

RAAF OFFICER SELECTION BOARD (OSB) PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
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. Which operation involves humanitarian support?

- A. Bushfire assist
- B. Humanitarian support
- C. COVID 19 assist
- D. Qld floods / cyclones

2. What does the Defence White Paper 2016 describe?

- A. A budget report detailing defense spending for the current year
- B. A manual outlining training procedures
- C. A historical analysis of past conflicts
- D. A document representing the government's commitment to safety and a long-term plan to enhance defence capability and international security partnerships

3. Which statement about the STAR method is true?

- A. It cannot be used to link experiences to values.
- B. It is only applicable to group tasks.
- C. It structures responses to show context, actions taken, outcomes, and link to competencies and values.
- D. It requires detailing every minor action.

4. Operation Okra is Australia's contribution to combat ISIL in which countries?

- A. Afghanistan and Iraq
- B. Iraq and Iran
- C. Syria and Turkey
- D. Syria and Iraq

5. Which of the following is a Year 2 subject in Single Service Training?

- A. Leadership and management
- B. Air power knowledge
- C. Communications
- D. Ground defence training

- 6. In a teamwork scenario, what is the best approach to resolve a personality clash within the group?**
- A. Ignore the conflict and hope it resolves itself.
 - B. Facilitate open communication, set ground rules, focus on shared goals, assign roles to reduce friction, and use a neutral mediator if needed.
 - C. Remove one of the conflicting individuals without discussion.
 - D. Let one person dominate the discussion to finish faster.
- 7. How is physical fitness considered in OSB evaluation?**
- A. Fitness supports safety and readiness; values-based judgments weigh more
 - B. Fitness is the sole determinant
 - C. Fitness is irrelevant
 - D. Fitness only matters for sport
- 8. Which squadrons were reported to operate at austere air fields to practise operational integration?**
- A. No. 12 and No. 44 squadrons
 - B. No. 9 and No. 77 squadrons
 - C. No. 35 and No. 383 squadrons
 - D. No. 1 and No. 6 squadrons
- 9. In verbal reasoning, what approach best helps you infer the author's argument?**
- A. Identify the author's conclusion, supporting premises, and logical connections; eliminate choices that contradict or require new information.
 - B. Focus only on the most emotionally persuasive sentence.
 - C. Assume the author has no premises and guess randomly.
 - D. Choose the option that agrees with your own opinions.
- 10. Which aircraft is a primary trainer / forward air control and aerobatics?**
- A. PC9/A
 - B. Hawk 127
 - C. CL-604 Challenger
 - D. KA350 King Air

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which operation involves humanitarian support?

- A. Bushfire assist
- B. Humanitarian support**
- C. COVID 19 assist
- D. Qld floods / cyclones

Humanitarian support centers on delivering aid to people affected by emergencies—saving lives, alleviating suffering, and meeting basic needs such as food, water, shelter, medical care, and protection. The operation labeled as humanitarian support is defined by its focus on providing this kind of aid to civilians, coordinating with local authorities and other partners to ensure relief reaches those in need. The other options describe responses to specific events (bushfires, the COVID-19 pandemic, or Queensland floods and cyclones). While humanitarian relief is a critical part of those efforts, they are named for the particular incident or disaster, rather than for the ongoing humanitarian aid function itself.

2. What does the Defence White Paper 2016 describe?

- A. A budget report detailing defense spending for the current year
- B. A manual outlining training procedures
- C. A historical analysis of past conflicts
- D. A document representing the government's commitment to safety and a long-term plan to enhance defence capability and international security partnerships**

The Defence White Paper is a policy document that sets the government's long-term direction for defence, outlining how capabilities will be developed and how the country will engage with international partners to maintain security. The 2016 White Paper describes the government's commitment to safety and a long-term plan to enhance defence capability and international security partnerships, guiding future investments and force structure. It's not a budget report, a training manual, or a historical analysis—those would serve different purposes.

3. Which statement about the STAR method is true?

- A. It cannot be used to link experiences to values.
- B. It is only applicable to group tasks.
- C. It structures responses to show context, actions taken, outcomes, and link to competencies and values.**
- D. It requires detailing every minor action.

The STAR method is a structured way to answer behavioral questions by presenting your experience as Situation, Task, Action, and Result. It helps you create a complete narrative: set the scene, identify the objective, describe the concrete steps you took, and finish with the outcome and its impact. The key benefit is that it shows not just what you did, but how your actions demonstrated relevant competencies and values, making it clear why that experience matters for the role. It's useful for both individual and team scenarios, and you don't need to spell out every tiny detail—focus on the significant actions that drove the result and illustrate the qualities the board is assessing.

4. Operation Okra is Australia's contribution to combat ISIL in which countries?

- A. Afghanistan and Iraq
- B. Iraq and Iran
- C. Syria and Turkey
- D. Syria and Iraq**

Operation Okra is Australia's part in the international effort against ISIL, using air power to weaken ISIL in the Middle East. When ISIL was pushing through parts of Iraq and Syria, Australia began air strikes and reconnaissance in Iraq and later extended operations to Syria to pressure ISIL across both theatres. This is why the countries involved are Syria and Iraq. Afghanistan, Iran, or Turkey are not the locations of Operation Okra.

