

Professional Security Institute 24Hr Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

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	16

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

- 1. Which actions help prevent liability in professional security work?**
 - A. Do your job in a reasonable manner**
 - B. Conduct yourself in a reasonable manner**
 - C. Keep reasonable notes and notify supervisor**
 - D. All of the above**

- 2. When should a security operator review surveillance footage?**
 - A. Only during audits conducted by management.**
 - B. Whenever a badge is scanned in.**
 - C. At the start of every shift regardless of events.**
 - D. In response to an incident, suspicious activity, or as part of routine verification, while respecting privacy and retention policies.**

- 3. Which item is typically included in an incident timeline?**
 - A. Escalation points**
 - B. Vendor payment terms**
 - C. Employee benefits**
 - D. Marketing calendar**

- 4. What is a key benefit of ongoing professional development for security personnel?**
 - A. Career advancement**
 - B. Reduced vigilance**
 - C. Limit learning**
 - D. Higher workload with no payoff**

- 5. What does the acronym P.A.S.S stand for and when is it used?**
 - A. Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep; used to operate a fire extinguisher.**
 - B. Squeeze, Pull, Aim, Sweep; used to operate a fire extinguisher.**
 - C. Pull, Aim, Sweep, Squeeze; used to operate a fire extinguisher.**
 - D. Pull, Squeeze, Aim, Sweep; used to operate a fire extinguisher.**

- 6. Which statement BEST describes the structure of security audits?**
- A. They are ad hoc and unsystematic**
 - B. They focus only on physical access**
 - C. They rely solely on automated tools**
 - D. They are systematic reviews of policies, controls, and procedures to identify gaps and improve security posture**
- 7. In an active shooter situation, what is the recommended sequence of actions?**
- A. Hide, Run, Fight**
 - B. Run, Hide, Fight in that order.**
 - C. Run, Fight, Hide**
 - D. Fight, Hide, Run**
- 8. What is an incident timeline used for after-action reviews?**
- A. To assign blame to individuals.**
 - B. To reconstruct events, evaluate response, identify gaps, and inform improvements and training.**
 - C. To delay training.**
 - D. To document personal achievements.**
- 9. Which action is appropriate at High/Critical severity incidents?**
- A. Activate incident command, notify emergency services**
 - B. Ignore and continue work**
 - C. Only document after the fact**
 - D. Notify marketing team**
- 10. The first step towards providing adequate security to a location is to:**
- A. Define our boundaries**
 - B. Assess risk**
 - C. Install alarms**
 - D. Hire security personnel**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. Which actions help prevent liability in professional security work?

- A. Do your job in a reasonable manner**
- B. Conduct yourself in a reasonable manner**
- C. Keep reasonable notes and notify supervisor**
- D. All of the above**

Liability in professional security work is reduced when actions meet a reasonable standard across how you perform tasks, how you interact with others, and how you document events. Doing the job in a reasonable manner shows you're exercising proper care and judgment in the field, which lowers the chance of negligence claims. Conducting yourself in a reasonable, professional way helps prevent disputes or accusations tied to behavior, attitudes, or misuse of authority, and it supports appropriate handling of sensitive situations. Keeping reasonable notes and notifying a supervisor creates a documented trail of what happened and why decisions were made, which is crucial for accountability, evidence, and timely escalation. Taken together, these aspects cover performance, demeanor, and documentation, providing a comprehensive approach to reducing liability.

2. When should a security operator review surveillance footage?

- A. Only during audits conducted by management.**
- B. Whenever a badge is scanned in.**
- C. At the start of every shift regardless of events.**
- D. In response to an incident, suspicious activity, or as part of routine verification, while respecting privacy and retention policies.**

Surveillance footage should be reviewed when there is a legitimate security reason, such as responding to an incident, investigating suspicious activity, or performing routine verification to ensure controls are functioning. This approach balances the need to verify events and protect assets with the obligation to respect privacy and adhere to retention policies. Reviewing footage only during audits is too limited and delay-prone; relying on every badge scan to trigger a review is intrusive and usually unnecessary, and reviewing at the start of every shift regardless of events wastes resources and can expose unrelated data. By aligning reviews with actual security needs and policy guidelines, you ensure timely investigations and ongoing protection without overreaching privacy or data retention rules.

3. Which item is typically included in an incident timeline?

- A. Escalation points**
- B. Vendor payment terms**
- C. Employee benefits**
- D. Marketing calendar**

Incidents are tracked as a sequence of events, actions taken, and communications from detection to containment, eradication, and recovery. Escalation points are included because they mark when the incident should be handed to higher-level responders or specialized teams, ensuring timely decisions, clear accountability, and alignment with required response times or regulations. Documenting these handoffs helps keep the response moving and ensures the right experts weigh in at the right moment. The other options don't fit because vendor payment terms, employee benefits, and the marketing calendar pertain to finance, HR, and marketing planning, not the incident response process.

4. What is a key benefit of ongoing professional development for security personnel?

- A. Career advancement**
- B. Reduced vigilance**
- C. Limit learning**
- D. Higher workload with no payoff**

Ongoing professional development builds and refreshes the knowledge and skills security personnel need to handle evolving threats and responsibilities. When you continually train, earn relevant certifications, and practice updated procedures, you enhance your qualifications and performance, making you eligible for higher-level roles, promotions, and greater responsibility—so career advancement becomes the natural payoff. The other options run counter to this idea: vigilance isn't reduced by learning, limited learning contradicts the purpose of development, and a higher workload with no payoff ignores the tangible benefits that come with improved skills and recognition.

