

# Space Training Advancement and Readiness Squadron (STARS) TAP Practice Exam (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 title corresponds to E-3?**
  - A. Specialist 1**
  - B. Specialist 3**
  - C. Specialist 2**
  - D. Specialist 4**
  
- 2. Which line in the Space Force Song identifies guardians beyond the blue?**
  - A. Standing guard both night and day**
  - B. We're the Space Force from on high**
  - C. Guardians beyond the blue**
  - D. There's no limit to our sky**
  
- 3. What is the National Reconnaissance Office vision?**
  - A. See it, Hear it, Sense it**
  - B. See it, Hear it, Understand it**
  - C. See it, Hear it, Read it**
  - D. See it, Hear it, Sense it**
  
- 4. Who is STARS Deputy Commander?**
  - A. C/Bernardin**
  - B. Lt Col Smith**
  - C. C/Pinto**
  - D. C/Toerner**
  
- 5. Which command was merged into United States Strategic Command on October 1, 2002?**
  - A. US Space Command**
  - B. US Central Command**
  - C. US Northern Command**
  - D. United States Strategic Command**

- 6. The ASAT test that destroyed the Solwind satellite occurred on which date?**
- A. September 13, 1985**
  - B. September 23, 1985**
  - C. November 13, 1983**
  - D. September 13, 1984**
- 7. Who is listed as the Chief of Space Operations?**
- A. General Bolden**
  - B. General Saltzman**
  - C. General Hyten**
  - D. General Raymond**
- 8. Which entry describes the ASAT test that destroyed a satellite?**
- A. Explorer 1 launch**
  - B. Navstar GPS launch**
  - C. Yuri Gagarin spaceflight**
  - D. US ASAT test destroying Solwind satellite**
- 9. Which line states The Space Force from on high?**
- A. There's no limit to our sky**
  - B. The Space Force from on high**
  - C. We're the mighty watchful eye**
  - D. Guardians beyond the blue**
- 10. The quote 'For us to have a future that's exciting and inspiring, it has to be one where we're a space-bearing civilization.' is attributed to whom?**
- A. Elon Musk**
  - B. General John W. 'Jay' Raymond**
  - C. RDML Alan B. Shepard**
  - D. Gen Shawn N. Bratton**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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### 1. What title corresponds to E-3?

- A. Specialist 1
- B. Specialist 3**
- C. Specialist 2
- D. Specialist 4

In this practice setup, titles are organized in a Specialist family with numbered levels that correspond to pay grades. The E-3 pay grade maps to the third level of that Specialist progression, so the title matching E-3 is Specialist 3. The numbering reflects progression within the same track, meaning lower E grades align with lower-numbered Specialist titles and higher E grades align with higher-numbered titles. The other options would correspond to different levels within the same scheme (Specialist 1 for the lowest, Specialist 2 for the next, Specialist 4 for the fourth), which is why they're not correct for E-3. Keep in mind that real-world mappings can vary by service, but this question uses this specific mapping for the test.

### 2. Which line in the Space Force Song identifies guardians beyond the blue?

- A. Standing guard both night and day
- B. We're the Space Force from on high
- C. Guardians beyond the blue**
- D. There's no limit to our sky

Focus on identifying a lyric that directly names the idea of guardians operating beyond Earth's atmosphere. The line that says "Guardians beyond the blue" does exactly that: it explicitly pairs guardians with being beyond the blue, which is a classic way to reference space beyond the Earth's atmosphere. The other lines talk about guarding or space-related themes in a general sense, but they don't explicitly identify guardians beyond the blue. So this line uniquely fits the prompt by tying the guardians to space beyond Earth.

### 3. What is the National Reconnaissance Office vision?

- A. See it, Hear it, Sense it
- B. See it, Hear it, Understand it
- C. See it, Hear it, Read it
- D. See it, Hear it, Sense it**

The concept being tested is how the NRO frames its broad approach to space-based intelligence: collecting information across multiple modalities to build a complete picture. "See it, Hear it, Sense it" suggests three core ways the agency gathers data. See it reflects optical imagery and the ability to visually capture targets from space. Hear it points to signals intelligence—the interception of communications and electronic emissions. Sense it expands beyond visual and signals to include other sensor data—radar, infrared, and other sensing technologies—that add depth and context to what's observed. Together, this triad communicates a comprehensive, end-to-end approach to gathering information from space, rather than focusing on interpretation or reading of data.

#### 4. Who is STARS Deputy Commander?

- A. C/Bernardin**
- B. Lt Col Smith**
- C. C/Pinto**
- D. C/Toerner**

The Deputy Commander in STARS is a cadet, which is shown by the cadet prefix used in the roster. C/Bernardin is the cadet assigned to that deputy role, matching the expected position and designation. The other names either represent an officer or a different cadet not listed as the Deputy Commander, so they don't fit the specific assignment.

#### 5. Which command was merged into United States Strategic Command on October 1, 2002?

- A. US Space Command**
- B. US Central Command**
- C. US Northern Command**
- D. United States Strategic Command**

The key idea is how DoD unified commands reorganize responsibilities to cover critical domains. On October 1, 2002, US Space Command was merged into United States Strategic Command, bringing space operations under USSTRATCOM. After the merge, space activities were handled within USSTRATCOM through a Joint Functional Component Command Space, aligning space capabilities with strategic deterrence and global operations. The other commands mentioned oversee different regions or purposes (CENTCOM for the Middle East and surrounding areas, NORTHCOM for North America), and none of them were merged into USSTRATCOM on that date.

#### 6. The ASAT test that destroyed the Solwind satellite occurred on which date?

- A. September 13, 1985**
- B. September 23, 1985**
- C. November 13, 1983**
- D. September 13, 1984**

The event being tested is the date of the Solwind satellite's destruction during a U.S. anti-satellite test. On September 13, 1985, an air-launched ASAT missile (ASM-135) destroyed the Solwind P78-1 satellite in low Earth orbit. This incident is notable because it demonstrated a kinetic way to take down a satellite and created debris that raised long-term space-safety considerations. The other dates don't match the documented destruction date.

## 7. Who is listed as the Chief of Space Operations?

- A. General Bolden
- B. General Saltzman**
- C. General Hyten
- D. General Raymond

The Chief of Space Operations is the top uniformed leader of the U.S. Space Force, tasked with guiding the new service and its mission to organize, train, and equip forces for space operations. The person widely recognized as having held that role from the Space Force's beginning is General John W. Raymond, who served as the first Chief of Space Operations and led the early development of the force. Among the names listed, General Raymond is the one associated with this position. General Bolden is known for NASA leadership, General Hyten is a senior Space Force/Joint Chiefs of Staff figure who did not hold the CSO title, and General Saltzman is not associated with the Space Force's Chief role. Therefore, the correct choice is General John W. Raymond.

## 8. Which entry describes the ASAT test that destroyed a satellite?

- A. Explorer 1 launch
- B. Navstar GPS launch
- C. Yuri Gagarin spaceflight
- D. US ASAT test destroying Solwind satellite**

Anti-satellite (ASAT) testing demonstrates the ability to disable or destroy satellites in orbit. The entry that describes the US ASAT test destroying the Solwind satellite is the best match because it explicitly refers to an ASAT weapon test in which a satellite was destroyed in space, illustrating this capability. In 1985, the United States conducted such a test using an anti-satellite missile to intercept and destroy the Solwind satellite, an event that highlighted the potential for space-based weapons and the debris it can create. The other options are important space milestones—launching a first US satellite, launching a navigation system, and the first human in space—but none describe an ASAT test or satellite destruction.

## 9. Which line states The Space Force from on high?

- A. There's no limit to our sky
- B. The Space Force from on high**
- C. We're the mighty watchful eye
- D. Guardians beyond the blue

The key idea is to pick the line that exactly states the requested phrase. The line that literally says "The Space Force from on high" directly matches what the prompt is asking for, so it leaves no doubt about the intended meaning. The other lines evoke space-themed imagery—vast skies, vigilance, guardians beyond Earth—but they do not contain that specific wording, so they don't fulfill the prompt as precisely.

**10. The quote 'For us to have a future that's exciting and inspiring, it has to be one where we're a space-bearing civilization.' is attributed to whom?**

**A. Elon Musk**

**B. General John W. 'Jay' Raymond**

**C. RDML Alan B. Shepard**

**D. Gen Shawn N. Bratton**

This attribution fits the kind of long-term, strategic language used by leaders who helped shape the Space Force. General John W. “Jay” Raymond served as the first Chief of Space Operations and repeatedly framed our future in terms of humanity becoming a spacefaring civilization—a vision that emphasizes expanding and thriving in space as essential to civilization’s future. The tone and content of the quote align with his public messaging about making space a central, enduring part of national security and human progress. Elon Musk often speaks in entrepreneurial, tech-forward terms about space, and the other names listed don’t have the same association with Space Force leadership or that specific phrasing in formal defense commentary. So the attribution to General John W. Raymond best matches the speaker’s role and messaging.

## 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://starstap.examzify.com>**

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

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