

POLICE COMMUNICATIONS OPERATOR PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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	15

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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. NUMBER 1 SITUATION expands to which phrase?

- A. Citations
- B. Overdose
- C. Probably cause for arrest
- D. Test for narcotics

2. Which scenario is categorized as a Priority 3 Call?

- A. An after the fact report call
- B. A reported loud party
- C. A burglary in progress
- D. A welfare check

3. Choose the term that corresponds to the name 'adam'.

- A. TECH
- B. XHUSB
- C. B
- D. A

4. Which name is paired with the letter S?

- A. Nora
- B. Ocean
- C. Sam
- D. Victor

5. Which word refers to the act of prohibited conduct or a minor crime?

- A. Miscellaneous
- B. Siege
- C. Misdemeanor
- D. Rendezvous

6. Which term describes behavior that is playfully troublesome?

- A. Silhouette
- B. Mischievous
- C. Sergeant
- D. Rendezvous

7. Which code is Location?

- A. 10-20
- B. 10-23
- C. 10-17
- D. 10-4

8. Which code maps to On view, officer just witnessed an incident?

- A. PAGE 2
- B. ROLLOVER
- C. On view, officer just witnessed an incident
- D. P.O.

9. CRACK, ROCK is defined as?

- A. A powder form of cocaine
- B. Smokeable form of cocaine
- C. A form of methamphetamine
- D. A form of heroin

10. A welfare check request for someone believed to be in potential danger should be processed.

- A. 418 Civil matter-stand by
- B. 601 Missing person
- C. 487 Theft
- D. 900 Check welfare

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. NUMBER 1 SITUATION expands to which phrase?

- A. Citations
- B. Overdose
- C. Probably cause for arrest
- D. Test for narcotics

The key idea here is recognizing how a label used in police communications signals the legal basis for taking action. When a top-priority situation is described, the phrase that best fits that scenario is probable cause for arrest. That means there is enough evidence to justify arresting someone, which is the kind of decisive, action-justifying reason you'd expect to see emphasized in a priority situation. Citations would be issuing a ticket or citation, which is a different outcome and not the legal basis for arrest. An overdose is a type of incident or medical issue, not a foundation for arrest. A test for narcotics is a procedure to determine a substance, not a reason to detain someone.

2. Which scenario is categorized as a Priority 3 Call?

- A. An after the fact report call
- B. A reported loud party
- C. A burglary in progress
- D. A welfare check

Dispatch prioritization hinges on urgency and whether there is an immediate danger or ongoing incident. Priority 3 covers non-emergency situations, especially information about an event after it has occurred that doesn't pose an immediate threat. The after-the-fact report fits this because it describes something that already happened and doesn't require instant police action. The other scenarios involve potential or ongoing risk. A burglary in progress signals an active crime with danger to people, demanding prompt response and a higher priority. A welfare check may be urgent if there's concern for someone's safety, often needing quick verification. A reported loud party could escalate into a disturbance or public safety issue, so it's typically treated as higher priority than an after-the-fact report.

3. Choose the term that corresponds to the name 'adam'.

- A. TECH
- B. XHUSB
- C. B
- D. A

The key idea is mapping a name to a simple code by using its first letter. The name "adam" starts with the letter A, so the corresponding term is the one that is just A. The other terms don't align with the name's initial: TECH and XHUSB are unrelated codes, and the letter B does not match the starting letter of the name. So the term that matches is A.

4. Which name is paired with the letter S?

- A. Nora
- B. Ocean
- C. Sam
- D. Victor

This question uses pairing by the initial letter of a name. The letter S should be matched with a name that starts with S. Among the options, only Sam begins with S, so that name is paired with S. Nora starts with N, Ocean with O, and Victor with V, so they don't fit the S pairing. Sam is the correct match.

5. Which word refers to the act of prohibited conduct or a minor crime?

- A. Miscellaneous
- B. Siege
- C. Misdemeanor
- D. Rendezvous

The idea being tested is the specific legal term for a less serious criminal offense. A misdemeanor is a category of crime that's illegal conduct but not as grave as a felony. It covers acts prohibited by law that carry penalties such as up to a year in jail, fines, or probation. That combination—an act that is illegal and punishable, yet relatively minor in severity—fits "a minor crime" best. The other words don't relate to crime at all: miscellaneous means a collection of various items, siege refers to surrounding a place in a military sense, and rendezvous means a planned meeting. So this term is the correct descriptor for a minor offense.

6. Which term describes behavior that is playfully troublesome?

- A. Silhouette
- B. Mischievous
- C. Sergeant
- D. Rendezvous

The main idea is identifying a word that describes behavior that is playfully troublesome. Mischievous describes someone who acts in a playful, lightly naughty way that creates harmless trouble rather than harm. For example, a mischievous child might play a harmless prank or tease in a good-natured way. Silhouette refers to the outline or shape of a figure, not behavior. Sergeant is a rank title, not a descriptive trait of behavior. Rendezvous means a meeting or encounter, often planned, and doesn't convey anything about playful misbehavior. So, mischievous is the best fit for describing playfully troublesome behavior.

7. Which code is Location?

- A. 10-20**
- B. 10-23
- C. 10-17
- D. 10-4

Location is conveyed with the 10-20 code in police radio shorthand. Using this code tells dispatch or other units your current whereabouts, which is essential for coordinating backups, guiding responses, and keeping everyone safe. It's the specific cue that communicates "where am I?" in the field. The other codes reference different statuses—acknowledgment of a message, arrival on scene, or en route—but they don't denote location, making 10-20 the correct choice for location.

8. Which code maps to On view, officer just witnessed an incident?

- A. PAGE 2
- B. ROLLOVER
- C. On view, officer just witnessed an incident**
- D. P.O.

This item tests recognizing that a status message can be used as its own code label. When a dispatch system uses plain-language statuses as codes, the exact wording becomes the code. Here, the status that describes the situation is "On view, officer just witnessed an incident," and using that exact phrase as the code communicates precisely what's happening: the officer saw the incident firsthand and is on scene. The other options refer to different functions or codes (paging, rollover function, or an unrelated abbreviation) and don't convey the observed-status information. So the exact phrase is the correct mapping.

9. CRACK, ROCK is defined as?

- A. A powder form of cocaine
- B. Smokeable form of cocaine**
- C. A form of methamphetamine
- D. A form of heroin

Crack, rock is the smokeable form of cocaine. It's cocaine that has been processed into small, hard rocks that are heated and inhaled through a pipe. Smoking delivers the drug quickly through the lungs, producing a rapid, intense rush that doesn't last long. This distinguishes crack from the powder form of cocaine, which is typically snorted or dissolved for injection. It's not a form of methamphetamine or heroin. The quick onset and short duration contribute to a high potential for rapid repetition and dependence.

10. A welfare check request for someone believed to be in potential danger should be processed.

- A. 418 Civil matter-stand by
- B. 601 Missing person
- C. 487 Theft

D. 900 Check welfare

Initiating a welfare check is used when there is concern for someone's safety. A request to check on someone believed to be in potential danger should be processed as a welfare check because the primary goal is to verify the person's well-being on site and provide help if needed. This approach prioritizes on-scene assessment and any necessary medical or protective action, rather than treating the situation as a civil matter, a missing person report, or a theft incident. The other options fit different scenarios—civil matters involve non-emergency disputes, missing person relates to someone whose location is unknown, and theft is a crime unrelated to evaluating someone's safety. In this case, gather the location, the person's name, last contact time, any known hazards or health concerns, and who requested the check, then dispatch the appropriate unit and monitor the situation until the welfare of the individual is confirmed.

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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://policecommsop.examzify.com>

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

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