

# Search and Rescue Technician Level I (SARTECH I) 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 should be done first if a Search Canine contacts a wild animal?**
  - A. Quarantine the canine**
  - B. Contact animal control**
  - C. Resume normal operations**
  - D. Administer medication**
  
- 2. What aspect does 'Administration and Logistics' cover in the Operational Briefing?**
  - A. Team coordination strategies**
  - B. Equipment and support details**
  - C. Analysis of previous searches**
  - D. Interpersonal communications**
  
- 3. What is the responsibility of the Incident Commander in an emergency situation?**
  - A. To oversee logistics**
  - B. To determine the Incident Objectives**
  - C. To manage medical personnel**
  - D. To control communications**
  
- 4. What is recommended when dealing with biases and prejudices in leadership?**
  - A. Ignore personal opinions**
  - B. Be aware of your own biases**
  - C. Standardize all decisions**
  - D. Keep emotions separate**
  
- 5. Under what condition might a SAR crew enter a structure without permission?**
  - A. To retrieve lost equipment**
  - B. With the owner's verbal consent**
  - C. With probable cause that a victim is in immediate danger**
  - D. To conduct a safety check**

- 6. What are the three cold weather emergencies?**
- A. Heat Cramps, Heat Exhaustion, Heat Stroke**
  - B. Hypothermia, Hyperthermia, Heat Exhaustion**
  - C. Frost Nip, Frost Bite, Heat Cramps**
  - D. Hypothermia, Frost Nip, Frost Bite**
- 7. Why should a canine not rely solely on vaccinations after contact with a wild animal?**
- A. Vaccinations are outdated**
  - B. Vaccinations often wear off**
  - C. Different strains of diseases exist**
  - D. Canines are immune to wildlife diseases**
- 8. Which search tactic focuses on visual and auditory signals to attract the subject?**
- A. Passive Search Tactics**
  - B. Active Search Interventions**
  - C. Hasty Team Strategies**
  - D. Thorough Search Techniques**
- 9. What is the recommended caloric intake for individuals working on a SAR mission?**
- A. 2500 calories**
  - B. 3000 calories**
  - C. 3700 calories**
  - D. 4000 calories**
- 10. What is the method for determining Critical Spacing called?**
- A. Raindance Method**
  - B. Norththumberland Method**
  - C. Distance Expansion Technique**
  - D. Spatial Awareness Test**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What should be done first if a Search Canine contacts a wild animal?**

- A. Quarantine the canine**
- B. Contact animal control**
- C. Resume normal operations**
- D. Administer medication**

If a Search Canine has contact with a wild animal, the first and most critical step is to quarantine the canine. Quarantine is essential to ensure the health and safety of the canine, especially considering the potential risks of zoonotic diseases that the wild animal may carry. This procedure prevents any possible transmission of disease from the wild animal to the canine, and it allows for monitoring the canine's health. By quarantining the canine, you can also assess its behavior and physical condition following the encounter. This is crucial because certain pathogens can have an incubation period, during which the canine could appear healthy but still be carrying the disease. Taking this step helps to safeguard not only the canine but also other team members and any animals they may encounter in the future. Quarantine protocols typically include isolating the canine from other animals and humans for a designated period, depending on the species of the wild animal and the specific risks associated with exposure. Other options such as contacting animal control or resuming normal operations would be secondary to ensuring the immediate safety of the canine. Administering medication would not be appropriate without a veterinarian's assessment and guidance, especially since the nature of the wild animal contact might not warrant medication immediately. Thus, the top priority must be to quarantine

**2. What aspect does 'Administration and Logistics' cover in the Operational Briefing?**

- A. Team coordination strategies**
- B. Equipment and support details**
- C. Analysis of previous searches**
- D. Interpersonal communications**

The aspect of 'Administration and Logistics' that is covered in the Operational Briefing primarily focuses on equipment and support details. This includes information regarding the gear and resources that will be necessary for the operation, such as medical supplies, communication devices, transport vehicles, and any additional support services. Ensuring that all team members are equipped with the necessary tools is essential for a successful search and rescue mission. Logistics also involves understanding the distribution and readiness of these resources, as well as any logistical challenges that might arise during the operation. While team coordination strategies, analysis of previous searches, and interpersonal communications are important components of a successful mission, they fall more under team dynamics and operational planning rather than specific logistical and administrative concerns. These elements are critical but do not directly encompass the logistical preparations and support structures necessary for an operation.

