# Senior Sewage Treatment Worker 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

1. **In which stage of sewage treatment are floating materials, like grease, typically removed?**
   - **A. Primary treatment**
   - **B. Secondary treatment**
   - **C. Tertiary treatment**
   - **D. Disinfection**

2. **How many pounds are in ten bags of Portland cement?**
   - **A. 840**
   - **B. 940**
   - **C. 1040**
   - **D. 1140**

3. **What is the best way for a supervisor to address a crew member who has not completed a task?**
   - **A. Ask the crew member why he has not completed the task**
   - **B. Reprimand the crew for not following orders**
   - **C. Assign another crew member to do the task**
   - **D. Sweep the area himself**

4. **Which of the following devices is usually operated by compressed air?**
   - **A. Reducer**
   - **B. Baffle**
   - **C. Sump pump**
   - **D. Sewage ejector**

5. **What tool is used to remove burrs from the end of a 1/2" diameter steel pipe after cutting?**
   - **A. Bit**
   - **B. Reamer**
   - **C. Tap**
   - **D. Grit**

**6. Which oil is recommended for the gearbox of a 20-ton sewage plant crane?**

**A. SAE 80**

**B. SAE 120**

**C. SAE 160**

**D. SAE 200**

**7. What valuable gas is produced as a byproduct of sewage treatment?**

**A. Methane**

**B. Chlorine**

**C. Hydrogen sulfide**

**D. Ammonia**

**8. What factor primarily determines the sizing of sewage treatment tanks?**

**A. Population and sewage flow rate**

**B. Geographic location**

**C. Cost of installation**

**D. Climate conditions**

**9. What is the purpose of wearing safety goggles while operating a drill press?**

**A. To improve visibility**

**B. To prevent injury from flying debris**

**C. To keep dust out of eyes**

**D. To enhance focus**

**10. Which type of wrench is specifically designed for tightening pipe fittings?**

**A. Stillson wrench**

**B. Adjustable wrench**

**C. Box-end wrench**

**D. Pipe wrench**

# Answers

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

# Explanations

## 1. In which stage of sewage treatment are floating materials, like grease, typically removed?

**A. Primary treatment**

**B. Secondary treatment**

**C. Tertiary treatment**

**D. Disinfection**

**Floating materials, such as grease, are primarily removed during the primary treatment stage of sewage treatment. This stage is designed to physically separate solids from the liquid waste. It typically involves processes like screening and sedimentation. During screening, large objects like sticks, plastic, and grit are filtered out. After this initial separation, the sewage is allowed to sit in large tanks, where heavier solids settle to the bottom, forming sludge, while lighter materials like grease and oils float to the surface. This floating layer can then be skimmed off, effectively reducing the overall organic load and improving the quality of the wastewater entering subsequent treatment stages. In contrast, secondary treatment focuses on the biological processes that break down dissolved organic matter, while tertiary treatment involves further purification methods, often using chemicals or advanced filtration methods. Disinfection is a final step that ensures any remaining pathogens are neutralized but does not specifically target floating materials. Each stage has its unique purpose in achieving effective sewage treatment, with primary treatment being crucial for the removal of floating substances.**

## 2. How many pounds are in ten bags of Portland cement?

**A. 840**

**B. 940**

**C. 1040**

**D. 1140**

**To determine the total weight of ten bags of Portland cement, it's essential to know the weight of a single bag. Typically, a standard bag of Portland cement weighs 94 pounds. To calculate the total weight for ten bags, you multiply the weight of one bag by the total number of bags: 94 pounds/bag x 10 bags = 940 pounds. This calculation reveals that the total weight of ten bags of Portland cement is indeed 940 pounds, confirming the chosen answer. Understanding this basic computation is critical for anyone working in sewage treatment, as it ensures accurate material handling and adherence to project specifications.**