5. Which of the following is a Year 2 subject in Single Service Training?

- A. Leadership and management
- B. Air power knowledge
- C. Communications**
- D. Ground defence training

The main idea being tested is how training topics progress from Year 1 to Year 2, focusing on where applied communication skills fit in the sequence. Communications is placed in Year 2 because, after building foundational knowledge in leadership and the basics of air power, the next step is to develop practical, operating-level communication skills that are essential for coordinating actions, issuing and receiving orders, and maintaining situational awareness in real-time. This includes radio procedures, clear messaging, and liaison within and across units—skills that become meaningful once students have a base to apply them. Leadership and management, while crucial, are typically introduced earlier as foundational concepts. Air power knowledge covers fundamental understanding of why air power exists and how it functions, usually established in Year 1. Ground defence training tends to be part of early induction as well, focusing on basic defensive skills. So, the subject that naturally aligns with the Year 2 focus on applying communication in an operational context is Communications.

6. In a teamwork scenario, what is the best approach to resolve a personality clash within the group?

- A. Ignore the conflict and hope it resolves itself.
- B. Facilitate open communication, set ground rules, focus on shared goals, assign roles to reduce friction, and use a neutral mediator if needed.**
- C. Remove one of the conflicting individuals without discussion.
- D. Let one person dominate the discussion to finish faster.

Resolving personality clashes in a team works best when you manage the conflict openly and constructively rather than letting it simmer. Facilitating open communication helps each member voice concerns, clear up misunderstandings, and hear different perspectives. Setting ground rules establishes how the team will interact, make decisions, and handle disagreements, which reduces personal friction. Focusing on shared goals keeps everyone oriented toward the same outcome, making individual differences less about personal conflict and more about achieving the mission. Assigning clear roles clarifies responsibilities and reduces overlap, a common source of friction. If tensions remain, a neutral mediator can provide a fair space to explore issues and find a workable compromise. This approach addresses the interpersonal dynamics directly while protecting the team's cohesion and effectiveness. Ignoring the conflict lets issues fester, removing someone without discussion damages trust, and letting one person dominate shuts down input and collaboration.

7. How is physical fitness considered in OSB evaluation?

- A. Fitness supports safety and readiness; values-based judgments weigh more**
- B. Fitness is the sole determinant
- C. Fitness is irrelevant
- D. Fitness only matters for sport

Physical fitness is viewed as a practical baseline that supports safety and the ability to perform demanding tasks under pressure. In OSB evaluation, being physically capable helps protect you and your teammates, reduces risk, and contributes to overall readiness for the duties you may face. But fitness alone does not determine suitability. The selection process places greater emphasis on values-based judgments—how you lead, communicate, cooperate, handle ethical decisions, and adapt under stress—because these traits predict how you'll operate effectively in real-world, unpredictable situations. So, fitness matters, but it is one part of a holistic assessment where character, leadership potential, and teamwork carry more weight. It wouldn't be accurate to say fitness is irrelevant, or that it's the sole determinant, or that it only matters for sport.

8. Which squadrons were reported to operate at austere air fields to practise operational integration?

- A. No. 12 and No. 44 squadrons
- B. No. 9 and No. 77 squadrons
- C. No. 35 and No. 383 squadrons**
- D. No. 1 and No. 6 squadrons

The question focuses on how air power is exercised from limited, remote airfields to practice working as a unified system with other forces. Operating from austere airfields tests and builds the ability to integrate air power with ground and logistical elements when support is minimal, forcing tight coordination, rapid decision-making, and adaptability. No. 35 Squadron and No. 383 Squadron were reported to undertake such austere-field operations to practise this type of integration, which is why they are the best choice. The other options refer to squadrons associated with different roles or training contexts and are not described as performing austere-field operations for operational integration in the referenced material.

9. In verbal reasoning, what approach best helps you infer the author's argument?

- A. Identify the author's conclusion, supporting premises, and logical connections; eliminate choices that contradict or require new information.
- B. Focus only on the most emotionally persuasive sentence.
- C. Assume the author has no premises and guess randomly.**
- D. Choose the option that agrees with your own opinions.

Extracting the argument's structure—the conclusion, the supporting premises, and how they connect—helps you infer what the author is arguing. Start by pinpointing the main claim the author wants you to accept, then identify the reasons given to support that claim, and then see how those reasons logically lead to the conclusion. This mapping also reveals any assumptions the author relies on and whether the premises actually justify the conclusion. Use that understanding to judge answer choices: options that introduce new information, rely on emotion rather than reasoning, or align with your own opinions instead of the text's logic don't fit the author's argument. The most reliable approach stays focused on the text's reasoning—the conclusion and its supporting premises—rather than feelings, guesswork, or personal bias.

10. Which aircraft is a primary trainer / forward air control and aerobatics?

A. PC9/A

B. Hawk 127

C. CL-604 Challenger

D. KA350 King Air

The airplane that fits this mix is a versatile single-engine turboprop trainer known for teaching the basics, while also offering enough performance and visibility for advanced roles such as aerobatics and forward air control (FAC). The Pilatus PC-9/A is designed as a primary (basic) trainer with responsive handling that helps new pilots gain confidence, yet it also has the performance envelope and robustness for advanced aerobatic maneuvers. With the right equipment, it can be employed in light attack/FAC roles, making it well-suited to both training and battlefield communication and coordination tasks. The other options are primarily not training aircraft: the Hawk 127 is a fast-jet trainer aimed at higher-level, lead-in fighter training; the CL-604 Challenger and KA350 King Air are civilian/business transports, not used for basic pilot training or aerobatics.

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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://raafosb.examzify.com>

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

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