PCA Youngster Spring Practice Test (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. In top-attack mode, what is the altitude of the FGM-148 Javelin?

A. 190 ft in top-attack mode

B. 350 ft in top-attack mode

C. 500 ft in top-attack mode

D. 700 ft in top-attack mode

2. A Low Earth orbit is described as which shape?

A. Elliptical

B. Geostationary

C. Circular

D. Hyperbolic

3. What is the primary purpose of Spacelift?

A. Deliver payloads into space

B. Pilot training programs

C. Catalog space debris

D. Monitor weather systems

4. Which region is listed as an area where Al-Qaida operates, according to the material?

A. Middle East

B. Europe

C. Oceania

D. Americas

5. What is the YJ-12 missile?

A. Chinese supersonic anti-ship cruise missile

B. Chinese ballistic missile

C. Chinese air-to-air missile

D. Chinese submarine-launched ballistic missile

6. What are the TALON bomb robot's arm lift options?

A. 10 lb or 20 lb

B. 5 lb or 15 lb

C. 30 lb or 40 lb

D. 50 lb

7. What is the maximum speed for Tilt Rotor Aircraft as mentioned?

A. 250 kts

B. 150 kts

C. 300 kts

D. 400 kts

8. Which of the following are features of the M142 HIMARS?

A. Eight tubes; 150-lb rockets; crew of 4 Marines; independent control system

B. Six tubes; 100-lb rockets; crew of 2 Marines; includes a fire control unit only

C. Six tubes; 200-lb rockets; crew of 3 Marines; includes launcher and carrier

D. Six tubes; 200-lb rockets; crew of 3 Marines; consists of launcher, carrier, and Fire Control System

9. Which vehicle is primarily used to provide long-range fire support?

A. M777 Howitzer

B. JLTV

C. Amphibious Combat Vehicle

D. LAV-25

10. What was the primary mission of UDTs prior to amphibious landings?

A. Provide camouflage and concealment for landing craft

B. Conduct aerial bombing of beaches

C. Use submarines to clear routes

D. Provide reconnaissance and underwater demolition prior to amphibious landing

Answers

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

Explanations

1. In top-attack mode, what is the altitude of the FGM-148 Javelin?

A. 190 ft in top-attack mode

B. 350 ft in top-attack mode

C. 500 ft in top-attack mode

D. 700 ft in top-attack mode

Top-attack mode is designed to hit a tank from above, where armor is thinner and more vulnerable. To achieve this, the Javelin climbs to a lofted path and reaches about 500 feet above the target, then dives onto the top surface. That 500-foot altitude is chosen because it provides a favorable angle for striking the top armor while keeping the missile on a guided, controllable path from launch to impact. If the altitude were much lower, the attack angle wouldn't be truly top-down; if it were much higher, flight time increases and guidance accuracy can suffer. So, 500 feet in top-attack mode best matches the intended approach geometry and effectiveness of the strike. Lower altitudes (like 190 or 350 feet) don't deliver the top-down angle the mode seeks, while a much higher altitude (700 feet) would hamper accuracy and response time.

2. A Low Earth orbit is described as which shape?

A. Elliptical

B. Geostationary

C. Circular

D. Hyperbolic

Orbits around a planet are conic sections, and a circle is the special case where the satellite stays at a constant distance from the planet. Low Earth orbit is typically described as circular because engineers aim to keep the satellite at roughly the same altitude, giving a stable, predictable path suitable for communications, imaging, and tracking. In practice, many LEOs are near-circular, but the idea most often presented is a circular orbit for simplicity and consistency. The other shapes don't fit as well in this common description: a hyperbola would mean the satellite isn't bound to Earth, a true geostationary orbit is a much higher altitude with a specific 24-hour period, and a generic ellipse would imply a varying distance from Earth, which is not the usual portrayal of a typical, stable LEO.

3. What is the primary purpose of Spacelift?

A. Deliver payloads into space

B. Pilot training programs

C. Catalog space debris

D. Monitor weather systems

The main idea here is understanding what a space launch provider does: its primary job is to deliver payloads into space. Spacelift is focused on getting satellites, probes, or cargo from Earth into their target orbits or destinations, which is the core service customers seek when they work with a launch company. While pilot training, cataloging space debris, or monitoring weather systems are important activities in the broader space industry, they aren't the primary mission of a launch-focused organization. Pilot training is about crewing aircraft or spacecraft, debris cataloging is a surveillance task done by tracking networks, and weather monitoring is the job of meteorological satellites and services.

4. Which region is listed as an area where Al-Qaida operates, according to the material?

A. Middle East

B. Europe

C. Oceania

D. Americas

This question asks you to recall which region the material lists as an area where Al-Qaida operates. The material identifies the Middle East as a region of operation for Al-Qaida, reflecting its historical presence and activities in that area. The other options—Europe, Oceania, and the Americas—are not described in the material as regions where it operates, so they don't fit the reference given. Remember, when a source specifies regions of operation, the correct choice is the region named by that source, which here is the Middle East.