### **3. What is the responsibility of the Incident Commander in an emergency situation?**

- A. To oversee logistics**
- B. To determine the Incident Objectives**
- C. To manage medical personnel**
- D. To control communications**

The responsibility of determining the Incident Objectives is a fundamental duty of the Incident Commander in an emergency situation. The Incident Commander is tasked with leading the initial response by identifying the goals and priorities of the operation. This involves assessing the situation, evaluating available resources, and setting clear objectives to guide the response efforts. By establishing incident objectives, the Commander provides direction for the entire response team, ensuring that all actions taken are aligned with the overall mission to effectively manage the incident. This leadership role is crucial for coherent and focused efforts, especially during complex emergencies where multiple agencies and responders may be involved. The other roles, while important, typically fall under different responsibilities within the incident management structure. For example, logistics may be overseen by someone specifically tasked with that role, medical personnel management might be under the purview of medical coordinators, and communication control could be handled by a communications officer. The Incident Commander synthesizes all these functions around the established objectives to maintain an effective and coordinated inter-agency response.

### **4. What is recommended when dealing with biases and prejudices in leadership?**

- A. Ignore personal opinions**
- B. Be aware of your own biases**
- C. Standardize all decisions**
- D. Keep emotions separate**

Being aware of your own biases is crucial in effective leadership. This self-awareness allows leaders to recognize how their personal beliefs and experiences can influence their decision-making processes and interactions with others. When a leader acknowledges their biases, they can actively work to mitigate their impact, ensuring that their leadership is more fair, inclusive, and objective. By understanding their own biases, leaders can create an environment that encourages open dialogue and diverse perspectives. It facilitates better decision-making and helps in building trust within teams. Additionally, this awareness supports the development of strategies to reduce prejudice, fostering a more equitable atmosphere for all team members. In contrast, ignoring personal opinions can lead to a lack of introspection, and standardizing decisions without considering biases or emotions may not address the nuances of individual situations. Keeping emotions separate might help maintain professionalism, but it does not actively confront biases that influence decisions.

**5. Under what condition might a SAR crew enter a structure without permission?**

- A. To retrieve lost equipment**
- B. With the owner's verbal consent**
- C. With probable cause that a victim is in immediate danger**
- D. To conduct a safety check**

A SAR crew may enter a structure without permission when there is probable cause that a victim is in immediate danger. This situation is often governed by legal standards known as exigent circumstances, which allow emergency responders to bypass the typical requirement for consent in order to save a life. When there is a reasonable belief that someone inside the structure is in distress or at risk of harm—such as in the case of a medical emergency or a fire—responders can act swiftly to enter and provide assistance without prior authorization. This priority on saving lives reflects the critical nature of search and rescue operations, where delays could result in serious injury or loss of life. The other options do not align with typical legal and ethical standards for entering private property without consent. For example, retrieving lost equipment does not constitute an emergency; obtaining verbal consent from the property owner is a legitimate route but does not apply in scenarios of immediate danger, and conducting a safety check typically necessitates permission from the owner or relevant authorities.

**6. What are the three cold weather emergencies?**

- A. Heat Cramps, Heat Exhaustion, Heat Stroke**
- B. Hypothermia, Hyperthermia, Heat Exhaustion**
- C. Frost Nip, Frost Bite, Heat Cramps**
- D. Hypothermia, Frost Nip, Frost Bite**

The correct answer identifies the three cold weather emergencies as hypothermia, frost nip, and frost bite. Hypothermia occurs when the body's temperature drops to dangerously low levels, which can happen in cold weather conditions if a person is exposed to cold air, wind, or water for an extended period. It can lead to confusion, shivering, and even unconsciousness if not treated promptly, making it a critical emergency in cold environments. Frost nip is a milder form of cold injury that affects the skin, particularly on the extremities such as fingers, toes, and nose, causing pallor and a tingling sensation. While it is less severe than frost bite, it can lead to frost bite if the affected areas do not warm up. Frost bite represents a more severe injury resulting from prolonged exposure to cold, where ice crystals form in the skin and underlying tissues, potentially leading to tissue damage. The affected areas may appear white or gray and can become painful, swollen, or blistered. The other options include terms associated with heat-related conditions, such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke, which are not relevant to cold weather emergencies. The presence of hyperthermia indicates an elevation in body temperature, which does not

