

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) SLC Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	16

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

- 1. What are confined spaces in the context of workplace safety?**
 - A. Areas designed for normal occupancy**
 - B. Areas that are not continuously occupied and have limited entry**
 - C. Areas that have open ventilation**
 - D. Public spaces within the workplace**

- 2. What is the status of the outside of a gown when wearing personal protective equipment (PPE)?**
 - A. Uncontaminated**
 - B. Contaminated**
 - C. Clean**
 - D. Sterile**

- 3. Why are record-keeping requirements particularly significant for employers?**
 - A. To track incidents and identify trends**
 - B. To increase payroll efficiency**
 - C. To ensure employee satisfaction**
 - D. To reduce training time**

- 4. What does "safe work practices" refer to?**
 - A. Methods that require no training**
 - B. Guidelines to minimize risks during tasks**
 - C. Long-term health benefits strategies**
 - D. Techniques designed for rapid task completion**

- 5. What is the mode of transmission in the context of infection?**
 - A. A way that the infectious agent can be transmitted to another host**
 - B. A method for isolating infectious individuals**
 - C. An immune response to infection**
 - D. A health practice to ensure safety**

- 6. Which scenario represents an act of medical negligence?**
- A. A patient's informed consent is not obtained**
 - B. A delay in diagnosing a condition**
 - C. A medical device malfunction**
 - D. A decision made based on patient history alone**
- 7. What is a key aspect of tracking safety incidents in a workplace?**
- A. Minimizing the number of required reports**
 - B. Understanding trends to improve safety measures**
 - C. Avoiding documentation to reduce liability**
 - D. Relying solely on employee testimonies**
- 8. What can serve as a reservoir for infection?**
- A. A person with a chronic illness**
 - B. An inert surface not contaminated**
 - C. A healthy individual**
 - D. A piece of medical equipment**
- 9. How does OSHA define "toxic substances"?**
- A. Substances that are enjoyable to work with**
 - B. Chemicals that can cause harm to health upon exposure**
 - C. Materials that are only harmful in large quantities**
 - D. Substances that are safe under normal conditions**
- 10. How does OSHA view repeated violations of safety standards by an employer?**
- A. As acceptable if improvements are made**
 - B. As a serious violation warranting action**
 - C. As a learning opportunity for employees**
 - D. As an indication of sufficient resources**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What are confined spaces in the context of workplace safety?

- A. Areas designed for normal occupancy
- B. Areas that are not continuously occupied and have limited entry**
- C. Areas that have open ventilation
- D. Public spaces within the workplace

Confined spaces in the context of workplace safety refer to areas that are not designed for continuous occupancy and have limited means of entry and exit. This definition is critical because confined spaces often present unique hazards, such as insufficient oxygen, toxic gas accumulation, or physical hazards that can arise during work activities. These spaces are not typically occupied by workers on a regular basis, making it essential to establish safety protocols and procedures for anyone who may need to enter them. Understanding this definition supports the implementation of safety measures to protect workers from the specific risks associated with confined spaces, which are often overlooked in training and safety planning. The other choices do not accurately capture the essence of confined spaces, as areas designed for normal occupancy or with open ventilation would not meet the criteria for confined spaces, nor would public spaces within the workplace, which are freely accessible and usually well-ventilated. Recognizing the distinction is vital for enforcement and compliance with OSHA regulations regarding confined spaces.

2. What is the status of the outside of a gown when wearing personal protective equipment (PPE)?

- A. Uncontaminated
- B. Contaminated**
- C. Clean
- D. Sterile

When wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) like gowns, the status of the outside of the gown is considered contaminated. This is because the outer layer of the gown is designed to protect the wearer from exposure to infectious materials, hazardous substances, or bodily fluids. As such, it becomes a barrier that collects contaminants from the surrounding environment or from the wearer's body. The primary function of the gown is to serve as a protective barrier, and once it has been used in a potentially contaminated environment, any exposure to pathogens or substances makes the exterior of the gown contaminated. Therefore, after completing a task or procedure, it is essential to handle the gown with care when removing it to prevent the spread of contaminants to other surfaces or individuals. In contrast, the inside of the gown, which is closest to the wearer's skin, is typically considered uncontaminated if the gown is donned correctly and not compromised. Understanding the correct status of PPE components is crucial for following infection control practices and maintaining safety protocols in various settings, such as healthcare facilities.

