SF Security Forces Training Reference Guide (SFTRG) Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide

BY EXAMZIFY

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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.

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.

7. Use Other Tools

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!

SAMPLE

Questions

1. **What document establishes the rules of evidence for the military?**

   A. Manual for Courts Martial

   B. Uniform Code of Military Justice

   C. Military Justice Guide

   D. Court Evidence Handbook

2. **Which of the following is not a reason to make an entry without search authority?**

   A. To secure an unlocked door

   B. To prevent loss of life

   C. To stop ongoing crime

   D. To secure evidence

3. **What method enables positioning on a map by converting a grid azimuth to a back azimuth?**

   A. Intersection

   B. Planimetric positioning

   C. Resection

   D. Compass correction

4. **What is the name of the inert training practice round with a propellant charge?**

   A. MK386

   B. MK385

   C. MK385A1

   D. MK388

5. **When should military working dogs be kept on a leash?**

   A. Always

   B. Except when performing a search

   C. Except when they must bite and hold a suspect

   D. Only during training exercises

6. **If a personality conflict arises during an interview, what should the investigator do?**

    A. Proceed with the interview

    B. Change the topic of discussion

    C. Allow another investigator to conduct the interview

    D. Take a break to resolve the conflict

7. **In the Security Forces' (SF) unit organizational structure, which "S" branch is typically the largest?**

    A. S-1/Personnel

    B. S-3/Operations

    C. S-4/Logistics

    D. S-5/Plans and Programs

8. **Which type of ammunition is designed to be used against light materials and personnel and for range training?**

    A. M62

    B. M80

    C. M85

    D. M118

9. **What must the SF on-scene commander evaluate before deciding how to search an area?**

    A. Weather, light, and number of searchers

    B. Location, time of day, and suspect profile

    C. Situation, terrain, weather, light, and number of searchers

    D. Surrounding area, incident type, and available resources

10. **How many persons can be escorted inside an exclusion area per escort official?**

    A. 4

    B. 6

    C. 8

    D. 10

Answers

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

Explanations

1. What document establishes the rules of evidence for the military?

A. Manual for Courts Martial

B. Uniform Code of Military Justice

C. Military Justice Guide

D. Court Evidence Handbook

The Manual for Courts Martial (MCM) is the document that establishes the rules of evidence for military proceedings. It serves as the primary legal authority encompassing the regulations, procedures, and guidelines governing courts-martial, including how evidence is to be handled and presented during trials. The MCM provides detailed provisions on admissibility, the burden of proof, and the types of evidence that can be introduced, ensuring that military justice is administered fairly and uniformly. The Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) outlines the legal framework for military justice as a whole, including definitions of offenses and the overall structure. While it is crucial for understanding military law, it does not specifically address the rules of evidence. The Military Justice Guide and the Court Evidence Handbook may provide helpful information and examples related to military law and evidence, but they do not have the same authoritative status as the Manual for Courts Martial. Thus, they serve more as practical resources rather than the foundational legal framework governing the admissibility of evidence in military courts.

2. Which of the following is not a reason to make an entry without search authority?

A. To secure an unlocked door

B. To prevent loss of life

C. To stop ongoing crime

D. To secure evidence

Making an entry without search authority generally revolves around situations that demand immediate action to protect life, prevent crime, or secure evidence. The choice to secure an unlocked door does not fall into these urgent categories. When faced with imminent threats, such as the possibility of loss of life or the occurrence of an ongoing crime, officers have a legal and ethical obligation to intervene. Similarly, the need to secure evidence can arise if there is a concern that it may be tampered with or destroyed. These scenarios justify entering a location without prior authorization to ensure safety and uphold the law. In contrast, simply securing an unlocked door does not pose an immediate threat or require urgent protective measures. The act of ensuring a door is secured while important, does not equate to the critical circumstances that necessitate entry without authority, hence it is the option that does not align with justifiable reasons for such action.

3. What method enables positioning on a map by converting a grid azimuth to a back azimuth?

A. Intersection

B. Planimetric positioning

C. Resection

D. Compass correction

The method of resection enables positioning on a map by converting a grid azimuth to a back azimuth. Resection is a navigational technique used to determine your location on a map by taking bearings to at least two known points. By measuring the angle from your location to these known points and converting those angles into back azimuths, you can triangulate your position accurately on the map. This technique is particularly useful in scenarios where you may not have clear visibility of landmarks or when you need to ensure precise map orientation based on compass readings. The essential aspect of resection is that it allows for a cross-referencing mechanism whereby the angles and known points are utilized to pinpoint an individual's location effectively. Other methods, while effective in other contexts, do not serve this specific purpose in the same way as resection. For instance, intersection typically involves determining the position of an unknown point by using two known points rather than your position. Planimetric positioning refers to positioning in two dimensions on a flat surface without necessarily incorporating elevation or oblique angles, and compass correction focuses primarily on adjusting compass readings for declination but does not directly support the method of positioning through azimuth conversions.

4. What is the name of the inert training practice round with a propellant charge?

A. MK386

B. MK385

C. MK385A1

D. MK388

The inert training practice round with a propellant charge is designated as MK385A1. This round is specifically designed for training purposes, allowing personnel to engage in realistic training scenarios without the risks associated with live ammunition. It contains a propellant charge to simulate the firing and recoil dynamics of actual live rounds, which is crucial for helping trainees develop skills in weapon handling, marksmanship, and situational awareness. The MK385A1 effectively mimics the characteristics of a live round in terms of weight and handling, enhancing the training value by providing experience that is as close to real-world conditions as possible. This makes it an important tool for preparing Security Forces personnel for their roles while maintaining safety and minimizing risk during training sessions. The other options, while related to training rounds and munitions, do not specifically denote an inert training practice round with a propellant charge, which is why they do not fit the description provided in the question.

5. When should military working dogs be kept on a leash?

A. Always

B. Except when performing a search

C. Except when they must bite and hold a suspect

D. Only during training exercises

Military working dogs are typically trained to maintain control and ensure safety in various operational environments. The correct choice emphasizes that these dogs should be kept on a leash except in specific circumstances when they are engaging directly with a suspect, particularly during apprehension scenarios where the dog is trained to bite and hold.   By allowing the dog to operate off-leash in these situations, handlers can effectively utilize the dog's skills in apprehending suspects, as the dog must have the freedom to act swiftly and decisively. This approach also aligns with the safety protocols that distinguish between controlled situations and operational deployments.   When dogs are performing searches, they are often under the control of a handler but may not need to be leashed, depending on the environment and the specific task at hand. Similarly, keeping dogs on a leash at all times or only during training exercises may not be practical or beneficial for their intended roles within security operations. Thus, allowing dogs to operate off-leash while engaging with suspects capitalizes on their training and enhances operational effectiveness.

6. If a personality conflict arises during an interview, what should the investigator do?

A. Proceed with the interview

B. Change the topic of discussion

C. Allow another investigator to conduct the interview

D. Take a break to resolve the conflict

In situations where a personality conflict arises during an interview, allowing another investigator to conduct the interview is often the most effective course of action. This approach ensures that the integrity of the interview process is maintained and that the subject feels comfortable sharing information. If an investigator and the interviewee have a conflict, it can hinder open communication and potentially bias the information gathered.   By bringing in a different investigator, you can mitigate the tension and create an environment that is more conducive to constructive dialogue. This strategy helps to preserve the credibility of the investigation and allows for a more thorough and objective assessment of the situation being explored, ultimately leading to better overall outcomes.

7. In the Security Forces' (SF) unit organizational structure, which "S" branch is typically the largest?

A. S-1/Personnel

B. S-3/Operations

C. S-4/Logistics

D. S-5/Plans and Programs

The S-3/Operations branch is typically the largest within the Security Forces' unit organizational structure because it encompasses a wide range of critical responsibilities that are essential for the effective functioning of the unit. This branch focuses on the planning, execution, and coordination of operations, which include mission readiness, training, and tactical operations. Given the operational commitments that security forces may face, the S-3/Operations branch often employs numerous personnel to manage these diverse tasks. Operational requirements drive the need for a larger team to ensure that all tasks related to security operations are executed efficiently, which includes not only direct security measures but also planning and strategy development. The critical nature of operational readiness means that this branch must be staffed adequately to respond to various scenarios, making it larger compared to the other branches within the unit.

8. Which type of ammunition is designed to be used against light materials and personnel and for range training?

A. M62

B. M80

C. M85

D. M118

The M80 ammunition is specifically designed for use against light materials and personnel, making it suitable for a variety of combat and training scenarios. This ammunition features a full metal jacket, enabling it to maintain its structural integrity upon impact while providing adequate penetration against soft targets. Additionally, its widespread use in military and range training ensures that personnel become proficient at handling and firing this type of round in various environments. The other types of ammunition listed are generally not intended for the same applications as the M80. The M62, for example, is tailored for armor penetration, while the M85 is an empty cartridge with a different focus. The M118 is more specialized for marksmanship training and precision shooting with accuracy in mind. Thus, the M80 is clearly the most appropriate choice for the specified purposes of engaging light materials and personnel along with suitability for range training.

9. What must the SF on-scene commander evaluate before deciding how to search an area?

   A. Weather, light, and number of searchers

   B. Location, time of day, and suspect profile

   C. Situation, terrain, weather, light, and number of searchers

   D. Surrounding area, incident type, and available resources

The right approach for the SF on-scene commander in evaluating how to search an area involves considering a comprehensive set of factors that can significantly influence the effectiveness of the search operation. This includes situation assessment, terrain analysis, weather conditions, lighting levels, and the number of personnel available for the search. By evaluating the situation, command can determine the threat level and urgency, which informs search tactics. Assessing the terrain helps in understanding any physical challenges that may hinder search efforts, such as obstacles or hiding places. Weather conditions can affect visibility and safety during the search, while lighting can impact both the success of the operation and the safety of personnel involved. Finally, understanding how many searchers are present is crucial to organizing an effective and efficient search strategy, ensuring that resources are effectively allocated without overextending the team. Other choice options may focus on subsets of these factors but do not encompass the full range of considerations necessary for an effective evaluation by the SF on-scene commander.

10. How many persons can be escorted inside an exclusion area per escort official?

   A. 4

   B. 6

   C. 8

   D. 10

The correct response indicates that an escort official can take a maximum of six persons into an exclusion area. This limit is typically established to ensure that the escort is manageable and that safety protocols can be effectively maintained. Having six individuals allows the escort official to adequately supervise the group and maintain situational awareness, which is critical in areas where security risks may be higher. This practice also helps to minimize the potential for confusion or incidents that could arise from escorting larger groups, ensuring that all individuals can be accounted for and that procedures can be followed calmly and efficiently. The specific number of six may also be aligned with regulatory guidance or standard operating procedures established by security forces, emphasizing the importance of maintaining a controlled and secure environment. This structured approach enhances the overall integrity of the operations within sensitive areas.

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://sftrainingrefguide.examzify.com

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