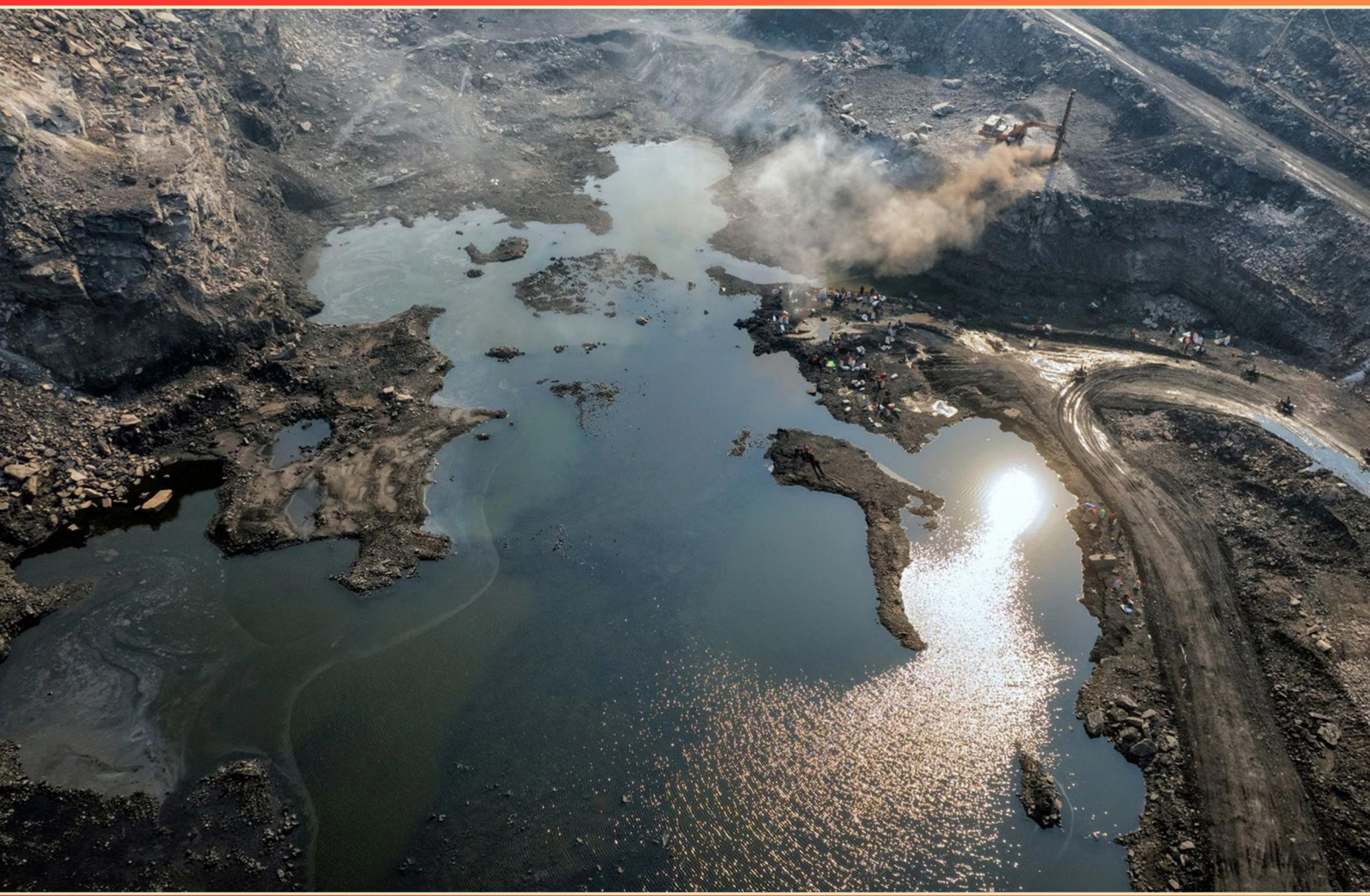
NSW DEPUTY COAL MINE PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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https://nswdepcoalmine.examzify.com

Table of Contents

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 purpose of exclusion zones during blasting operations?