3. Why are record-keeping requirements particularly significant for employers?

- A. To track incidents and identify trends**
- B. To increase payroll efficiency**
- C. To ensure employee satisfaction**
- D. To reduce training time**

Record-keeping requirements are particularly significant for employers primarily because they allow for tracking incidents and identifying trends. This practice is essential in fostering a safer work environment and meeting regulatory compliance. By systematically documenting workplace injuries, illnesses, and near misses, employers can analyze patterns that may emerge over time. For instance, if records indicate a spike in injuries occurring in a specific area or associated with certain tasks, employers can investigate the underlying causes and implement necessary changes to mitigate risks. This continuous loop of monitoring, analyzing, and improving contributes not only to employee safety but also to overall business efficiency and cost reduction related to workplace incidents. The importance of record-keeping transcends mere regulatory compliance; it plays a critical role in proactive safety management and prevention strategies, ultimately aiming to create a healthier workplace.

4. What does "safe work practices" refer to?

- A. Methods that require no training**
- B. Guidelines to minimize risks during tasks**
- C. Long-term health benefits strategies**
- D. Techniques designed for rapid task completion**

"Safe work practices" refer to guidelines that are established to minimize risks during tasks. These practices are essential in maintaining a safe working environment by providing workers with the necessary protocols to follow in order to prevent accidents and injuries. Such guidelines include proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE), adhering to standard operating procedures, and ensuring that work environments are free of hazards. By focusing on reducing risk factors, safe work practices help create a culture of safety and health in the workplace. The other choices do not encapsulate the comprehensive nature of safe work practices. Methods that require no training do not prioritize safety, as training is crucial for ensuring that employees are well-informed about potential hazards and how to avoid them. Long-term health benefits strategies might focus on overall health and wellness but do not specifically address immediate workplace safety. Techniques designed for rapid task completion may prioritize efficiency but could disregard safety protocols, leading to higher risks of accidents.

5. What is the mode of transmission in the context of infection?

- A. A way that the infectious agent can be transmitted to another host**
- B. A method for isolating infectious individuals**
- C. An immune response to infection**
- D. A health practice to ensure safety**

The mode of transmission refers specifically to the mechanisms by which infectious agents, such as bacteria, viruses, or parasites, are spread from one host to another. This can include various routes such as direct contact, airborne transmission, vector-borne spread, and more. Understanding this concept is fundamental in infection control, as it helps identify how diseases propagate and informs strategies to prevent such spread. By accurately identifying the modes of transmission, health professionals can implement appropriate control measures, such as vaccination, quarantine, or environmental sanitation, to mitigate the risk of transmission. This knowledge is critical for both individual and public health. The other choices do not directly address what mode of transmission signifies in the context of infection. The second option relates to isolating individuals who are infected, which is a strategy rather than a mode of transmission. The third option discusses the immune response, and the fourth option focuses on a health practice rather than the fundamentals of disease transmission.

6. Which scenario represents an act of medical negligence?

- A. A patient's informed consent is not obtained**
- B. A delay in diagnosing a condition**
- C. A medical device malfunction**
- D. A decision made based on patient history alone**

The scenario representing an act of medical negligence is when there is a delay in diagnosing a condition. Medical negligence occurs when a healthcare provider fails to provide the standard of care that a reasonably competent provider would have offered in similar circumstances, leading to harm or a worsened condition for the patient. In the case of a delay in diagnosis, it suggests that the healthcare provider did not adequately assess the patient's condition. This delay can result in the progression of the illness to a more severe stage, which could have been avoided with timely intervention. The key aspect here is that the delay reflects a failure to act or a failure to act with the expected timeliness required for appropriate patient care, which constitutes negligence if it can be demonstrated that this lack of timely care caused harm to the patient. Obtaining informed consent, while critical in medical practice, is more about ensuring that patients are educated about their treatment options and risks rather than a direct act of negligence itself. A malfunctioning medical device can lead to adverse effects but falls under issues related to product liability or faulty equipment rather than direct negligence by a medical professional. Similarly, making a decision based solely on patient history may not inherently constitute negligence if the provider's actions can be justified based on that history.