5. What is the YJ-12 missile?

A. Chinese supersonic anti-ship cruise missile

B. Chinese ballistic missile

C. Chinese air-to-air missile

D. Chinese submarine-launched ballistic missile

The YJ-12 is best understood as a Chinese supersonic anti-ship cruise missile. Its purpose is to strike ships at sea by flying a guided, low-altitude path through the atmosphere, typically launched from aircraft or ships. This makes it a cruise missile: it stays within the atmosphere and relies on guided flight to reach a moving maritime target, rather than following a high, arcing ballistic trajectory. This distinguishes it from ballistic missiles, which launch on a steep arc out of the atmosphere and rely on gravity to reach distant targets, often with no guided control during the ballistic portion. It's also not an air-to-air missile, which targets other aircraft, nor a submarine-launched ballistic missile, which is a ballistic system launched from undersea using a different strategic purpose. So the YJ-12 fits the anti-ship cruise missile category.

6. What are the TALON bomb robot's arm lift options?

A. 10 lb or 20 lb

B. 5 lb or 15 lb

C. 30 lb or 40 lb

D. 50 lb

The arm lift options on the TALON robot are 10 pounds or 20 pounds. This two-step setting lets the operator choose a lighter lift for precise, careful manipulation of small or delicate objects, reducing jerk and the risk of dropping or swinging the load. When more force is needed to move a heavier item or to push/pull safely, the 20-pound setting provides that extra capability while staying within the robot's safe operating limits. The other choices don't match the documented lift options and a single value like 50 pounds isn't a paired setting.

7. What is the maximum speed for Tilt Rotor Aircraft as mentioned?

A. 250 kts

B. 150 kts

C. 300 kts

D. 400 kts

The speed limit for tilt-rotor aircraft is set by how the rotors behave as you push into forward flight and how you maintain lift and control during the transition from vertical to horizontal flight. As you go faster, rotor performance, blade loads, and the risk of tip-speed or compressibility issues become more challenging to manage, so engineers choose a practical maximum that keeps handling safe and the aircraft within certified limits. About 250 knots is the speed range that balances efficient forward flight with stable rotor behavior and transition control. Speeds much higher would require significantly more advanced design and could introduce handling and vibration concerns, while speeds well below the limit don't reflect the typical operating envelope. Therefore, 250 knots is the best choice.

8. Which of the following are features of the M142 HIMARS?

A. Eight tubes; 150-lb rockets; crew of 4 Marines; independent control system

B. Six tubes; 100-lb rockets; crew of 2 Marines; includes a fire control unit only

C. Six tubes; 200-lb rockets; crew of 3 Marines; includes launcher and carrier

D. Six tubes; 200-lb rockets; crew of 3 Marines; consists of launcher, carrier, and Fire Control System

The feature being tested is the exact configuration of the M142 HIMARS: a six-tube launcher on a wheeled carrier that fires 200-pound-class guided rockets, operated by a crew of three Marines, and delivered as a complete package that includes the launcher, carrier, and the Fire Control System. This combination reflects how HIMARS is built to be a compact, highly mobile artillery system with integrated targeting and firing control. Six tubes is the established launcher capacity, allowing rapid loading and firing of a full rocket pod. The rockets used in this system are the 200-pound-class guided rockets, designed for precision engagement at long range. A crew of three Marines aligns with the operating workflow: one person commands and directs fire, another handles the vehicle, and the third operates the fire control and launcher. The system is not just a launcher or a carrier on its own; it is a complete package that includes the launcher, the carrier vehicle, and the Fire Control System, all integrated for accurate, on-call fires. Other descriptions misstate one or more essential aspects: some list an incorrect number of tubes, some specify the wrong rocket weight, some omit the Fire Control System, or describe an incomplete assembly. The accurate answer captures the six-tube launcher, 200-pound rockets, three-Marine crew, and the full launcher-carrier-Fire Control System package.

9. Which vehicle is primarily used to provide long-range fire support?

A. M777 Howitzer

B. JLTV

C. Amphibious Combat Vehicle

D. LAV-25

Long-range fire support is about delivering indirect fire from a distance to shape the battlefield, typically using artillery to hit targets not in line of sight. The M777 Howitzer fits this role perfectly as a 155mm artillery piece designed to fire shells over long distances, often using precision-guided rounds and rocket-assisted munitions to reach far beyond what small arms or direct-fire guns can. It operates from behind cover and coordinates with observers to deliver fire missions that support maneuvering troops. The other vehicles are built for mobility, protection, or direct-fire at shorter ranges. The JLTV is a light tactical vehicle for transport and reconnaissance; it doesn't provide long-range indirect fire. The Amphibious Combat Vehicle focuses on sea-to-shore movement and troop transport with its own direct-fire capabilities, not long-range artillery support. The LAV-25 is an armored reconnaissance/armed vehicle with a smaller, direct-fire gun, offering range and flexibility but not long-range indirect artillery fire. So, the vehicle that is primarily used to provide long-range fire support is the M777 Howitzer.

10. What was the primary mission of UDTs prior to amphibious landings?

A. Provide camouflage and concealment for landing craft

B. Conduct aerial bombing of beaches

C. Use submarines to clear routes

D. Provide reconnaissance and underwater demolition prior to amphibious landing

Before amphibious landings, UDTs were tasked with preparing the route for the assault by combining reconnaissance with underwater demolition. They swam ahead to inspect the beaches and water approaches—checking tides, currents, depths, and exits—and to identify any obstacles or hazards. Then they used specialized equipment to clear those obstacles, often with charges, to create safe lanes for landing craft and troops. This proactive, two-part job of scouting the landing area and removing underwater and beach obstacles is exactly what one option describes. The other options describe activities that aren't part of the UDT mission, such as camouflage for landing craft, aerial bombing, or submarine-based route clearing.

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://pcayoungsterspring.examzify.com

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