Oklahoma Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide

Everything you need from our exam experts!

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 maximum operating pressure allowed in an air duct system?

A. 5.0 iwc

B. 10.0 iwc

C. 15.0 iwc

D. 20.0 iwc

2. A bathroom in a dwelling unit must have a minimum intermittent exhaust of how many CFM?

A. 25 cfm

B. 50 cfm

C. 75 cfm

D. 100 cfm

3. What should the steam pressure at the ejector nozzle of a steam jet typically be?

A. 100 PSIA

B. 150 PSIA

C. 200 PSIA

D. 250 PSIA

4. Where should the external equalizing line be installed in relation to the thermostatic expansion valve?

A. Upstream

B. Downstream

C. At the inlet

D. At the outlet

5. What does the acronym HVAC stand for?

A. Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning

B. Heating, Ventilation, and Aerial Control

C. High Velocity Air Control

D. Humidity Variable Air Conditioning

6. A connector connected to a chimney flue must be at least how many inches above the lowest portion of the interior of the flue?

A. 6"

B. 12"

C. 18"

D. 24"

7. What type of HVAC system uses air as its primary medium for heating and cooling?

A. Hydronic system

B. Steam system

C. Air-based system

D. Geothermal system

8. What is a common sign that refrigerant piping may need insulation?

A. Visible frost on piping

B. No pressure readings

C. Unusual noises from the compressor

D. Heating of the refrigerant

9. In a public garage, a heater must be installed at least how far above the floor?

A. 6 feet

B. 7 feet

C. 8 feet

D. 9 feet

10. What type of gauge must be equipped on hot water heating boilers?

A. Vacuum gauge

B. Temperature gauge

C. Pressure gauge

D. Fuel gauge

Answers

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

Explanations

1. What is the maximum operating pressure allowed in an air duct system?

A. 5.0 iwc

B. 10.0 iwc

C. 15.0 iwc

D. 20.0 iwc

The maximum operating pressure allowed in an air duct system is critical for ensuring safety and efficiency. In HVAC systems, static or internal pressure in ductwork is typically measured in inches of water column (iwc). The correct answer reflects standards that ensure the structural integrity of the ductwork and prevention of failure or air leaks. An operating pressure of 10.0 iwc is generally accepted for many commercial and residential systems, allowing for a balance between performance and safety. This level of pressure is adequate to support proper airflow and system efficiency without risking damage to the duct materials, which can occur at higher pressures. Higher pressure systems may be used in specific industrial applications, but they come with increased risks and require more robust materials and design considerations. The chosen standard helps maintain a safe and effective HVAC system that meets typical building requirements.

2. A bathroom in a dwelling unit must have a minimum intermittent exhaust of how many CFM?

A. 25 cfm

B. 50 cfm

C. 75 cfm

D. 100 cfm

The minimum intermittent exhaust requirement for a bathroom in a dwelling unit is set at 50 cubic feet per minute (CFM). This standard is established to ensure adequate ventilation to remove excess moisture, odors, and harmful indoor air pollutants that can accumulate in enclosed spaces, especially in areas with high humidity like bathrooms. Proper ventilation is crucial in preventing mold growth and maintaining air quality. An exhaust fan providing 50 CFM is generally recognized as sufficient to effectively ventilate a typical bathroom, which usually features plumbing fixtures that produce steam and moisture. Higher values, such as 75 CFM or 100 CFM, may be applicable in situations involving larger bathrooms or in specific local building codes, but the standard minimum requirement set by most building codes is 50 CFM. Thus, ensuring that the exhaust system meets or exceeds this standard is essential for both health and safety in residential settings.

3. What should the steam pressure at the ejector nozzle of a steam jet typically be?

A. 100 PSIA

B. 150 PSIA

C. 200 PSIA

D. 250 PSIA

The steam pressure at the ejector nozzle of a steam jet is typically set around 150 PSIA because this pressure provides an effective balance between efficiency and performance for most applications. At this pressure, the steam has sufficient energy to create a strong vacuum when it expands through the nozzle. This expansion allows the ejector to move air or other gases efficiently, making it ideal for various HVAC and industrial processes. Selecting a lower pressure might not generate enough energy for effective gas movement, while higher pressures, like 200 PSIA or 250 PSIA, can lead to increased operational costs and diminished returns in efficiency. Hence, 150 PSIA is considered optimal for maximizing both performance and cost-effectiveness in steam jet applications.

4. Where should the external equalizing line be installed in relation to the thermostatic expansion valve?

A. Upstream

B. Downstream

C. At the inlet

D. At the outlet

The external equalizing line should be installed downstream of the thermostatic expansion valve. This line allows for pressure equalization between the sensing bulb of the expansion valve and the evaporator, ensuring that the valve can operate effectively and maintain the desired superheat level. By installing the equalizing line downstream, the expansion valve is able to respond accurately to changes in refrigerant pressure within the evaporator. This positioning helps in compensating for pressure drops that may occur as the refrigerant moves through the system, which is crucial for maintaining proper cooling efficiency and system performance. If the equalizing line were placed upstream or at the inlet, it could lead to fluctuations in valve performance, causing inefficient operation and potential system issues. Placing it at the outlet would not provide the necessary information for proper control of the expansion valve in relation to the evaporator conditions. Therefore, the correct placement ensures optimal functionality of the HVAC system.

