

PFE Distance Guide (PDG) 26E5 Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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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. 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

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- 1. What describes who we are as a service and how we conduct ourselves as Airmen and representatives of the USAF?**
 - A. Discipline**
 - B. Professionalism**
 - C. Honor**
 - D. Integrity**

- 2. Which set is encompassed by Service Before Self?**
 - A. Duty, Respect, and Integrity**
 - B. Duty, Loyalty, and Respect**
 - C. Honesty, Courage, and Accountability**
 - D. Trust, Honor, and Duty**

- 3. How does Airman react to stresses?**
 - A. With Valor, Courage, and Sacrifice**
 - B. With Debate and Delay**
 - C. With Indifference**
 - D. With Aggression**

- 4. The Force Support Squadrons (FSS) are associated with which USAF function mentioned?**
 - A. Fighter Support Squadron**
 - B. Force Support Squadrons**
 - C. Flight Services Squadron**
 - D. Facilities Support Squad**

- 5. What year marks the end of eligibility for the High-3 retirement plan?**
 - A. 1986**
 - B. 1980**
 - C. 1983**
 - D. 1990**

- 6. What are the four competencies of the installation Manpower and Organization Flight?**
- A. Budgeting, accounting, forecasting, reporting**
 - B. Organization structure, requirement determination, process improvement, program allocation and control**
 - C. Staffing, recruiting, scheduling, payroll**
 - D. Compliance, safety, ethics, governance**
- 7. What are the 3 different tests while dealing with Ethical Dilemma?**
- A. Moral, Legal, and Spiritual**
 - B. Duty, Honor, and Loyalty**
 - C. Network, USA, Divine**
 - D. Courage, Integrity, and Respect**
- 8. By statute, the Chain of Command runs from the President through the SecWar to the " "?**
- A. Joint Chiefs**
 - B. Combatant Commanders (CCDR)**
 - C. The Senate**
 - D. Secretary of Defense**
- 9. Which Publication establishes the basic ethical principles and guidelines that must be followed by every government employee?**
- A. Title 5, CFR, Part 2635, Standards of the Ethical Conduct**
 - B. The Uniform Code of Military Justice**
 - C. The Federal Acquisition Regulation**
 - D. The Privacy Act**
- 10. Which statement best reflects the USAF's overall character as described in the material?**
- A. Values-based, Mission-focused, People-oriented**
 - B. Technology-driven and cost-conscious**
 - C. Hierarchy-centered and tradition-bound**
 - D. Discipline-focused but distant from people**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What describes who we are as a service and how we conduct ourselves as Airmen and representatives of the USAF?

A. Discipline

B. Professionalism

C. Honor

D. Integrity

Professionalism is about how we carry ourselves and perform as Airmen and representatives of the USAF. It covers our appearance, bearing, communication, reliability, and ethical conduct in every interaction and duty. When we act with professionalism, we show respect for others, uphold standards, and take responsibility for our actions, which in turn maintains the Air Force's reputation and effectiveness. Discipline, honor, and integrity are important foundations, but they're parts of the broader idea. Discipline is self-control and adherence to rules; honor relates to living by values; integrity is doing what's right even when no one is watching. Professionalism brings these elements together into the everyday behavior and conduct expected of Airmen.

2. Which set is encompassed by Service Before Self?

A. Duty, Respect, and Integrity

B. Duty, Loyalty, and Respect

C. Honesty, Courage, and Accountability

D. Trust, Honor, and Duty

Service Before Self means putting the needs of the unit, the mission, and teammates ahead of personal interests. It shows up as fulfilling duties reliably, staying loyal to the team, and treating others with respect. The set that best captures this mindset is duty, loyalty, and respect. Duty reflects meeting obligations and carrying out assignments for the group; loyalty shows steadfast support to the unit and its goals; respect ensures everyone is valued and works well together. Taken together, these traits embody prioritizing the team and mission over personal convenience. Others emphasize different personal virtues—such as integrity or accountability or a mix that doesn't center on serving the group first—so they don't align as closely with the idea of putting service before self.

3. How does Airman react to stresses?

A. With Valor, Courage, and Sacrifice

B. With Debate and Delay

C. With Indifference

D. With Aggression

When Airmen face stress, they respond in a way that upholds duty and teamwork. Valour, courage, and sacrifice mean facing danger or hardship with resolve, making tough choices for the mission and teammates, and being willing to endure personal cost for the greater good. This stance promotes steadiness, clear decision-making, and resilience under pressure, which keeps missions moving and people safe. In contrast, reflexes like debating and delaying show hesitation, indifference signals disconnect, and aggression can escalate problems and jeopardize outcomes. So, the virtuous combination of valor, courage, and sacrifice best represents how an Airman should react to stresses.

4. The Force Support Squadrons (FSS) are associated with which USAF function mentioned?

- A. Fighter Support Squadron**
- B. Force Support Squadrons**
- C. Flight Services Squadron**
- D. Facilities Support Squad**

In the USAF, units are organized around base-level functions, and the Force Support Squadron is the team that provides the services and programs for people—morale, welfare, and everyday base support. This makes the option that explicitly names Force Support Squadrons the correct match, because it reflects the actual function this squadron oversees, including dining, lodging, fitness, recreation, and personnel services that sustain Airmen and their families. The other options don't correspond to a formal USAF function: there isn't a standard Fighter Support Squadron, Flight Services Squadron implies flight-line services rather than base personnel services, and Facilities Support Squad isn't the designated function for this area.

