

SOTACC DAY 1 PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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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 is the purpose of FSCMs in fire support?

- A. To deconflict fires and establish clear responsibilities and safe zones for engagement.
- B. To provide weather data for artillery calculations.
- C. To communicate with allied units about supply routes.
- D. To designate target priority for air strikes.

2. Which term is listed as a weapon effect that involves piercing through a target?

- A. Blast
- B. Frag
- C. Penetration
- D. Thermal

3. Ripple means?

- A. 2 or More Munitions Released in Quick Succession
- B. No Visual of Friendly Aircraft
- C. 2 Different Munitions in Parallel
- D. System Indicates Inoperable

4. Which weapon is described as 500-pound low collateral?

- A. BLU-126
- B. GBU-54
- C. GBU-12
- D. GBU-31

5. Which term means two or more munitions released in quick succession?

- A. Ripple
- B. Cherubs
- C. Blind
- D. Bent

- 6. Which weapon is described as 1000-pound laser guided?**
- A. GBU-16
 - B. GBU-12
 - C. GBU-32
 - D. GBU-31
- 7. Which term describes sensor information on a stated position or acknowledgment of a specified reference point?**
- A. Contact
 - B. Mark
 - C. No Joy
 - D. Tally
- 8. Which initials are required to authorize danger close?**
- A. GFC initials
 - B. FAC initials
 - C. JTAC initials
 - D. SFC initials
- 9. What does cueing mean in SOTACC?**
- A. Providing pre-briefed information to direct shooters toward probable locations.
 - B. Providing weather updates to adjust timing.
 - C. Providing general navigation directives.
 - D. Providing logistic support only.
- 10. Which aircraft is equipped with a 25mm GAU-12 Equalizer and has a 9,000 lb capacity?**
- A. AV-8B
 - B. F-15E
 - C. F-16
 - D. FA-18 Hornet

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the purpose of FSCMs in fire support?

- A. To deconflict fires and establish clear responsibilities and safe zones for engagement.**
- B. To provide weather data for artillery calculations.
- C. To communicate with allied units about supply routes.
- D. To designate target priority for air strikes.

FSCMs (Fire Support Coordination Measures) shape how fires are planned and executed so they don't collide with friendly forces. The core idea is to deconflict fires across air, artillery, and other munitions and to assign clear responsibility for approving and controlling engagements, while also establishing safe zones or boundaries where fires are restricted or coordinated. By defining who can authorize fires, where engagement can occur, and when, FSCMs prevent fratricide, protect noncombatants, and ensure the right unit engages the right target at the right time. Weather data for artillery calculations is weather-related support, not FSCMs. Communicating with allied units about supply routes is logistics coordination, not fire-support deconfliction. Designating target priority for air strikes is part of targeting decisions and air operations planning, not the deconfliction framework provided by FSCMs.

2. Which term is listed as a weapon effect that involves piercing through a target?

- A. Blast
- B. Frag
- C. Penetration**
- D. Thermal

Penetration describes a weapon effect where the projectile or energy passes through the target instead of stopping at the surface, potentially continuing to damage what lies beyond or affecting armor/ barriers it encounters. This is why it's the right term for piercing through a target. The other effects correspond to different damage modes: blast is an area explosion, frag refers to fragments from a fragmentation weapon, and thermal involves heat-based damage.

3. Ripple means?

- A. 2 or More Munitions Released in Quick Succession**
- B. No Visual of Friendly Aircraft
- C. 2 Different Munitions in Parallel
- D. System Indicates Inoperable

Ripple refers to firing two or more munitions in a rapid sequence rather than all at once. This quick release creates a spread of effects over a small time window, increasing the likelihood of hitting targets and covering the area without waiting for a single hit. It's different from a salvo, which would release everything at the exact same moment. The other options describe conditions or actions not related to how multiple munitions are released (for example, lack of visual on friendly aircraft or using two different munitions in parallel, or a fault indicating the system is inoperable).

4. Which weapon is described as 500-pound low collateral?

- A. BLU-126**
- B. GBU-54
- C. GBU-12
- D. GBU-31

The main idea here is understanding what "low collateral" means in munitions: a weapon designed to minimize damage outside the target area, often by using a size and guidance approach that keeps blast, debris, and effects confined. The BLU-126 is described as a 500-pound bomb configured for low collateral effects, which is why it's the best match for this description. The other weapons listed are known in their own right for precision and guidance, but they aren't described with the same low-collateral label in the materials you're studying. For example, the GBU-31 is a larger 2000-pound JDAM, while the GBU-12 and GBU-54 are 500-pound guided bombs (laser-guided and laser JDAM, respectively) whose emphasis is on precision rather than the specific low-collateral designation.

5. Which term means two or more munitions released in quick succession?

- A. Ripple**
- B. Cherubs
- C. Blind
- D. Bent

Releasing two or more munitions in quick succession is described as a ripple. This pattern means the weapons are launched one after another with a short, deliberate interval, creating a ripple-like sequence across the target area rather than a single simultaneous burst. The benefit is broader area coverage and flexibility in accounting for dispersion, wind, and delivery timing, while still delivering multiple effects in a short window. The other terms don't describe this rapid sequence of releases, as they refer to different concepts or usages in munitions delivery.

6. Which weapon is described as 1000-pound laser guided?

- A. GBU-16**
- B. GBU-12
- C. GBU-32
- D. GBU-31

Weight class and guidance method define the bomb. The 1000-pound laser-guided bomb in the Paveway family is the GBU-16, which uses semi-active laser guidance to home in on a target illuminated by a designator. The GBU-12 is a lighter 500-pound laser-guided bomb, the GBU-32 is a 1000-pound GPS/INS-guided JDAM, and the GBU-31 is a 2000-pound GPS-guided JDAM. So the 1000-pound laser-guided option is GBU-16.

7. Which term describes sensor information on a stated position or acknowledgment of a specified reference point?

A. Contact

B. Mark

C. No Joy

D. Tally

The idea here is about what you call something that your sensors report as a location of interest. When a radar, sonar, or other sensor picks up an object and provides its position or confirms a known reference point, that point is called a contact. It's the label you use for an identified sensor-detected entity or location that you'll track and reference in communications and plotting. Think of a radar return showing something at a specific bearing and range, or someone confirming that a known waypoint is present at a given location. In both cases, you have sensor information tied to a position, or you've acknowledged a reference point, and you'd call that a contact. The other terms don't fit this idea as directly. Mark is about placing a marker or designation, not the sensor-detected position itself. No Joy means there's no contact detected. Tally means you've visually seen something, which is related but refers to sighting rather than the broader sensor-reported position or reference-point acknowledgment.

8. Which initials are required to authorize danger close?

A. GFC initials

B. FAC initials

C. JTAC initials

D. SFC initials

Danger close requires explicit sign-off from the Ground Force Commander because it represents the highest risk to friendly forces and civilians. The ground commander is the one closest to the maneuver and understands the terrain, troop disposition, and potential fallout, so their initials confirm that they accept the danger and authorize the attack at very close proximity to troops. The JTAC or FAC handles the coordination, target detection, and calling in the fire, but they don't grant the final clearance—only the GFC's initials approve this extreme risk. The other roles are essential for execution, but they don't authorize danger close on their own.

9. What does cueing mean in SOTACC?

A. Providing pre-briefed information to direct shooters toward probable locations.

B. Providing weather updates to adjust timing.

C. Providing general navigation directives.

D. Providing logistic support only.

Cueing in SOTACC is the process of providing pre-briefed, targeted information that directs shooters toward probable locations of targets or threats. This relies on intelligence, prior reconnaissance, and observed patterns to identify high-probability areas where contact is more likely. By delivering this focused information, the shooter can prioritize where to search, cue sensors, and time fires more effectively, speeding up decisions and reducing unnecessary exposure. It's not about weather updates, general navigation directives, or logistic support, which serve different purposes.

10. Which aircraft is equipped with a 25mm GAU-12 Equalizer and has a 9,000 lb capacity?

A. AV-8B

B. F-15E

C. F-16

D. FA-18 Hornet

The 25mm GAU-12 Equalizer is a rotary cannon specifically associated with the AV-8B Harrier II, which uses this gun for close air support and ground-attack missions. The Harrier II also has a practical external ordnance capacity around 9,000 pounds, matching the given payload figure. The other aircraft listed typically use a different internal gun (a 20mm Vulcan) and have larger or differently configured payload capabilities, so they don't fit the same combination of armament and 9,000-pound capacity.

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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://sotaccd1.examzify.com>

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

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