## 3. What is the best way for a supervisor to address a crew member who has not completed a task?

**A. Ask the crew member why he has not completed the task**

**B. Reprimand the crew for not following orders**

**C. Assign another crew member to do the task**

**D. Sweep the area himself**

**The most effective approach for a supervisor to address a crew member who has not completed a task is to engage in a conversation with the crew member about the reasons for the incomplete task. This method fosters an open dialogue, allowing the supervisor to understand any obstacles the crew member might be facing. By asking 'why' the task wasn't completed, the supervisor can gather valuable insights into potential issues such as misunderstandings, lack of resources, or personal challenges. This approach not only helps identify solutions but also promotes a supportive work environment where crew members feel respected and valued for their input. This is more constructive compared to reprimanding the entire crew, which may lead to resentment or a negative atmosphere. Simply assigning the task to another crew member might not address the underlying issues that caused the initial crew member's failure to complete the task. Moreover, taking on the task personally could lead to burnout for the supervisor and diminish accountability among the team. Each of these alternatives lacks the interpersonal engagement that allows for problem identification and resolution, making the first choice the most thoughtful and effective.**

## 4. Which of the following devices is usually operated by compressed air?

**A. Reducer**

**B. Baffle**

**C. Sump pump**

**D. Sewage ejector**

**The sewage ejector is typically operated by compressed air, which is essential for various processes involved in moving sewage and wastewater from lower to higher elevations. This device relies on air pressure to aid in the efficient transfer of sewage, especially in situations where gravity alone cannot effectively move the waste to its intended destination, such as from a basement to the main sewage line. Compressed air provides the necessary force to push the waste through the ejector system, ensuring that it can overcome resistance in the pipes and any altitude changes it may need to navigate. The use of air pressure in ejectors also minimizes the risk of blockages and allows for more consistent flow rates. Other devices like reducers, baffles, and sump pumps do not primarily operate using compressed air. Reducers are typically used to change pipe diameter and do not involve air pressure in their function. Baffles act as barriers to control flow within tanks but do not require compressed air for operation. Sump pumps use an electric motor or a similar mechanism to pump water, reliant on mechanical rather than pneumatic systems. This distinction clarifies the unique role of sewage ejectors in wastewater management.**

## 5. What tool is used to remove burrs from the end of a 1/2" diameter steel pipe after cutting?

**A. Bit**

**B. Reamer**

**C. Tap**

**D. Grit**

**The tool used to remove burrs from the end of a 1/2" diameter steel pipe after cutting is a reamer. A reamer is specifically designed to smooth and enlarge existing holes, making it ideal for finishing the cut edges of a pipe. When a pipe is cut, sharp edges and burrs may remain that can cause problems during assembly or operation. The reamer helps to create a clean edge, preventing potential injuries and ensuring better fit and sealing in subsequent connections. Using a reamer also improves the flow of fluids through the pipe by allowing for a smoother transition at the cut edge, thereby enhancing the overall efficiency of the piping system. This tool is particularly effective in plumbing and mechanical applications where precision and safety are paramount. Other tools listed, such as a bit, are primarily used for drilling holes, and a tap is designed for cutting threads inside a hole. Grit does not refer to a tool but rather a type of abrasive material, which is not suitable for this application. Thus, the function and design of the reamer make it the most appropriate choice for burr removal after cutting a pipe.**

## 6. Which oil is recommended for the gearbox of a 20-ton sewage plant crane?

**A. SAE 80**

**B. SAE 120**

**C. SAE 160**

**D. SAE 200**

**The recommended oil for the gearbox of a 20-ton sewage plant crane is SAE 120. This oil is suitable for such applications due to its viscosity and lubricating properties, which are essential for the efficient and smooth operation of heavy machinery like cranes. SAE 120 provides a good balance between operating at various temperatures while ensuring proper lubrication under substantial loads. It helps reduce wear and tear on the gearbox components, supports good performance in both high and low-temperature environments, and maintains stability over time, which is crucial in a sewage treatment setting where machinery operates under challenging conditions. Using oil with higher viscosity, like SAE 160 or SAE 200, might lead to difficulties in starting the machinery and could result in increased energy consumption. Conversely, oils with lower viscosity, such as SAE 80, may not provide adequate protection under heavy loads, risking equipment damage. Thus, SAE 120 is the optimal choice for ensuring the longevity and reliability of the crane's gearbox in a sewage treatment plant.**

## 7. What valuable gas is produced as a byproduct of sewage treatment?

**A. Methane**

**B. Chlorine**

**C. Hydrogen sulfide**

**D. Ammonia**

**The valuable gas produced as a byproduct of sewage treatment is methane. During the anaerobic digestion process, organic matter in the sewage breaks down in the absence of oxygen, which leads to the production of methane and carbon dioxide. Methane can be harnessed as a renewable energy source, providing a potential for energy recovery in sewage treatment plants. This makes it not only an important byproduct for managing waste but also for contributing to sustainable energy solutions. Other gases listed, such as chlorine, hydrogen sulfide, and ammonia, do not serve the same beneficial role in sewage treatment. Chlorine is primarily used as a disinfectant and not a byproduct. Hydrogen sulfide can be produced during the breakdown of organic matter but is a toxic gas that poses safety and environmental concerns. Ammonia, while present in wastewater, is not considered a valuable byproduct like methane and can be harmful in high concentrations.**

## 8. What factor primarily determines the sizing of sewage treatment tanks?

**A. Population and sewage flow rate**

**B. Geographic location**

**C. Cost of installation**

**D. Climate conditions**

**The primary factor that determines the sizing of sewage treatment tanks is the population and sewage flow rate. This is because the design must accommodate the quantity of wastewater generated by the population served by the sewage treatment system. A higher population leads to a greater volume and flow rate of sewage, necessitating larger or multiple treatment tanks to effectively manage and treat the incoming wastewater. Sizing based on population and flow rate ensures that the treatment process can adequately handle peak flows, which may occur during heavy usage times or rainfall events. This consideration is crucial for maintaining effective treatment during varying flow conditions and for complying with environmental regulations. While geographic location, cost of installation, and climate conditions can influence various aspects of a sewage treatment project, they do not directly dictate the sizing of the treatment tanks as the population and sewage flow rate do. Geographic location may affect the technology used or construction methods, installation costs can vary based on local economic factors, and climate conditions can impact operation and maintenance but are secondary to the immediate need to size the tanks based on the expected sewage volume.**

## 9. What is the purpose of wearing safety goggles while operating a drill press?

**A. To improve visibility**

**B. To prevent injury from flying debris**

**C. To keep dust out of eyes**

**D. To enhance focus**

**Wearing safety goggles while operating a drill press is essential primarily to prevent injury from flying debris. When drilling through materials, chips or fragments can be produced that may become dislodged and be propelled at high speeds. These pieces can pose a significant risk to the eyes, potentially leading to severe injuries, including scratches, punctures, or even permanent damage. Safety goggles are specifically designed to provide a barrier against such hazards, ensuring that the operator's eyes are protected from any unexpected projectiles. This protective measure is a critical aspect of maintaining safety in a workshop environment, where various tools and machinery are being utilized. While factors such as visibility, dust, and focus are important considerations in a workspace, the primary function of safety goggles while operating a drill press is the protection against the risk of eye injuries from debris generated during the drilling process.**

## 10. Which type of wrench is specifically designed for tightening pipe fittings?

**A. Stillson wrench**

**B. Adjustable wrench**

**C. Box-end wrench**

**D. Pipe wrench**

**The Stillson wrench is designed specifically for gripping and turning round objects, particularly pipe fittings. Its unique design features serrated jaws that create a strong grip around the pipe, making it suitable for tightening or loosening pipes and fittings without slipping. The leverage provided by the long handle allows for significant torque to be applied, which is essential in plumbing applications where firm connections are necessary to prevent leaks. While the adjustable wrench can also be used for various fittings, its jaws may not provide the same grip as a Stillson wrench in all situations, particularly with round shapes. The box-end wrench, on the other hand, is designed to fit over fasteners such as nuts and bolts, not specifically for pipe fittings. The pipe wrench is a common term often used interchangeably with Stillson wrench, but the correct terminology emphasizes the Stillson wrench's specific design and purpose for gripping pipes.**

# 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://srsewegetreatmentworker.examzify.com**

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