**7. Why should a canine not rely solely on vaccinations after contact with a wild animal?**

- A. Vaccinations are outdated**
- B. Vaccinations often wear off**
- C. Different strains of diseases exist**
- D. Canines are immune to wildlife diseases**

Choosing to emphasize the presence of different strains of diseases is crucial because it acknowledges the complex nature of pathogens that can affect canines after exposure to wild animals. Many diseases can have multiple strains or variants, which may not be covered by the vaccines the canine has received. For instance, a dog vaccinated against rabies might still be at risk if it comes into contact with a strain of rabies that the vaccine does not fully protect against. Additionally, relying solely on vaccinations ignores the dynamic and evolving nature of wildlife diseases. Just because a vaccine exists does not guarantee it is effective against every possible variation that a wild animal may carry. This underscores the importance of not only vaccination but also the need for an awareness of the specific wildlife exposure risks and the potential for varied disease strains.

**8. Which search tactic focuses on visual and auditory signals to attract the subject?**

- A. Passive Search Tactics**
- B. Active Search Interventions**
- C. Hasty Team Strategies**
- D. Thorough Search Techniques**

The correct choice highlights the "Passive Search Tactics," which are designed to rely on visual and auditory signals to attract a missing subject or improve the chances of their detection. These tactics do not involve the direct engagement or intervention of searchers with the environment to elicit a response from the subject. Instead, they often include strategies such as using whistles, sounds, lights, or visual indicators that might prompt a lost individual to respond or signal for help. In scenarios involving passive search tactics, searchers may set up locations where the missing person can find them or utilize techniques that allow the subject to make themselves known without the pressure of an active pursuit. This method is particularly effective in areas where the subject may be hesitant to reveal their position or when the searchers want to minimize their impact on the natural environment, allowing the subject to come forward at their discretion. Other choices, like active search interventions, refer to a more hands-on approach where search teams actively seek out and engage with the environment, often leading to a more immediate interaction with the subject. Hasty team strategies are usually employed in urgent situations, focusing on quickly reaching a likely area where a subject might be found. Thorough search techniques involve systematic and detailed methods to ensure comprehensive coverage of an area

**9. What is the recommended caloric intake for individuals working on a SAR mission?**

- A. 2500 calories**
- B. 3000 calories**
- C. 3700 calories**
- D. 4000 calories**

The recommended caloric intake for individuals working on a Search and Rescue (SAR) mission is typically higher than that for average daily needs due to the physical demands of the job. Engaging in intense activities such as hiking, climbing, carrying equipment, and potentially enduring varying environmental conditions requires a significant amount of energy. The choice of 3700 calories reflects the increased energy expenditure associated with search and rescue operations. This caloric requirement ensures that SAR technicians can maintain their strength, stamina, and focus throughout the mission, which is critical for both their safety and the success of the operation. Meeting these energy needs helps prevent fatigue, allows for better performance under strenuous conditions, and supports recovery during extended missions. While the other options represent lower caloric levels, they would likely not suffice to provide the necessary energy for the high levels of physical activity typical in SAR missions, ultimately impacting the effectiveness and safety of the personnel involved.

**10. What is the method for determining Critical Spacing called?**

- A. Raindance Method**
- B. Norththumberland Method**
- C. Distance Expansion Technique**
- D. Spatial Awareness Test**

The method for determining Critical Spacing is known as the Norththumberland Method. This approach focuses on assessing the distances necessary for safe spacing in various operations, ensuring that team members maintain appropriate contact and assist one another effectively during search and rescue missions. The intent behind this method is to prevent risky situations that could arise from personnel being too far apart, which could hinder communication and coordination. In contrast, the other options mentioned do not specifically relate to the determination of Critical Spacing. The Raindance Method, for example, is not recognized as a standard term in this context, and the Distance Expansion Technique might sound applicable but does not hold the established relevance in search and rescue scenarios like the Norththumberland Method does. Likewise, the Spatial Awareness Test is oriented towards evaluating an individual's understanding of spatial relationships rather than operational spacing within a rescue team.

## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://sartech1.examzify.com>**

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

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