7. What is a key aspect of tracking safety incidents in a workplace?

- A. Minimizing the number of required reports
- B. Understanding trends to improve safety measures**
- C. Avoiding documentation to reduce liability
- D. Relying solely on employee testimonies

Understanding trends to improve safety measures is crucial in tracking safety incidents in the workplace. By systematically documenting and analyzing incidents, organizations can identify patterns or recurring issues that may not be immediately apparent. This trend analysis enables employers to understand which areas of the workplace may be at a higher risk for incidents and allows for the development of targeted interventions and preventive measures. For instance, if a certain type of incident occurs frequently, the organization can investigate the underlying causes and implement changes, such as additional training, improved equipment, or alterations to work processes. The ultimate goal of tracking incidents is to create a safer work environment, minimize future occurrences, and foster a culture of safety. The other choices do not support effective safety incident tracking. Minimizing reports can compromise the ability to gather essential data. Avoiding documentation can lead to unaddressed risks and potential legal issues. Relying solely on employee testimonies may result in incomplete or biased understandings of incidents, lacking the comprehensive view needed for effective safety improvements.

8. What can serve as a reservoir for infection?

- A. A person with a chronic illness
- B. An inert surface not contaminated
- C. A healthy individual
- D. A piece of medical equipment**

Infectious agents require a suitable environment to survive and multiply, which is referred to as a reservoir for infection. A piece of medical equipment can be a reservoir when it is contaminated with pathogens, providing an avenue for these pathogens to remain viable and potentially transfer to patients or healthcare providers. In healthcare settings, medical equipment is often exposed to bodily fluids or skin contact, making it particularly susceptible to contamination if not adequately sterilized or cleaned. The other options do not align with the concept of a reservoir in the same way. For example, while a person with a chronic illness may harbor infectious agents, they are not considered a reservoir unless they are actively transmitting the infection. Healthy individuals generally do not serve as reservoirs because they do not carry infectious agents. An inert surface not contaminated does not present any risk for infection as it lacks the pathogens required for transmission. Thus, a piece of medical equipment, especially if it is not properly sterilized, clearly fits the criteria for serving as a reservoir for infection.

9. How does OSHA define "toxic substances"?

- A. Substances that are enjoyable to work with
- B. Chemicals that can cause harm to health upon exposure**
- C. Materials that are only harmful in large quantities
- D. Substances that are safe under normal conditions

OSHA defines "toxic substances" as chemicals that can cause harm to health upon exposure. This definition emphasizes the potential harmful effects these substances can have on workers' well-being, highlighting that even small amounts or certain exposure scenarios can lead to adverse health effects. The classification of a substance as toxic is based on its capability to cause illness or injury, which can be immediate or develop over time. This approach ensures that workplaces take the necessary precautions to protect employees from these hazards, emphasizing the importance of proper handling, storage, and use of these substances to minimize risks associated with occupational exposure. In contrast, the other choices do not accurately reflect the definition of toxic substances. Describing substances as enjoyable to work with does not connect to their safety or health implications, while stating that substances are only harmful in large quantities fails to recognize that toxicity can vary greatly based on individual substances and exposure conditions. Lastly, claiming that substances are safe under normal conditions ignores the fact that many toxic substances can present dangers even in routine usage, necessitating proper safety measures.

10. How does OSHA view repeated violations of safety standards by an employer?

- A. As acceptable if improvements are made
- B. As a serious violation warranting action**
- C. As a learning opportunity for employees
- D. As an indication of sufficient resources

OSHA takes repeated violations of safety standards very seriously, reflecting a fundamental commitment to workplace safety and health. When an employer fails to correct known safety issues and continues to violate established standards, it indicates a pattern of non-compliance that can significantly endanger employees' health and safety. This pattern is treated as a serious violation because it suggests that the employer is not adequately prioritizing safety regulations and does not have effective measures in place to protect workers. As a result, OSHA may escalate enforcement actions, which can include heavier fines and restrictions, as well as increased scrutiny of the employer's safety practices. This approach is intended to encourage compliance and ensure that employees work in safe environments. The other options do not accurately reflect OSHA's stance on repeated violations. While improvements are always encouraged, simply making changes without addressing the root cause of violations is not considered sufficient. Similarly, OSHA does not perceive repeated violations as learning opportunities for employees, nor do they imply that an employer has ample resources to manage safety; rather, they indicate a failure to maintain a safe workplace.

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://osha-slc.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE