

Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) Security Refresher 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. How should SCI attachments in email be handled?**
 - A. Attachments should be sent through secure channels or encrypted; ensure recipients have need-to-know and clearance.**
 - B. Attachments should be sent via plain email.**
 - C. Attachments are not allowed.**
 - D. Attachments can be sent to unrelated parties.**

- 2. _____ is the collection of intelligence through public sources.**
 - A. Open Source Intelligence (OSINT)**
 - B. Signals Intelligence (SIGINT)**
 - C. Imagery Intelligence (IMINT)**
 - D. Human Intelligence (HUMINT)**

- 3. Visitors who are not certified may access classified information as long as their affiliation or position warrants it.**
 - A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. Only with a security clearance**
 - D. Only during training**

- 4. What should be done if a document is mis-marked as SCI?**
 - A. Leave it as is**
 - B. Throw away**
 - C. Mark as Top Secret only**
 - D. Correct the marking and reclassify as needed; notify security; secure the document and update distribution**

- 5. Which option is not listed as a component of classification management in the material?**
 - A. Assign classification markings**
 - B. Assign SCI control markings**
 - C. Dissemination controls**
 - D. Maintain personnel badges**

- 6. Which document indicates you acknowledged mishandling SCI could cause irreparable harm and obligates you not to disclose SCI to unauthorized recipients?**
- A. SCI NdS**
 - B. SCI NDA**
 - C. SCI Non-Disclosure Statement**
 - D. SCI Security Agreement**
- 7. Which statement correctly reflects SCI handling in terms of access controls?**
- A. SCI information must be handled within formal access control systems**
 - B. SCI information can be handled without access controls**
 - C. Access controls are optional for SCI materials**
 - D. SCI information must be stored in any available cabinet**
- 8. You should never connect classified and unclassified systems together. True or False.**
- A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. It Depends**
 - D. Not Applicable**
- 9. An SCI document with NOFORN marking indicates this document is not releasable to foreign nationals.**
- A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. Relatable to foreign nationals only with clearance**
 - D. Relating to non-U.S. government personnel**
- 10. The SCIF Fixed Facility Checklist is used to obtain SCIF accreditation.**
- A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. Not applicable**
 - D. Not sure**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. How should SCI attachments in email be handled?

- A. Attachments should be sent through secure channels or encrypted; ensure recipients have need-to-know and clearance.**
- B. Attachments should be sent via plain email.**
- C. Attachments are not allowed.**
- D. Attachments can be sent to unrelated parties.**

Protecting SCI attachments hinges on secure transmission and strict access controls. Since these materials are highly sensitive, they should be sent only through secure channels or with encryption so that only the intended recipient can read them. The recipient must have the appropriate need-to-know and clearance, ensuring access is limited to those who are authorized. This prevents interception or accidental exposure that can occur with plain email. Alternatives that rely on plain email, or that allow sharing with unauthorized or unrelated parties, would undermine confidentiality and violate safeguarding requirements.

2. _____ is the collection of intelligence through public sources.

- A. Open Source Intelligence (OSINT)**
- B. Signals Intelligence (SIGINT)**
- C. Imagery Intelligence (IMINT)**
- D. Human Intelligence (HUMINT)**

Open Source Intelligence is the collection of intelligence from publicly available information. It draws on sources you can access without special clearance—newspapers, press releases, official reports, broadcast media, websites, blogs, social media, and other open data. This makes it distinct from other disciplines that rely on covert or non-public sources: signals intelligence collects intercepted communications and electronic signals, imagery intelligence relies on photos and video from platforms like satellites or aircraft, and human intelligence comes from information provided by people. OSINT is often the starting point for analysis because it uses transparent, accessible material that can be cross-checked and corroborated with other data.

3. Visitors who are not certified may access classified information as long as their affiliation or position warrants it.

- A. True**
- B. False**
- C. Only with a security clearance**
- D. Only during training**

Access to classified information is governed by clearance and need-to-know, not by affiliation or position alone. A visitor who has not been cleared does not have authorization to view classified materials, even if their role would seem to warrant it. The proper process requires a security clearance (or a temporary access arrangement) and a formal need-to-know determination, often with appropriate training and supervision. So the statement is false.

4. What should be done if a document is mis-marked as SCI?

- A. Leave it as is
- B. Throw away
- C. Mark as Top Secret only
- D. Correct the marking and reclassify as needed; notify security; secure the document and update distribution**

When a document is mis-marked as SCI, the key idea is to prevent improper access while correcting the record. The proper course is to correct the marking to reflect the document's true classification and compartment, reclassify as needed, notify security so they can update distribution lists and handling procedures, and ensure the document is secured and kept under the correct safeguards. This approach preserves accountability and safeguards. If the document has already been shared with others, those individuals should be informed of the correction and their access adjusted accordingly, while the incident is documented and the mis-mark and reclassification are recorded in the appropriate logs. Do not leave the mis-marked status in place, and do not discard the document without going through the proper security process. Also avoid making changes yourself; have the Classification Authority or the security office authorize and carry out the reclassification.