5. What does the acronym P.A.S.S stand for and when is it used?

- A. Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep; used to operate a fire extinguisher.**
- B. Squeeze, Pull, Aim, Sweep; used to operate a fire extinguisher.**
- C. Pull, Aim, Sweep, Squeeze; used to operate a fire extinguisher.**
- D. Pull, Squeeze, Aim, Sweep; used to operate a fire extinguisher.**

PASS is the technique for operating a handheld fire extinguisher during an emergency. It stands for Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep. Use it to fight a small, contained fire early on. Start by pulling the pin to break the tamper seal, then aim the nozzle at the base of the fire, not the flames. Squeeze the lever to release the extinguishing agent, and sweep the nozzle from side to side at the base of the fire, moving across the fuel source until the fire is out.

6. Which statement BEST describes the structure of security audits?

- A. They are ad hoc and unsystematic**
- B. They focus only on physical access**
- C. They rely solely on automated tools**
- D. They are systematic reviews of policies, controls, and procedures to identify gaps and improve security posture**

Security audits are conducted in a structured, methodical way to evaluate an organization's security controls and governance, with the aim of identifying gaps and improving the security posture. The process is planned and scoped, with defined criteria, evidence collection, testing of controls, and interviews, spanning technical, administrative, and physical domains. Audits compare actual practices against written policies and standards, assess effectiveness, and result in documented findings and prioritized remediation. This structured approach ensures consistency, traceability, and accountability, which are essential for credible results and ongoing improvement. Relying on ad hoc assessments would lack standard criteria and repeatability; focusing only on physical access narrows the scope and ignores many other critical controls; relying solely on automated tools misses context, human judgment, and the reasonableness of policies. The essence is that security audits are systematic reviews of policies, controls, and procedures to identify gaps and improve security posture.

7. In an active shooter situation, what is the recommended sequence of actions?

- A. Hide, Run, Fight**
- B. Run, Hide, Fight in that order.**
- C. Run, Fight, Hide**
- D. Fight, Hide, Run**

In an active shooter situation, the priority is to maximize your safety by moving to safety first, then sheltering if escape isn't possible, and only then taking action to counter the threat. This is why Run, Hide, Fight in that order is the recommended sequence. Run first. If you can escape the area safely, do so immediately. Get out of the danger zone and away from the shooter's path. Leave belongings behind to move quickly, keep hands visible to responders, and follow any posted instructions or emergency announcements. The goal is to increase your chances of reaching a safe location and to reduce your exposure to danger. If running isn't possible, hide. Find a secure place away from the shooter's line of sight and potential entry points. Barricade doors if you can, turn off lights, silence cell phones, and stay quiet. Remain low and out of sight, and keep away from windows or doors that could reveal your location. If you're with others, help them find safety but avoid clustering so you can still be aware of the surrounding area. Fight only as a last resort. If you are directly confronted and cannot escape or hide, you may need to incapacitate the attacker to protect yourself and others. Use improvised weapons if available, act with speed and aggression, and aim to disrupt the attacker long enough for others to escape or for responders to intervene. Your actions should be decisive and coordinated with others when possible. The sequence is designed to maximize survival odds by prioritizing escape, then shelter, and only then countering the threat when no safer option remains.

8. What is an incident timeline used for after-action reviews?

- A. To assign blame to individuals.
- B. To reconstruct events, evaluate response, identify gaps, and inform improvements and training.**
- C. To delay training.
- D. To document personal achievements.

The main idea is that an incident timeline in after-action reviews is used to reconstruct the sequence of events and how the response unfolded. By laying out what happened, when each action occurred, who performed it, and what communications and decisions took place, you can see how the response flowed, where delays or bottlenecks happened, and how different actions influenced outcomes. This objective reconstruction helps identify gaps in procedures, training needs, or resource readiness, so you can turn those insights into concrete improvements—updated processes, targeted training, more effective drills, and clearer roles for future incidents. It's about learning and improvement, not assigning blame.

9. Which action is appropriate at High/Critical severity incidents?

- A. Activate incident command, notify emergency services**
- B. Ignore and continue work
- C. Only document after the fact
- D. Notify marketing team

In high or critical severity incidents, the priority is life safety and a coordinated, rapid response. Activating the incident command system establishes a clear chain of command, defines roles (such as incident commander, safety officer, and liaison), and creates a unified plan for decision-making, resource allocation, and communications. This structure ensures everyone knows who is in charge and how actions will be coordinated, which is essential when time is critical. Notifying emergency services brings in trained responders who can provide specialized aid, containment, and medical assistance as needed, accelerating the overall response and reducing risk to people and assets. While documentation and updates are important, they must occur within the response itself and not delay immediate actions; continuing normal work or delaying response would put people at risk. Notifying the marketing team isn't relevant to the incident response and would divert attention from essential lifesaving actions.

10. The first step towards providing adequate security to a location is to:

A. Define our boundaries

B. Assess risk

C. Install alarms

D. Hire security personnel

Starting with clearly defined boundaries sets the scope for all security planning. By outlining the physical and logical limits—what area is inside the protected space, where access points exist, and which assets reside within—the team knows exactly what needs protection and where security measures should apply. This scope is essential because it guides a meaningful risk assessment and ensures resources are focused on real vulnerabilities within the defined area. Once boundaries are established, you can identify critical assets, determine who should access different zones, and decide appropriate controls for each space. Installing alarms or hiring personnel are important, but they're most effective once you know what needs protection and where the gaps lie. Without boundaries, efforts can be misdirected or incomplete, leaving unprotected areas or unclear responsibility.

SAMPLE

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://professionalsecinstitute24hr.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE