

# OPOTA Private Security Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

**This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,**

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**SAMPLE**

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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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.**

## **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.**

## **7. Use Other Tools**

**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!**

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## Questions

- 1. What is the term for a method used in shoplifting where an individual conceals an item in their hand?**
  - A. Booster equipment**
  - B. Palming objects**
  - C. Distraction techniques**
  - D. Wearing clothing under own clothing**
- 2. What is the main distinction between proprietary security and contract security?**
  - A. Proprietary security is volunteer-based**
  - B. Contract security is less skilled**
  - C. Proprietary security is in-house and managed by the organization**
  - D. Contract security requires more funding**
- 3. How can fire education help individuals in a fire emergency?**
  - A. It informs them about materials to use for fire extinguishment**
  - B. It teaches them to eliminate fire hazards**
  - C. It shows them how to survive and react properly**
  - D. It prepares them to develop fire safety codes**
- 4. Which is a guideline for being an effective listener?**
  - A. Interrupt frequently**
  - B. Change the subject often**
  - C. Look at the other person**
  - D. Keep your emotions hidden**
- 5. What is one of the phases of burning?**
  - A. Freezing phase**
  - B. Incipient phase**
  - C. Cooling phase**
  - D. Combustion phase**



- 6. What essential questions must be answered in a report?**
- A. Who, Where, What, When, How, Why**
  - B. Where, When, How, Who, Expenditure, Result**
  - C. What, How, When, Where, Rumor, Who**
  - D. Why, Who, What, Time, Where, Emotion**
- 7. What is an essential aspect of your posture while taking the oath in a legal proceeding?**
- A. Keep one foot elevated**
  - B. Stand erect with your right hand raised**
  - C. Sit leaning back in the chair**
  - D. Maintain a casual demeanor**
- 8. What type of agent should be used to extinguish a Class A fire?**
- A. Dry chemicals**
  - B. Foam**
  - C. Halon**
  - D. Carbon dioxide**
- 9. What term describes assistance that does not involve direct action but offers support in a security context?**
- A. Cooperation**
  - B. Passive Assistance**
  - C. Active Engagement**
  - D. Supportive Behavior**
- 10. What can be a consequence of failing to secure proprietary information?**
- A. Increased market competition**
  - B. Higher operational costs**
  - C. Loss of market share**
  - D. Reduced employee productivity**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the term for a method used in shoplifting where an individual conceals an item in their hand?**

- A. Booster equipment**
- B. Palming objects**
- C. Distraction techniques**
- D. Wearing clothing under own clothing**

The term "palming objects" refers specifically to the method of concealing an item in one's hand to facilitate shoplifting. This technique allows the individual to conceal small items discreetly, making it challenging for store personnel to detect the theft. By holding the item in the palm, the thief can easily maneuver in a way that appears natural while preventing staff from noticing the concealed object. In the context of shoplifting, understanding such techniques is crucial for security professionals, as it aids in training security personnel to recognize and respond effectively to suspicious behaviors in retail environments. Being aware of palming objects can enhance observation skills and improve theft prevention strategies.

**2. What is the main distinction between proprietary security and contract security?**

- A. Proprietary security is volunteer-based**
- B. Contract security is less skilled**
- C. Proprietary security is in-house and managed by the organization**
- D. Contract security requires more funding**

The main distinction between proprietary security and contract security lies in the management and staffing structure of the security services. Proprietary security refers to security personnel who are employed directly by an organization to provide security services exclusively for that organization. This means that the security team is integrated within the organization, aligning closely with its culture, policies, and procedures. They are often trained specifically to meet the unique needs of the organization they serve. In contrast, contract security involves hiring an external security company to provide security services. This means that the personnel are not direct employees of the organization but are instead agents of the security firm that has been contracted for the service. While contract security can offer a range of personnel with varying skill levels, it may not have the same level of intimacy or alignment with the organization's specific requirements compared to proprietary security. Understanding this distinction is critical for making informed decisions about security strategies and personnel management in different organizational contexts.

### **3. How can fire education help individuals in a fire emergency?**

- A. It informs them about materials to use for fire extinguishment**
- B. It teaches them to eliminate fire hazards**
- C. It shows them how to survive and react properly**
- D. It prepares them to develop fire safety codes**

In a fire emergency, knowing how to survive and react properly is crucial for personal safety and the safety of others. Fire education equips individuals with essential skills and knowledge regarding the appropriate actions to take when a fire occurs. This may include understanding how to safely evacuate a building, recognizing the sound of alarms, identifying emergency exits, and knowing how to communicate effectively in a crisis. Additionally, proper training can help individuals remain calm, think clearly, and act quickly, significantly increasing their chances of escaping a dangerous situation unharmed and assisting others efficiently. While aspects such as identifying fire hazards or extinguishing fires are important, the immediate focus during a fire emergency should be on survival tactics and appropriate reactions. Being prepared to respond correctly can make a vital difference in life-threatening situations.

### **4. Which is a guideline for being an effective listener?**

- A. Interrupt frequently**
- B. Change the subject often**
- C. Look at the other person**
- D. Keep your emotions hidden**

Being an effective listener is crucial for effective communication, and one of the key guidelines for achieving this is maintaining eye contact with the speaker. When you look at the other person, it demonstrates that you are engaged and interested in what they are saying. This nonverbal cue helps to establish a connection and shows respect for the speaker, encouraging an open dialogue and making them feel valued. Additionally, eye contact can help you better understand the nuances of their message, such as tone and body language, which can enhance comprehension and retention of the information being shared. This practice fosters a positive communication environment and can lead to more meaningful interactions.

## 5. What is one of the phases of burning?

- A. Freezing phase
- B. Incipient phase**
- C. Cooling phase
- D. Combustion phase

The incipient phase is one of the critical stages of burning, representing the initial phase of a fire's development. During this phase, combustion is just beginning; the materials involved are starting to heat up and smoke is beginning to be produced, albeit in small quantities. This stage occurs before the fire fully evolves and before it becomes noticeable, which is essential for fire safety and prevention. Recognizing the incipient phase is crucial for fire safety personnel and security professionals because early detection can lead to more effective intervention strategies, such as extinguishing the fire before it spreads and becomes uncontrollable. Understanding this phase also helps in creating fire prevention measures, demonstrating why it is a key concept in fire dynamics and safety training. The other phases mentioned in the choices do not accurately represent the initial stage of fire development as effectively as the incipient phase does.

## 6. What essential questions must be answered in a report?

- A. Who, Where, What, When, How, Why**
- B. Where, When, How, Who, Expenditure, Result
- C. What, How, When, Where, Rumor, Who
- D. Why, Who, What, Time, Where, Emotion

The correct choice emphasizes the fundamental elements that should be included in any well-structured report. These essential questions—who, where, what, when, how, and why—serve as a framework for gathering and presenting information in a clear and comprehensive manner. - "Who" addresses the individuals or entities involved in the situation being reported, helping readers understand the key figures. - "Where" provides the location or setting of the events, giving context to the report. - "What" describes the specific events or actions that took place, ensuring clarity about the subject matter. - "When" establishes the timeline of events, which is crucial for understanding the sequence and relevance of the information. - "How" outlines the methods or processes involved, explaining the circumstances and procedures followed. - "Why" delves into the reasons behind the events, adding depth to the report by providing insight into motivations or causes. Including these questions in a report ensures a thorough understanding of the incident or topic being addressed, thereby making the report more informative and useful for its intended audience. Other options may include some aspects of these questions but do not capture the complete set that forms a comprehensive report.

**7. What is an essential aspect of your posture while taking the oath in a legal proceeding?**

- A. Keep one foot elevated**
- B. Stand erect with your right hand raised**
- C. Sit leaning back in the chair**
- D. Maintain a casual demeanor**

Maintaining a posture of standing erect with your right hand raised is essential during the oath-taking process in a legal proceeding for several reasons. This posture signifies respect for the court and the seriousness of the oath being administered. Standing erect conveys confidence and attentiveness, which are vital when affirming one's commitment to tell the truth. The act of raising the right hand is a traditional gesture associated with swearing an oath, and it symbolizes the individual's readiness to affirm their honesty and integrity in the testimony or statements they are about to make. In legal contexts, nonverbal communication carries significant weight, and adopting formal body language reinforces the credibility of the individual. A formal stance helps establish authority and allows the individual to present themselves as someone who upholds the responsibilities expected in a legal environment. Each of these factors contributes to the gravity and formality of the proceedings, underscoring the importance of delivering truthful and accurate testimony.

**8. What type of agent should be used to extinguish a Class A fire?**

- A. Dry chemicals**
- B. Foam**
- C. Halon**
- D. Carbon dioxide**

Class A fires involve ordinary combustible materials such as wood, paper, cloth, and most plastics. The best type of agent for extinguishing these fires is foam because it effectively cools the burning material and forms a barrier that prevents oxygen from reaching the fire. The foam also helps to suppress the release of flammable vapors. While dry chemicals can also be effective in suppressing Class A fires, they are not specifically designed for them and may leave a residue that could complicate cleanup. Halon is primarily used for electrical fires and can be hazardous to the environment. Carbon dioxide can effectively extinguish fires by displacing oxygen, but it is not as effective for cooling the materials involved in a Class A fire compared to foam. Therefore, foam is the most suitable choice for extinguishing a Class A fire due to its cooling and smothering properties, making it the preferred fire suppression agent for this type of fire.



**9. What term describes assistance that does not involve direct action but offers support in a security context?**

- A. Cooperation**
- B. Passive Assistance**
- C. Active Engagement**
- D. Supportive Behavior**

The term that best describes assistance that does not involve direct action but offers support in a security context is "Passive Assistance." This concept emphasizes providing help that is not overtly confrontational or physically involved in a situation. Instead, it encompasses actions that contribute to safety and security without direct intervention, such as monitoring, reporting suspicious activities, or providing logistical support to active personnel. In a security environment, passive assistance plays a crucial role in maintaining awareness and safety without escalating situations. This type of support can be seen in various scenarios, such as surveillance operations where personnel observe and report rather than engage directly with potential threats. By focusing on the supportive, non-intrusive aspects, passive assistance allows security professionals to fulfill their roles effectively while minimizing risks associated with direct confrontation. The other terms imply different levels of involvement. "Cooperation," for example, suggests a collaborative approach that may involve more active participation. "Active Engagement" clearly indicates direct action or involvement in a situation, while "Supportive Behavior" is broader and could include both active and passive forms of support, but does not specifically capture the essence of non-direct involvement as well as passive assistance does.

**10. What can be a consequence of failing to secure proprietary information?**

- A. Increased market competition**
- B. Higher operational costs**
- C. Loss of market share**
- D. Reduced employee productivity**

Failing to secure proprietary information can lead to a loss of market share because when sensitive data, such as trade secrets or business strategies, is exposed to competitors, they can gain an unfair advantage. This can result in them replicating products or services, undermining your company's unique offerings. Consequently, customers may choose the competing products they perceive to be similar or improved based on the stolen information. The loss of proprietary information diminishes a company's competitive edge and can directly impact revenue and market positioning. While increased market competition, higher operational costs, and reduced employee productivity could be indirect repercussions of failing to secure proprietary information, the immediate and most significant consequence is the actual loss of market share itself. This highlights the critical importance of safeguarding sensitive data to maintain a firm's competitive status in the marketplace.

# 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

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

**<https://opotaprivatesecurity.examzify.com>**

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