5. Which option is not listed as a component of classification management in the material?

- A. Assign classification markings
- B. Assign SCI control markings
- C. Dissemination controls
- D. Maintain personnel badges**

Classification management focuses on labeling and restricting information so only authorized people can access it. The tasks involve assigning classification markings to indicate the level, assigning SCI control markings to show the compartments or sensitive subparts, and setting dissemination controls to govern who may receive or share the information. Maintaining personnel badges relates to identity verification and physical access to facilities, not to how information is marked or shared. So it isn't part of classification management.

6. Which document indicates you acknowledged mishandling SCI could cause irreparable harm and obligates you not to disclose SCI to unauthorized recipients?

- A. SCI NdS**
- B. SCI NDA**
- C. SCI Non-Disclosure Statement**
- D. SCI Security Agreement**

The main idea being tested is identifying the document that formally records your acknowledgment that mishandling SCI could cause irreparable harm and binding you to not disclose it to unauthorized recipients. The SCI Non-disclosure Statement is the standard form used for that personal acknowledgment and pledge. It explicitly ties the potential for irreparable harm from mishandling to your obligation to keep SCI confidential and not share it with anyone not authorized. An SCI Non-Disclosure Agreement can cover confidentiality more broadly, often in organizational contracts, but it isn't the specific, standardized document that captures that explicit acknowledgment and the particular binding commitment for SCI. The SCI Security Agreement focuses on safeguarding duties and compliance with security rules, rather than the explicit personal acknowledgment of risk and non-disclosure obligation. So the document described is the SCI Non-disclosure Statement.

7. Which statement correctly reflects SCI handling in terms of access controls?

- A. SCI information must be handled within formal access control systems**
- B. SCI information can be handled without access controls**
- C. Access controls are optional for SCI materials**
- D. SCI information must be stored in any available cabinet**

Access to SCI information must be governed by formal access control systems that enforce clearance and need-to-know. In the SCI environment, access isn't at the discretion of any individual; only people with the appropriate clearance and a specific need to know may access the material. Formal access controls combine physical and logical measures, such as verified entry, controlled permissions, and documented processes for granting or revoking access, plus audit logs to show who accessed what and when. This structured approach prevents unauthorized exposure and ensures accountability. Saying access controls aren't required would allow inappropriate access, which is incompatible with SCI protection. Saying access controls are optional or that SCI can be stored without proper controls contradicts the requirement for secure containers and approved handling procedures, which are essential parts of safeguarding SCI.

8. You should never connect classified and unclassified systems together. True or False.

- A. True**
- B. False**
- C. It Depends**
- D. Not Applicable**

Keeping classified and unclassified systems separate is essential for protecting sensitive information. Directly linking these two environments creates an unprotected path for threats to move from less-secure networks to more-secure ones, increasing the risk of malware, data leakage, or unauthorized access to SCI. Segregation helps enforce strict access controls, need-to-know, and thorough auditing, so classified data cannot flow onto unclassified networks accidentally or maliciously. In practice, any data transfer between levels must go through formal, controlled processes that sanitize and review the information, rather than a continuous network connection.

9. An SCI document with NOFORN marking indicates this document is not releasable to foreign nationals.

- A. True**
- B. False**
- C. Relatable to foreign nationals only with clearance**
- D. Relating to non-U.S. government personnel**

NOFORN means not releasable to foreign nationals. When an SCI document carries this marking, it cannot be released to non-U.S. persons, regardless of any clearance a foreign national might claim. The idea is to block dissemination to any foreign national, unless a formal, authorized release is granted through the proper channels. So the statement is correct: an SCI document with NOFORN is not releasable to foreign nationals. The other options misstate who may access the document: releasing to foreign nationals with clearance is not allowed, and NOFORN covers foreign nationals broadly rather than a specific non-U.S. government personnel category.

10. The SCIF Fixed Facility Checklist is used to obtain SCIF accreditation.

- A. True**
- B. False**
- C. Not applicable**
- D. Not sure**

This item is about how a SCIF gets approved for handling SCI in a fixed facility. During accreditation, an official verifies that the building and its security systems meet all required standards, and the SCIF Fixed Facility Checklist is the formal tool used to document this verification. It guides on-site reviews of physical security features (like controlled access, intrusion detection, and secure storage) and related procedures, ensuring everything is in place and functioning before accreditation is granted. Because this checklist is specifically designed for fixed facilities and is used as part of the formal approval process, the statement is correct. Saying it isn't used, or that it's not applicable, would ignore how accreditation is actually conducted, and choosing "not sure" isn't a complete answer.

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://scisecrefresher.examzify.com>

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

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