

SPACE TRAINING ADVANCEMENT AND READINESS SQUADRON (STARS) TAP PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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. Which rank corresponds to pay grade E-9?**
 - A. Chief Master Sergeant
 - B. Senior Chief Master Sergeant
 - C. Master Sergeant
 - D. Command Chief Master Sergeant

- 2. Which base is associated with Space Operations Command (SPOC) in the material?**
 - A. Los Angeles Space Force Base, California
 - B. Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado
 - C. Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Florida
 - D. Schriever Space Force Base, Colorado

- 3. Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the Moon on which date?**
 - A. July 20, 1969
 - B. July 21, 1969
 - C. July 20, 1968
 - D. August 20, 1969

- 4. The line 'We have a responsibility to secure the space domain to defend U.S. service members in harm's way.' is attributed to which leader?**
 - A. Elon Musk
 - B. RDML Alan B. Shepard
 - C. General B. Chance Saltzman
 - D. General John W. 'Jay' Raymond

- 5. What is the Original Mission?**
 - A. Conduct global space operations that enhance the way our joint and coalition forces fight, while also offering decision makers military options to achieve national objectives.
 - B. Develop commercial spaceflight capabilities for civilian research.
 - C. Protect space assets from cyber threats.
 - D. Navigate international space law and treaties.

- 6. What is Space Futures Command's status in the material?**
- A. Upcoming
 - B. Active
 - C. In development
 - D. Disbanded
- 7. What is the primary difference between a prograde and a retrograde orbit?**
- A. Prograde orbits move opposite to Earth's rotation.
 - B. Prograde orbits travel with Earth's rotation; retrograde orbits travel opposite.
 - C. Prograde orbits alternate between high and low altitudes.
 - D. Prograde orbits are only used for satellites.
- 8. Which event occurred on October 1, 2002?**
- A. October 1, 2002
 - B. October 1, 1998
 - C. October 1, 2003
 - D. October 1, 2009
- 9. Which organization has the motto Supra et Ultra- Above and Beyond?**
- A. United States Space Force
 - B. Space Futures Command
 - C. National Reconnaissance Office
 - D. Space Operations Command
- 10. Which option correctly identifies a DoD framework used for risk management of information systems and programs?**
- A. NIST Risk Management Framework (RMF) for federal information systems.
 - B. ITIL Service Management.
 - C. COBIT framework for IT governance.
 - D. DoD Risk Management Framework (RMF) for information systems and programs.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which rank corresponds to pay grade E-9?

- A. Chief Master Sergeant**
- B. Senior Chief Master Sergeant
- C. Master Sergeant
- D. Command Chief Master Sergeant

In the Air Force, pay grades map to specific enlisted ranks, with E-9 being the highest enlisted level. The rank that carries this top pay grade is Chief Master Sergeant. This is the standard top enlisted rank, while Command Chief Master Sergeant is a senior leadership position held by someone with the Chief Master Sergeant rank and does not create a separate rank at a different pay grade. Master Sergeant and Senior Master Sergeant correspond to lower pay grades, so they are not the E-9 level.

2. Which base is associated with Space Operations Command (SPOC) in the material?

- A. Los Angeles Space Force Base, California
- B. Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado**
- C. Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Florida
- D. Schriever Space Force Base, Colorado

The base associated with Space Operations Command is Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado. In the material, this location is identified as the SPOC headquarters, housing the command's leadership and primary staff responsible for space operations. The other options don't align with the material's association: Los Angeles Space Force Base isn't a real base; Cape Canaveral Space Force Station is renowned for launches and not SPOC headquarters; Schriever Space Force Base hosts other space operations but not the SPOC HQ as referenced in the material.

3. Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the Moon on which date?

- A. July 20, 1969**
- B. July 21, 1969
- C. July 20, 1968
- D. August 20, 1969

The event date is tied to the moment the mission first reached the Moon and established a surface presence. Apollo 11 landed on the Moon on July 20, 1969, which is the date most concise histories use for the moment humans first reached and touched down on the lunar surface. The actual first step onto the Moon—which many people think of as the Moon walk—happened a bit later in Universal Time, spilling into July 21, 1969. In the context of standard summaries and the way the options are written here, July 20, 1969 is the date that best aligns with the milestone of stepping onto the lunar surface, hence the choice. If you remember the exact moment of the first step, you'll recall it as occurring after the landing date, but the question's best-supported date among the options is the landing date.

4. The line 'We have a responsibility to secure the space domain to defend U.S. service members in harm's way.' is attributed to which leader?

- A. Elon Musk
- B. RDML Alan B. Shepard
- C. General B. Chance Saltzman**
- D. General John W. 'Jay' Raymond

The line reflects the leadership voice responsible for shaping and communicating the Space Force's mission to protect service members by securing the space domain. General B. Chance Saltzman, as Chief of Space Operations, leads Space Force strategy and public messaging about space as a warfighting domain and the duty to defend U.S. personnel by maintaining secure, resilient space capabilities. This aligns with his role and the ongoing emphasis on space security as essential to national defense. The other options don't fit because they do not hold the Space Force leadership position or, in one case, are a civilian entrepreneur, not a military space leader.

5. What is the Original Mission?

- A. Conduct global space operations that enhance the way our joint and coalition forces fight, while also offering decision makers military options to achieve national objectives.**
- B. Develop commercial spaceflight capabilities for civilian research.
- C. Protect space assets from cyber threats.
- D. Navigate international space law and treaties.

The mission is to conduct global space operations that enhance how our joint and coalition forces fight, while also offering decision makers military options to achieve national objectives. This framing shows space power as a tool that directly strengthens combat effectiveness and strategic outcomes, coordinating with other services and allied forces to deter, prevail, or influence in conflict. It captures the broad, warfighting-focused purpose of space activities—not just technical or civilian tasks. The other options point to important functions, but they don't define the overarching military mission: civilian spaceflight for research, cyber defense of space assets, or navigating space law and treaties. Each is valuable, yet they don't embody the broad, defense-oriented role of using space to support national objectives alongside joint and coalition forces.

6. What is Space Futures Command's status in the material?

- A. Upcoming**
- B. Active
- C. In development
- D. Disbanded

Understanding how status descriptors are used in the material helps answer this. When a program or command is labeled as upcoming, it means it is planned or announced for the future and is not yet established or operating. In the material, Space Futures Command is described as something that will come online later, rather than something currently active or actively being built. That's why upcoming fits best: it signals a future entity, not one that is presently in service. If it were already active you'd see current operations; if it were in development you'd expect ongoing work toward standing it up; and if it were disbanded you'd see it described as no longer existing.

7. What is the primary difference between a prograde and a retrograde orbit?

- A. Prograde orbits move opposite to Earth's rotation.
- B. Prograde orbits travel with Earth's rotation; retrograde orbits travel opposite.**
- C. Prograde orbits alternate between high and low altitudes.
- D. Prograde orbits are only used for satellites.

Prograde and retrograde describe the direction of orbital motion relative to the planet's rotation. Earth spins to the east, so a prograde orbit travels in the same eastward direction as that spin. A retrograde orbit travels westward, opposite to Earth's rotation. This direction matters because it affects how much energy is needed to reach the orbit: launching east into a prograde orbit can take advantage of Earth's rotational speed, reducing the delta-v required, while a retrograde orbit requires more energy to reverse that direction. Retrograde orbits are chosen for specific mission needs, such as particular inclination or ground-track requirements. The other statements don't fit: prograde isn't opposite Earth's rotation, and orbital direction isn't defined by altitude changes or by being used only for satellites.

8. Which event occurred on October 1, 2002?

- A. October 1, 2002**
- B. October 1, 1998
- C. October 1, 2003
- D. October 1, 2009

Focus on exact dating. When a question asks which event occurred on a specific date, the only option that truly happened on that day is the one that repeats the date exactly. October 1, 2002 is the day in question, so the option that says October 1, 2002 is the event that occurred on that date. The other choices point to different years, so they do not correspond to October 1, 2002.

9. Which organization has the motto Supra et Ultra- Above and Beyond?

- A. United States Space Force
- B. Space Futures Command
- C. National Reconnaissance Office**
- D. Space Operations Command

Supra et Ultra, meaning Above and Beyond, expresses a mindset of pushing past ordinary limits to obtain critical information from space. This aligns with the National Reconnaissance Office's mission: designing, building, and operating reconnaissance satellites and related intelligence programs to provide essential data for national security. The motto captures the drive to reach beyond current capabilities to gather intelligence that decision-makers rely on, which is exactly what the NRO does. For context, the Space Force uses a closely related phrase—Semper Supra, meaning Always Above—still conveying being above in a military sense, but it isn't the same motto. The other options refer to different organizations with distinct missions and mottos, so they don't fit the specific wording in the question.

10. Which option correctly identifies a DoD framework used for risk management of information systems and programs?

- A. NIST Risk Management Framework (RMF) for federal information systems.
- B. ITIL Service Management.
- C. COBIT framework for IT governance.
- D. DoD Risk Management Framework (RMF) for information systems and programs.**

The key idea here is that the Department of Defense uses a dedicated risk management framework tailored for its information systems and programs. This DoD Risk Management Framework provides a structured, lifecycle-based approach to identify, assess, and manage security risks within DoD systems, aligning with the standard RMF steps but with DoD-specific tailoring. It guides categorizing the system, selecting and tailoring security controls (often from NIST SP 800-53), implementing, assessing, authorizing, and continuously monitoring those controls. This framework is distinct from the NIST RMF used across federal agencies, which applies more broadly outside DoD. It's also separate from ITIL, which focuses on service management, and COBIT, which centers on IT governance. So for a DoD context, the DoD RMF for information systems and programs is the correct framework.

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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://starstap.examzify.com>

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

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