

Risk Communication (PMT 105) 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. Which term is the measure of the expected loss from hazards, representing the combination of loss severity and probability?**
 - A. Hazard**
 - B. Risk Level**
 - C. Residual Risk**
 - D. Risk**

- 2. In risk communication, which term refers to the group you should communicate with?**
 - A. Stakeholders**
 - B. Public**
 - C. Audience**
 - D. Beneficiaries**

- 3. Which term is the decision to accept or not accept the risk(s) associated with an action; made by the commander, leader, or individual responsible for performing that action and having the appropriate resources to control or eliminate the risk's associated hazard?**
 - A. Risk**
 - B. Risk Assessment**
 - C. Risk Decision**
 - D. Risk Level**

- 4. Which category is described as Catastrophic in the hazard categorization?**
 - A. Catastrophic**
 - B. Critical**
 - C. Marginal**
 - D. Negligible**

- 5. How should you handle downward spirals of misinformation on social media?**
- A. Ignore misinformation**
 - B. Rapid, factual corrections with credible sources; do not amplify misinformation; engage trusted influencers**
 - C. Only correct after long verification**
 - D. Block all discussion**
- 6. In the four-step communication process, who decodes or interprets the message?**
- A. Sender**
 - B. Feedback provider**
 - C. Message**
 - D. Receiver**
- 7. When using case studies, which guideline helps avoid privacy concerns and sensationalism?**
- A. Use extensively and sensationalize**
 - B. Use rare anecdotes only**
 - C. Use sparingly to illustrate general principles, ensure accuracy, respect privacy, and avoid sensationalism**
 - D. Use unaudited data**
- 8. Operational forces include which of the following examples?**
- A. Combat forces; Combat service support element; Combat support elements**
 - B. Civilian contractors**
 - C. Medical teams**
 - D. Administrative staff**
- 9. Which statement best defines gestures?**
- A. Any natural movement of any part of the body that conveys a thought or emotion, or reinforces oral expression**
 - B. Conscious hand movements that accompany speech**
 - C. Facial expressions only**
 - D. Nonverbal signals that are planned in advance**

10. Which of the following is an example of a lag indicator in evaluating risk communication effectiveness?

- A. Message reach**
- B. Comprehension**
- C. Behavior change**
- D. Feedback frequency**

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which term is the measure of the expected loss from hazards, representing the combination of loss severity and probability?

- A. Hazard**
- B. Risk Level**
- C. Residual Risk**
- D. Risk**

The measure described is risk. It captures the expected loss from hazards by combining how severe a loss would be with how likely the hazard is to occur. Hazard refers to the potential source of harm, not the amount or probability of loss. Residual risk means the risk that remains after applying controls, and risk level is usually a qualitative rating rather than the actual expected loss value. For example, a hazard with high potential damage and a non-negligible chance creates higher risk than a hazard with small potential damage or very low probability.

2. In risk communication, which term refers to the group you should communicate with?

- A. Stakeholders**
- B. Public**
- C. Audience**
- D. Beneficiaries**

In risk communication, you communicate with those who have a stake in the risk and its management—the stakeholders. This group includes people and organizations affected by the risk, as well as individuals or groups who can influence outcomes or decisions about how the risk is handled. The idea is to engage anyone who has an interest, concern, or authority related to the issue, so information can be shared, concerns addressed, and meaningful input gathered for decision-making. This term is the best fit because it covers both those directly impacted and those who play a role in managing or influencing responses. The other terms are narrower: the public can be everyone, which isn't specific to who cares about or can affect the issue; audience focuses on who receives the message rather than who is involved or affected; beneficiaries refers to those who gain from a decision, which misses others who might experience harm or have influence regardless of benefit. By thinking in terms of stakeholders, you aim your communication to the right people who matter most to the risk and its resolution.

3. Which term is the decision to accept or not accept the risk(s) associated with an action; made by the commander, leader, or individual responsible for performing that action and having the appropriate resources to control or eliminate the risk's associated hazard?

- A. Risk
- B. Risk Assessment
- C. Risk Decision**
- D. Risk Level

In risk management, the decision to proceed or not after weighing hazards and the available controls is the risk decision. It's the formal authorization by the person responsible (often the commander or leader) to accept residual risk and continue with the action, provided there are resources to manage or eliminate the hazards. This goes beyond simply identifying risk or naming how severe it is—the risk decision is about accepting that risk, balancing mission needs with safety and the ability to mitigate. If the plan has been adjusted with safeguards and the residual risk is within acceptable tolerance, the leader decides to proceed; if not, the action is altered or halted.

4. Which category is described as Catastrophic in the hazard categorization?

- A. Catastrophic**
- B. Critical
- C. Marginal
- D. Negligible

Hazard categorization uses levels to describe potential consequences, with Catastrophic at the top, followed by Critical, Marginal, and Negligible. The category described as Catastrophic is the highest severity level, signaling outcomes such as loss of life or total system failure. The question directly asks which category is described as Catastrophic, so the category that carries that label is the correct one. In practice, a Catastrophic rating triggers the strongest risk controls and immediate action to prevent or mitigate such extreme outcomes. The other terms indicate progressively less severe impacts: Critical means very serious but not the worst, Marginal indicates limited impact, and Negligible indicates minimal or no adverse effect.

5. How should you handle downward spirals of misinformation on social media?

- A. Ignore misinformation**
- B. Rapid, factual corrections with credible sources; do not amplify misinformation; engage trusted influencers**
- C. Only correct after long verification**
- D. Block all discussion**

When misinformation spirals on social media, the best approach is to respond quickly with factual corrections drawn from credible sources, and to avoid actions that amplify the false content. Quick corrections interrupt the spread while attention is high, making the truth more likely to be seen before the rumor hardens. Citing credible sources helps people judge trustworthiness and makes the correction more persuasive than a generic claim. It's important not to repeat or showcase the misinformation itself beyond what's necessary to debunk it, since repeating it can unintentionally amplify reach. Pairing the correction with clear, concise messaging and accessible evidence improves understanding. Engaging trusted influencers or credible communities broadens reach and lends legitimacy, helping the corrected information circulate to audiences that might otherwise encounter the misinformation. Ignoring misinformation lets it take hold and continue to spread; waiting for perfect verification slows the response and allows the false narrative to entrench itself; blocking all discussion suppresses dialogue and can erode trust. So, fast, sourced corrections plus strategies to prevent amplification and involve credible voices is the most effective approach.

6. In the four-step communication process, who decodes or interprets the message?

- A. Sender**
- B. Feedback provider**
- C. Message**
- D. Receiver**

The main idea is that decoding the message happens at the receiving end. The receiver interprets the symbols, words, or visuals that the sender has encoded and sent, using their language, experiences, and context to derive meaning. The sender's job is to encode and transmit the idea, the message is the content itself, and the feedback provider is the person who replies with a reaction or response. Decoding is what determines whether the intended meaning was understood.

7. When using case studies, which guideline helps avoid privacy concerns and sensationalism?

- A. Use extensively and sensationalize
- B. Use rare anecdotes only
- C. Use sparingly to illustrate general principles, ensure accuracy, respect privacy, and avoid sensationalism**
- D. Use unaudited data

The main idea is to use case studies in a way that makes risks tangible without compromising privacy or injecting drama. Case studies can help people see how risk factors play out in real settings, but they can backfire if they're sensationalized or reveal too much about individuals. The guideline to use case studies sparingly to illustrate general principles, ensure accuracy, respect privacy, and avoid sensationalism does the best job of balancing usefulness with ethics. Using them sparingly prevents overreliance on dramatic anecdotes and helps keep attention on patterns rather than isolated stories. Illustrating general principles ensures the takeaway applies beyond a single case, making the risk lesson more transfer-ready. Ensuring accuracy means checking facts and presenting what happened without exaggeration. Respecting privacy involves anonymizing details, obtaining appropriate consent when possible, and avoiding identifying information. Avoiding sensationalism means sticking to neutral language and focusing on lessons learned rather than headlines or emotional hype. Together, these practices preserve trust and clarity in risk communication while still leveraging the concrete insight that case studies can offer.

8. Operational forces include which of the following examples?

- A. Combat forces; Combat service support element; Combat support elements**
- B. Civilian contractors
- C. Medical teams
- D. Administrative staff

Operational forces are the fighting units plus the enabling elements that directly support battlefield operations. That means including the combat forces along with the combat service support element (logistics, maintenance, supply, health services, and other support that keeps operations moving) and the combat support elements (engineers, intelligence, communications, fire support, and similar functions that enable action). Civilian contractors sit outside the formal military force structure, medical teams are typically part of health-related support within the force but not a separate operational category, and administrative staff are support personnel not directly engaged in carrying out combat or primary mission tasks. So the combination of combat forces, the combat service support element, and the combat support elements best represents operational forces.

9. Which statement best defines gestures?

- A. Any natural movement of any part of the body that conveys a thought or emotion, or reinforces oral expression**
- B. Conscious hand movements that accompany speech**
- C. Facial expressions only**
- D. Nonverbal signals that are planned in advance**

Gestures are nonverbal movements that accompany speech and help convey meaning or reinforce what is being said. They can involve any part of the body—hands, arms, head, shoulders, or even general posture—and are not limited to a single type of movement or a specific body part. They can be natural and spontaneous, or deliberate, and they often express thoughts or emotions that words alone might not fully capture. The best definition is the broad one that describes gestures as any natural body movement that conveys a thought or emotion or supports spoken expression. It captures both the expressive variety (not just hands or just the face) and the way these movements amplify or illustrate what we're saying. Limiting gestures to conscious hand movements overlooks other important nonverbal signals, while restricting them to facial expressions or to pre-planned acts misses the spontaneity and the full range of bodily cues people use in communication.

10. Which of the following is an example of a lag indicator in evaluating risk communication effectiveness?

- A. Message reach**
- B. Comprehension**
- C. Behavior change**
- D. Feedback frequency**

Lag indicators are the outcomes that appear after exposure to the message, showing whether the risk communication actually influenced real-world actions. Behavior change fits this perfectly because it measures the actual modification in actions or habits that results from the message, reflecting the downstream impact of the communication effort. Message reach, while important, measures how many people were exposed and serves as a starting point for potential impact rather than the outcome itself. Comprehension tells us whether people understood the message, a proximal measure that predicts potential effect but isn't the end result. Feedback frequency tracks the level of input received during the process, a process metric rather than an outcome.

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://riskcommpmt105.examzify.com>

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

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