A. To prevent unauthorised personnel from entering blast area and reduce the risk of injury.

B. To keep the blast area clear for maintenance vehicles.

C. To ensure easier re-entry after blast.

D. To monitor environmental noise only.

2. Which term best describes the Return Airway?

A. Any part of an intake that is on the return side within 100 m outbye of the most inbye completed C/Ts.

B. The main intake shaft.

C. Ventilation network control.

D. Air in the mine refuge chamber.

3. Which actions are permissible when you interfere with an incident site (dangerous, serious or death)?

A. Assist injured person; Remove deceased person; Make area safe/reduce risk to further notifiable; Police investigation; Inspection/regulator permission.

B. Take photographs only.

C. Move equipment and resume operations.

D. Ignore the incident.

4. In a rescue and emergency response scenario, which action best describes the initial activities of the team during an incident?

A. Wait for external teams before acting.

B. Provide initial response, perform rescues, administer first aid, and liaison with external emergency services.

C. Only document actions.

D. Do not communicate with outside agencies.

5. What training must workers have before performing high-risk tasks?

A. Only general induction is required.

B. Adequate induction and task-specific training, competency assessment, and up-to-date permits to work where required.

C. Training is optional.

D. Training is completed after task.

6. What is the purpose of continuous gas monitoring related to triggers?

A. Continuous gas monitoring detects changes promptly, triggers control measures, enables ventilation adjustments and evacuation if required.

B. Gas monitoring is only for compliance at audits.

C. It should be used only when a leak is suspected.

D. It monitors only CO2 levels.

7. How is the importance of PPE addressed in NSW coal mine operations?

A. PPE is provided by workers at their own expense.

B. PPE must be selected based on risk assessment, provided by the employer, and workers trained in use and enforcement of wearing it.

C. PPE is mandatory for all activities regardless of risk.

D. PPE decisions are made by managers without input.

8. In a typical Fire Depot, what hose size is commonly included?

A. 38 mm.

B. 50 mm.

C. 25 mm.

D. 76 mm.

9. When must notifiable incidents be reported and how are investigations handled?

A. Notified as soon as practicable; investigations initiated; follow-up reporting completed.

B. Notified annually.

C. Only after a fatality.

D. No formal process.

10. Describe the Narrabri distribution barrier design for standard height.

A. 12 bags, hung in 2 rows

B. 11 bags, hung in 2 rows

C. 11 bags, in 2 rows 0.3m apart

D. 11 bags, hung in 2 Rows 0.5m apart

Answers

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

Explanations

1. What is the purpose of exclusion zones during blasting operations?

A. To prevent unauthorised personnel from entering blast area and reduce the risk of injury.

B. To keep the blast area clear for maintenance vehicles.

C. To ensure easier re-entry after blast.

D. To monitor environmental noise only.

Exclusion zones are a safety control around the blast site that restricts access to authorised personnel only. The main purpose is to prevent people from entering the area during a blast, protecting them from hazards like flyrock, blast overpressure, and ground vibration that can cause serious injuries. The zone's size is based on the blast design, bench height, delays, and rock properties, so it aligns with the level of risk. Barriers, signage, and permit-to-work systems are used to enforce the boundary and control entry times, with re-entry only after supervisors confirm it's safe. Other options miss the point: keeping space clear for maintenance vehicles isn't the primary goal, re-entry after a blast is not meant to be easier but safe and controlled, and environmental noise monitoring is a separate concern.

2. Which term best describes the Return Airway?

A. Any part of an intake that is on the return side within 100 m outbye of the most inbye completed C/Ts.

B. The main intake shaft.

C. Ventilation network control.

D. Air in the mine refuge chamber.

In underground mine ventilation, air moves from the intake network toward the working faces and then returns back toward the surface. A Return Airway is the portion of the intake that has become part of the path carrying air back, i.e., it lies on the return side. The boundary used is within 100 metres outbye of the most inbye completed crosscuts (C/Ts). This definition captures which sections are already part of the returning flow rather than supplying fresh air, which matters for monitoring gas levels, controlling airflow, and safety procedures. The other options describe a source of fresh air (the main intake shaft), a system function (ventilation network control), or air inside a safety refuge chamber, none of which define the pathway that carries used air back to the surface.

3. Which actions are permissible when you interfere with an incident site (dangerous, serious or death)?

A. Assist injured person; Remove deceased person; Make area safe/reduce risk to further notifiable; Police investigation; Inspection/regulator permission.

B. Take photographs only.

C. Move equipment and resume operations.

D. Ignore the incident.

When an incident site is involved, the priority is to save lives, secure the scene, and enable proper regulatory oversight. Assisting an injured person is essential to provide care and support, while removing a deceased person may be necessary to access others or to safeguard the area, all done with appropriate respect and in line with procedures. Making the area safe and reducing risk to others helps prevent further harm and keeps bystanders away from hazards. Involving the police for investigation and obtaining regulator or inspector permission ensures the incident is properly reviewed and that any actions taken fit legal and procedural requirements for notifiable incidents. Taking photographs alone doesn't address immediate safety or the need to preserve the scene for investigation, moving equipment and resuming operations can destroy evidence and create further danger, and ignoring the incident is not acceptable.

4. In a rescue and emergency response scenario, which action best describes the initial activities of the team during an incident?

A. Wait for external teams before acting.

B. Provide initial response, perform rescues, administer first aid, and liaison with external emergency services.

C. Only document actions.

D. Do not communicate with outside agencies.

In a rescue and emergency response, the priority is to act quickly to stabilize lives and control the scene while coordinating with other responders. The best answer reflects taking immediate action: provide the initial response, carry out rescues as needed, administer first aid to those injured, and liaison with external emergency services to bring in additional support, equipment, and expertise. This approach ensures lifesaving care starts without delay and that the incident is escalated properly as needed. Waiting for external teams before acting would waste crucial moments that can be critical for victims. Focusing only on documenting actions misses the immediate life-saving tasks. Not communicating with outside agencies would hinder access to additional resources and coordinated response, which is essential in the early stages of an incident.

5. What training must workers have before performing high-risk tasks?

A. Only general induction is required.

B. Adequate induction and task-specific training, competency assessment, and up-to-date permits to work where required.

C. Training is optional.

D. Training is completed after task.

Before performing high risk tasks, workers must have not only an adequate induction but also task specific training, a competency assessment, and up to date permits to work where required. This combination ensures they know the exact hazards of the task, how to control them, and that their ability to perform the task has been formally verified. General induction covers broad safety topics, but high risk tasks have unique risks that require practical confirmation of competence. If training is relied on as optional or only given after the task, essential safety controls would be missing and the worker could be exposed to unnecessary danger.

6. What is the purpose of continuous gas monitoring related to triggers?

A. Continuous gas monitoring detects changes promptly, triggers control measures, enables ventilation adjustments and evacuation if required.

B. Gas monitoring is only for compliance at audits.

C. It should be used only when a leak is suspected.

D. It monitors only CO2 levels.

Continuous gas monitoring with triggers focuses on real-time detection of gas changes and automatic safety actions. When gas concentrations reach predefined thresholds, the system triggers responses such as adjusting ventilation, isolating or slowing equipment, and, if needed, initiating evacuation. This turns monitoring into active hazard management, allowing rapid mitigation as conditions evolve and reducing the risk of ignition or toxic exposure. The other statements miss essential aspects: monitoring isn't just for audits; it provides ongoing protection in the working environment. It isn't only used when a leak is suspected; gas levels can rise without a visible leak and require prompt response. And it isn't limited to carbon dioxide; continuous monitoring tracks multiple hazardous gases relevant to mining operations (such as methane, carbon monoxide, and oxygen levels) depending on site risk.

7. How is the importance of PPE addressed in NSW coal mine operations?

A. PPE is provided by workers at their own expense.

B. PPE must be selected based on risk assessment, provided by the employer, and workers trained in use and enforcement of wearing it.

C. PPE is mandatory for all activities regardless of risk.

D. PPE decisions are made by managers without input.

PPE is treated as a risk-based control: its selection is driven by the hazard identified in a risk assessment, the employer must provide it at no cost, and workers are trained in how to use it properly and in the rules around wearing it. This ensures PPE is suitable for the specific risks of the operation and used consistently, with ongoing training and supervision to enforce compliance. In NSW coal mines, PPE fits within the broader hierarchy of controls and is used to manage residual risk after other measures are in place. This approach—employer-provided, risk-based selection combined with training and enforcement—reflects responsible safety practice, whereas asking workers to supply PPE, applying it regardless of risk, or letting managers decide without input would not align with safety requirements.

8. In a typical Fire Depot, what hose size is commonly included?

A. 38 mm.

B. 50 mm.

C. 25 mm.

D. 76 mm.

The main idea is choosing a hose size that gives enough water flow while still being easy to handle and quick to deploy. A 38 mm hose hits that balance best for a typical Fire Depot. It's the standard handline size used in Australian firefighting, so it works well with the common nozzles and couplings found on depot pumps, and its weight and flexibility let a single firefighter or a small crew get a line out quickly for an initial attack. A 50 mm hose, while capable of higher flow, is heavier and less convenient for rapid response on a battlefield of confined or varied mine layouts. A 25 mm hose is easier to carry but often doesn't provide sufficient flow for many depot or early-fire scenarios. A 76 mm hose is large-diameter and designed for large supply lines rather than standard handlines, making it impractical as the commonly included hose in a Fire Depot.

9. When must notifiable incidents be reported and how are investigations handled?

A. Notified as soon as practicable; investigations initiated; follow-up reporting completed.

B. Notified annually.

C. Only after a fatality.

D. No formal process.

Prompt reporting of notifiable incidents, followed by a formal investigation and then follow up reporting, is the standard approach. Notifiable incidents are serious events defined by safety regulations that require immediate action to protect people and prevent recurrence. You must notify as soon as practicable—don't wait for a scheduled time or for more information—so regulators can respond quickly and risk controls can be put in place. Once the incident is notified, an investigation is initiated to determine what happened, why it happened, and what corrective actions are needed. The investigation is carried out systematically, gathering evidence, interviewing people, and analyzing contributing factors. After the investigation, follow up reporting is completed to document the findings, the corrective actions taken, implementation timelines, and any further regulatory reporting requirements. Annual reporting would delay essential safety responses; not all notifiable incidents involve fatalities, so waiting for a fatality misses the broader scope of events that require immediate attention; and there is a formal process in place for notification, investigation, and reporting.

10. Describe the Narrabri distribution barrier design for standard height.

A. 12 bags, hung in 2 rows

B. 11 bags, hung in 2 rows

C. 11 bags, in 2 rows 0.3m apart

D. 11 bags, hung in 2 Rows 0.5m apart

The standard height Narrabri distribution barrier is achieved by using eleven bags hung in two rows with a 0.5-meter gap between the rows. This setup creates a uniform barrier surface across the opening, giving the required height and continuity to block or control the intended flow. The two-row arrangement adds thickness and stability, ensuring the barrier remains effective under operational conditions, while the 0.5-meter spacing defines the gap between rows so the barrier maintains its shape and performance. Deviating from this by changing the bag count or spacing would move away from the established height and cross-section, reducing consistency with the standard.

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://nswdepcoalmine.examzify.com

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