

NORTHERN INDIANA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY (NILEA) COMPETENCY 1 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. Graham v. Connor relates to what concept?

- A. Objective reasonableness
- B. Probable cause
- C. Due process
- D. Habeas corpus

2. How is labor defined in the material?

- A. Effort expended on a particular task, oil, or work
- B. The result of a completed task
- C. A type of mechanical device
- D. A financial transaction for services

3. What are common sources of admissible evidence?

- A. Direct evidence, circumstantial evidence, and corroborative statements consistent with facts
- B. Hearsay
- C. Opinions from gossip
- D. Unrelated emails

4. What should be included when documenting a use-of-force incident?

- A. Disregard medical aid details.
- B. Injuries and medical assistance provided.
- C. Personal opinions about the officer's performance.
- D. The suspect's footwear.

5. What is the Open Fields Doctrine?

- A. The law treats open fields as outside the area of protection; no reasonable expectation of privacy in open fields.
- B. Open fields are always protected by the Fourth Amendment.
- C. Only private property within city limits is open field.
- D. It allows police to search inside home without a warrant if open fields nearby.

6. Which are the two parts of military verbal orders/commands?

- A. Preparatory and Execution
- B. Initiation and Termination
- C. Command and Response
- D. Forward and Back

7. Which scenario most clearly falls under the Open Fields Doctrine?

- A. A police officer walks through a farmer's open field beyond the fence surrounding the home.
- B. A police officer enters a dwelling through an unlocked door.
- C. A police officer searches a locked car in a driveway with consent.
- D. A police officer surveys a backyard with a fence.

8. Valid PO from KY cannot be enforced in IN.

- A. True
- B. False
- C. Sometimes
- D. Only with reciprocal agreement

9. Intellectual property deals with which of the following?

- A. Ideas
- B. Real estate
- C. Movable items
- D. Laws

10. How is communication described in terms of orientation?

- A. Receiver oriented
- B. Sender oriented
- C. Audience oriented
- D. Message oriented

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. *Graham v. Connor* relates to what concept?

A. Objective reasonableness

B. Probable cause

C. Due process

D. Habeas corpus

*The concept being tested is the Fourth Amendment standard for judging police use of force—objective reasonableness. *Graham v. Connor* establishes that whether the force used is reasonable must be evaluated from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, with the information available at the time, not based on hindsight. This means factors like the severity of the alleged crime, the threat posed to officers or others, and whether the suspect is resisting or attempting to flee all influence the judgment of reasonableness. The goal is to assess actions in the context they occurred, rather than with perfect knowledge after the fact. Probable cause deals with justification to seize or arrest, due process concerns overall fairness in legal proceedings, and habeas corpus concerns unlawful detention—none of these set the standard for measuring police use of force in this scenario.*

2. How is labor defined in the material?

A. Effort expended on a particular task, oil, or work

B. The result of a completed task

C. A type of mechanical device

D. A financial transaction for services

Labor is the human effort involved in performing a task. It includes the time, energy, and mental or physical work a person puts into completing something. This focuses on the input side of production—what people contribute through their efforts. It's not the finished result of the task, not a tool or device, and not a payment or financial transaction. So the definition that matches is the effort expended on a task.

3. What are common sources of admissible evidence?

A. Direct evidence, circumstantial evidence, and corroborative statements consistent with facts

B. Hearsay

C. Opinions from gossip

D. Unrelated emails

The main idea here is understanding what kinds of information can be used as evidence in court. The best sources are direct evidence, circumstantial evidence, and corroborative statements that line up with the facts of the case. Direct evidence proves a fact by itself without needing an inference—like a video of the incident or a witness who saw what happened. Circumstantial evidence doesn't prove the fact by itself but allows you to make a logical inference about it when combined with other facts, such as fingerprints at a scene or a motive inferred from the surrounding circumstances. Corroborative statements are additional accounts that reinforce the same fact and are admissible if they are consistent with the evidence and not excluded by rules—effectively strengthening the case without introducing new, conflicting claims. Hearsay, on the other hand, is information someone heard from another person and is typically not admissible because it's secondhand and not subject to cross-examination. Opinions from gossip are not reliable or relevant as evidence and don't meet the standards for admissibility. Unrelated emails don't help prove a specific fact in the case and are not admissible unless they become relevant to a fact at issue and pass the rules of evidence.

4. What should be included when documenting a use-of-force incident?

- A. Disregard medical aid details.
- B. Injuries and medical assistance provided.**
- C. Personal opinions about the officer's performance.
- D. The suspect's footwear.

When documenting a use-of-force incident, the record must capture injuries and any medical assistance provided. This information is essential for accountability and ensures the response to the incident is fully recorded—from what injuries were observed or reported to what treatment was given on scene or during transport. It helps supervisors review whether medical needs were promptly addressed, supports policy and legal compliance, and provides crucial details for any subsequent investigations or court cases. If there were no injuries, that should be noted along with the fact that no medical treatment was needed or offered, but the existence or absence of injuries and the medical actions taken are still part of an accurate, complete record. Disregarding medical aid details would omit critical information about the incident's impact on the person involved and on the response, which can create gaps in the record. Personal opinions about the officer's performance belong in performance reviews or internal assessments, not in the incident documentation. The suspect's footwear is generally irrelevant to recording the use of force unless there is a direct, specific connection to the force used, which is uncommon; focus stays on injuries and medical responses rather than peripheral details.