5. What year marks the end of eligibility for the High-3 retirement plan?

- A. 1986**
- B. 1980**
- C. 1983**
- D. 1990**

The key idea here is the transition from the old Civil Service Retirement System using the High-3 final-average salary to the newer Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). The Civil Service Reform Act of 1986 established FERS and began phasing out CSRS for new hires, with coverage under FERS starting in 1987. This means that after 1986, new federal employees could no longer opt into the High-3 CSRS retirement; eligibility for High-3 effectively ended for new entrants in that year. Those already in CSRS could continue under High-3, but for anyone hired after 1986, the High-3 option isn't available.

6. What are the four competencies of the Installation Manpower and Organization Flight?

- A. Budgeting, accounting, forecasting, reporting**
- B. Organization structure, requirement determination, process improvement, program allocation and control**
- C. Staffing, recruiting, scheduling, payroll**
- D. Compliance, safety, ethics, governance**

Understanding the responsibilities of the Installation Manpower and Organization Flight centers on shaping how the workforce is organized, how staffing needs are determined, how work processes are improved, and how programs and resources are allocated and controlled. Organization structure sets up the framework for who does what and how units coordinate. Requirement determination involves figuring out exactly what manpower and skills are needed to accomplish missions. Process improvement focuses on analyzing workflows, removing inefficiencies, and streamlining procedures. Program allocation and control covers assigning resources and monitoring programs to ensure they stay on plan and meet objectives. This set of four areas best matches what the Manpower and Organization Flight does, while the other options correspond to finance, HR operations, or governance aspects that aren't the four competencies described here.

7. What are the 3 different tests while dealing with Ethical Dilemma?

- A. Moral, Legal, and Spiritual**
- B. Duty, Honor, and Loyalty**
- C. Network, USA, Divine**
- D. Courage, Integrity, and Respect**

When facing an ethical dilemma, you evaluate it through multiple lenses to capture outcomes, duties, and values. The three tests here—Network, USA, Divine—represent social impact, legal/policy constraints, and moral/spiritual guidance. The Network lens makes you consider how actions affect relationships, teams, and the broader community connected to you. The USA lens anchors the decision in applicable laws, regulations, and organizational policies that shape what's permissible. The Divine lens invites you to align with deeper moral or spiritual beliefs about what is right beyond rules or practicality. Using these three together gives a balanced view: who is affected and how, what is legally and policy-compliant, and what resonates with core values. Other options describe traits or concepts rather than concrete evaluative checks you can apply to a dilemma, so they don't provide the same structured framework for ethical decision making.

8. By statute, the Chain of Command runs from the President through the SecWar to the " "?

- A. Joint Chiefs**
- B. Combatant Commanders (CCDR)**
- C. The Senate**
- D. Secretary of Defense**

Command authority flows from the President (as Commander-in-Chief) through the Secretary of Defense to the Combatant Commanders who oversee the unified commands. The Joint Chiefs of Staff are advisers, not part of the formal chain of command, and the Senate does not hold operational authority. The old term "Secretary of War" is outdated; today it's the Secretary of Defense. So the chain of command ends with the Combatant Commanders.

9. Which Publication establishes the basic ethical principles and guidelines that must be followed by every government employee?

- A. Title 5, CFR, Part 2635, Standards of the Ethical Conduct**
- B. The Uniform Code of Military Justice**
- C. The Federal Acquisition Regulation**
- D. The Privacy Act**

The main concept is the ethical conduct framework for government employees, codified as Title 5, CFR, Part 2635, Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch. This publication establishes the basic principles—such as integrity, impartiality, avoidance of conflicts of interest, and treatment of official duties with honesty—that all executive branch employees must follow. It also lays out specifics on gifts, outside activities, use of official position for personal gain, and post-employment restrictions, providing a uniform standard across the entire executive branch. Other documents serve different purposes: the Uniform Code of Military Justice governs military discipline, the Federal Acquisition Regulation covers government procurement processes, and the Privacy Act focuses on protecting individuals' personal information and privacy rights.

10. Which statement best reflects the USAF's overall character as described in the material?

- A. Values-based, Mission-focused, People-oriented**
- B. Technology-driven and cost-conscious**
- C. Hierarchy-centered and tradition-bound**
- D. Discipline-focused but distant from people**

The main idea being tested is the USAF's character as a blend of values guiding actions, a clear focus on the mission, and a commitment to people. The best statement fits because it captures all three threads: operating value-fully—integrity, service, excellence—as the compass for decisions; keeping the mission at the center to ensure readiness and effectiveness; and placing people at the heart of everything, fostering development, welfare, and teamwork. This combination reflects a culture that leads with ethics, pursues mission success with discipline and accountability, and supports airmen as essential to achieving those goals. Descriptions that emphasize technology and cost, or a rigid, tradition-bound structure, or discipline without warmth toward personnel, don't align with that same holistic view. They either push the focus away from people, downplay values, or resist adaptation, which isn't consistent with the described character.

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://pdg26e5.examzify.com>

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

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