen and elastin, it's the subcutaneous layer that serves as the main site for housing fat tissue. This distinction is important in understanding skin anatomy and its various functions in the body.

9. In the DCAP-BTLS acronym, what does 'D' stand for?

- A. Deformities**
- B. Dislocations
- C. Distortions
- D. Diagnostics

In the DCAP-BTLS acronym, the 'D' stands for Deformities. This term is used in the context of a thorough assessment during patient evaluation in emergency medical situations. When EMTs conduct an examination, they look for any visible deformities in the patient's body that may indicate underlying injuries or conditions, such as fractures or dislocations. Recognizing deformities is crucial as it helps in forming a treatment plan and prioritizing care, as these can indicate significant trauma or compromise to anatomical structures. The other terms, while related to injury assessment, do not specifically define what is encompassed by the 'D' in DCAP-BTLS. Deformities specifically highlight physical changes to the body's structure, making it a key element in the assessment process for EMTs.

10. What does the presence of hyphema in an eye injury indicate?

- A. Swelling
- B. Bluish discoloration
- C. Internal bleeding**
- D. Bone fracture

The presence of hyphema in an eye injury indicates internal bleeding within the anterior chamber of the eye, which is the space between the cornea and the iris. This condition occurs when blood leaks from damaged blood vessels, often as a result of trauma to the eye. Hyphema can be a serious condition, and it typically suggests that the eye has experienced significant injury, which may involve the iris, ciliary body, or other internal structures. Prompt medical evaluation is critical to assess the extent of the injury and to prevent potential complications such as increased intraocular pressure or vision loss. Understanding this concept is crucial for emergency medical technicians, as they must recognize signs of serious injuries and provide appropriate care and transport to medical facilities. In this context, recognizing the implications of hyphema allows for better decision-making in the field and helps ensure patient safety and optimal outcomes.

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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.

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

<https://nseattlecollegeemtentrance.examzify.com>

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

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