5. What is the Open Fields Doctrine?

- A. The law treats open fields as outside the area of protection; no reasonable expectation of privacy in open fields.
- B. Open fields are always protected by the Fourth Amendment.**
- C. Only private property within city limits is open field.
- D. It allows police to search inside home without a warrant if open fields nearby.

*Open fields doctrine means the Fourth Amendment does not extend to open fields—areas outside the immediate surroundings of a residence that a person does not reasonably expect to be private. Because there is no reasonable expectation of privacy in an open field, police may enter and search those areas without a warrant or probable cause. This principle comes from *Oliver v. United States* (1984). It also explains why the home and its curtilage remain protected, while distant fields do not; even a fenced or posted field isn't automatically protected by the Fourth Amendment. So open fields are outside the area of Fourth Amendment protection, not within it. The home itself still requires a warrant or valid exception to search.*

6. Which are the two parts of military verbal orders/commands?

A. Preparatory and Execution

B. Initiation and Termination

C. Command and Response

D. Forward and Back

The concept being tested is that military verbal orders are given in two parts: a preparatory cue and a separate instruction to execute the action. The preparatory command signals what action is coming and gives troops a moment to mentally and physically ready themselves, ensuring everyone is synchronized. The execution command follows immediately and tells soldiers to perform the action right away. For example, in a drill maneuver, a commander might say the preparatory cue that indicates the move will happen, followed by the execution command that actually initiates the movement. This two-part structure keeps movements coordinated and prevents confusion, because everyone knows not only what is going to be done but precisely when to do it. Other options don't fit this standard drill framework: initiation and termination aren't the formal terms used for the parts of a drill order; command and response describes a back-and-forth rather than a two-part cue; and forward and back describe directions rather than the two-part pattern of cue and execution.

7. Which scenario most clearly falls under the Open Fields Doctrine?

A. A police officer walks through a farmer's open field beyond the fence surrounding the home.

B. A police officer enters a dwelling through an unlocked door.

C. A police officer searches a locked car in a driveway with consent.

D. A police officer surveys a backyard with a fence.

The Open Fields Doctrine holds that areas outside the home's curtilage—essentially the home and its immediate surroundings—do not carry a reasonable expectation of privacy, so police may enter or observe those open fields without a warrant. In this scenario, the officer walking through an open field beyond the fence surrounding the home is in a space outside the home's curtilage. It's not a private space protected by the Fourth Amendment, so this fits the doctrine. The other situations involve spaces that are tied to the home or private property with protective privacy expectations: entering a dwelling through an unlocked door concerns the home itself and its immediate area; searching a locked car in a driveway (even with consent) involves a vehicle rather than an open field; surveying a backyard with a fence typically remains within the curtilage, which remains protected.

8. Valid PO from KY cannot be enforced in IN.

A. True

B. False

C. Sometimes

D. Only with reciprocal agreement

Cross-state recognition of protective orders means a valid Kentucky protective order is enforceable in Indiana as long as it's still in effect and the situation occurs in Indiana. Indiana honors out-of-state protective orders under the Full Faith and Credit framework, so law enforcement can prosecute or arrest for violations that happen in Indiana. This enforcement doesn't require a new Indiana order or a reciprocal agreement in each case. For example, if the Kentucky order forbids contact and the offender violates it while in Indiana, police can act on that violation. Therefore, the statement is not correct—the order can be enforced across state lines.

9. Intellectual property deals with which of the following?

- A. Ideas**
- B. Real estate
- C. Movable items
- D. Laws

Intellectual property centers on intangible creations of the mind—things you invent or express through writing, art, design, or brands. It protects the results of mental effort rather than physical property, so it covers ideas and their expressions rather than lands or tangible objects. That's why the best fit is ideas. Real estate and movable items are physical property, not IP, and laws are the framework that protect IP rather than IP itself.

10. How is communication described in terms of orientation?

- A. Receiver oriented**
- B. Sender oriented
- C. Audience oriented
- D. Message oriented

The idea being tested is who the message is tailored for. When communication is described as receiver oriented, the focus is on the person who will receive and interpret the message. The goal is to ensure the receiver understands clearly and can respond appropriately, so language, tone, and delivery are adjusted to fit the receiver's background, potential misunderstandings, and situational context. This emphasis on the listener's or reader's perspective helps prevent miscommunication, which is crucial in law enforcement when giving instructions or information. Choosing a sender-oriented approach would prioritize the sender's intentions or how the message is crafted from the sender's point of view, not how it's understood. A message-oriented view concentrates on the content or quality of the message itself rather than how it's received. An audience-oriented approach addresses a group as a whole, which can overlook individual differences in understanding and reaction.

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://nileacomp1.examzify.com>

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

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