5. What does the acronym HVAC stand for?

A. Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning

B. Heating, Ventilation, and Aerial Control

C. High Velocity Air Control

D. Humidity Variable Air Conditioning

The acronym HVAC stands for Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning. This term encompasses the technology and systems used to regulate indoor environmental conditions in residential, commercial, and industrial buildings. Heating refers to systems that generate warmth for living spaces, particularly during cold weather. Ventilation involves the process of exchanging or replacing air within a space to ensure a healthy indoor environment by maintaining air quality and regulating humidity. Air Conditioning pertains to the systems used to cool and dehumidify the air, making indoor spaces more comfortable during hot weather. Understanding this acronym is crucial for anyone involved in HVAC, as it encapsulates the core functions that these systems perform to maintain comfortable and safe indoor climates.

6. A connector connected to a chimney flue must be at least how many inches above the lowest portion of the interior of the flue?

A. 6"

B. 12"

C. 18"

D. 24"

The requirement for a connector connected to a chimney flue to be at least 12 inches above the lowest portion of the interior of the flue is tied to safety and performance considerations in HVAC installations. This height helps ensure proper venting and helps prevent issues such as backdrafting, which can occur if the connector is too low, potentially causing harmful gases to enter living spaces. Additionally, maintaining this minimum height helps facilitate the correct flow of combustion gases, reducing the likelihood of condensation forming within the connector and flue. This condensation can lead to corrosion and degrade the efficiency of the system over time. A 12-inch elevation is a standard that supports effective operation while adhering to safety regulations, ensuring that the system can operate safely and effectively over its lifespan.

7. What type of HVAC system uses air as its primary medium for heating and cooling?

A. Hydronic system

B. Steam system

C. Air-based system

D. Geothermal system

An air-based system is designed specifically to utilize air as the main medium for both heating and cooling spaces. These systems typically include components like air handling units, ductwork, and blowers to circulate conditioned air throughout a building. The primary method of heat exchange in air-based systems often involves heat pumps or air conditioners, which are responsible for removing or adding heat to the air that is then distributed within the living or working environment. In contrast, hydronic systems use water as the heating medium, delivering heat through pipes and radiators, whereas steam systems operate similarly but utilize steam instead of hot water. Geothermal systems harness the earth's thermal energy to heat and cool spaces and primarily involve water or refrigerants as mediums. Each of these alternatives is effective in various applications but does not primarily rely on air for transferring heat. This distinction highlights why an air-based system is specifically categorized under those that use air for the heating and cooling processes.

8. What is a common sign that refrigerant piping may need insulation?

A. Visible frost on piping

B. No pressure readings

C. Unusual noises from the compressor

D. Heating of the refrigerant

Visible frost on refrigerant piping is a common sign that insulation may be needed. When refrigerant lines are not properly insulated, they can become cold enough to cause condensation and, ultimately, frost to form on the outside of the piping. This occurs because the temperature of the refrigerant inside the pipe is significantly lower than the ambient temperature, leading to moisture in the air freezing on the surface of the pipe. Proper insulation helps to maintain the refrigerant's temperature, prevents energy loss, and reduces the risk of moisture entering the system, which can lead to other issues such as corrosion or reduced efficiency. If frost is visible, it is a clear indication that the refrigerant is not being adequately protected from external temperature changes, highlighting the need for insulation. The other choices indicate different issues or conditions unrelated to insulation. Lack of pressure readings could suggest a different problem such as a leak or a failure in the system that doesn't directly relate to the need for insulation. Unusual noises from the compressor might point to mechanical issues or strain on the system rather than insulation needs. Heating of the refrigerant would typically suggest that the system is functioning under load or encountering a different operational problem, rather than indicating a need for insulation.

9. In a public garage, a heater must be installed at least how far above the floor?

A. 6 feet

B. 7 feet

C. 8 feet

D. 9 feet

In a public garage, heaters need to be installed at a minimum height of 8 feet above the floor primarily to ensure safety and compliance with fire and safety regulations. This height helps mitigate the risk of accidental contact with vehicles and their occupants, as well as reduces the risk of heat-related ignition of flammable materials commonly found in garages. Installing the heater at this clearance allows for proper air circulation, which is essential for efficient operation and safety. Placing heaters too close to the ground could pose a hazard by creating an environment conducive to the buildup of flammable vapors, thus increasing fire risk. This safety code is particularly important in environments such as public garages, where there may be a higher concentration of automotive fluids that can be flammable. Other options suggest different heights that do not align with the regulations typically enforced in such settings, emphasizing the importance of adhering to these standards to maintain a safe and compliant environment.

10. What type of gauge must be equipped on hot water heating boilers?

A. Vacuum gauge

B. Temperature gauge

C. Pressure gauge

D. Fuel gauge

Hot water heating boilers require a pressure gauge to monitor the pressure of the water within the system. This is crucial for ensuring the safe and efficient operation of the boiler. The pressure gauge provides vital information about the internal pressure, which helps in preventing potential hazards such as leaks or explosions if the pressure exceeds safe limits. In a hot water boiler system, maintaining the correct pressure is essential for efficient heating performance and to avoid damage to the boiler components. If the pressure is too low, the boiler may not function correctly, leading to inadequate heating. Conversely, if the pressure is too high, it can cause safety valves to activate or lead to boiler failure. While temperature gauges are also important for monitoring the heat of the water, they do not provide crucial information about the pressure levels, which directly affect the integrity and performance of the heating system. Vacuum gauges are not typically used in hot water heating systems, as they measure sub-atmospheric pressures, and fuel gauges are relevant only in systems that use fuel tanks for heating instead of relying on water heating methods.

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://oklahomahvac.examzify.com

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