

TBS COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT I AND II PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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 must be entered to maintain synchronization between SINCGARS radios?**
 - A. Julian date
 - B. Battery status
 - C. Frequency range
 - D. Serial number
- 2. What is the primary function of a protocol analyzer in TBS systems?**
 - A. To enhance network security
 - B. To monitor and analyze network traffic
 - C. To increase data storage capacity
 - D. To manage user access control
- 3. In terms of safety, why is proper user training integral to TBS communication equipment?**
 - A. It complicates user interactions
 - B. It enhances overall system performance and safety
 - C. It restricts user access to certain features
 - D. It increases the need for technical support
- 4. For what purpose must the responsibility for unit communications be clearly delineated?**
 - A. To minimize equipment costs
 - B. To enhance combat effectiveness
 - C. To ensure clarity in command structures
 - D. To facilitate regular training programs
- 5. In TBS communications, what does frequency shift keying (FSK) involve?**
 - A. Varying the amplitude of the signal
 - B. Changing the phase of the signal
 - C. Modulating the frequency of the signal
 - D. None of the above

- 6. What general term describes military action using electromagnetic or directed energy?**
- A. Signal Jamming
 - B. Electronic Warfare
 - C. Communication Maintenance
 - D. Information Security
- 7. Ground waves primarily travel from which source?**
- A. The ground station to the satellite
 - B. The transmitting antenna along the earth's surface
 - C. A receiving antenna to a transmitting tower
 - D. Between two communicating systems through space
- 8. What is a characteristic of the OE-254 antenna?**
- A. Power amplified for longer range
 - B. Height of 39 feet
 - C. Weight less than 5 lbs
 - D. Requires only one person for erection
- 9. What defines the beginning of the frequency hopping in a communication circuit?**
- A. Transmission Security Key
 - B. Transmission Encryption Key
 - C. Time
 - D. Net Identifier
- 10. Which factor does NOT affect ground wave propagation?**
- A. Dense vegetation
 - B. High altitude
 - C. Mountainous terrain
 - D. Severe weather

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What must be entered to maintain synchronization between SINCGARS radios?

- A. Julian date**
- B. Battery status
- C. Frequency range
- D. Serial number

Maintaining synchronization between SINCGARS (Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System) radios is crucial for effective communication in tactical environments. The correct answer is the Julian date because it serves as a standardized way to identify the current date, typically expressed as the day of the year. This synchronization is essential as it ensures that the radios are configured to operate on the same temporal reference, which reduces the chances of communication errors by aligning the internal clocks of the devices. When the Julian date is correctly entered into the radios, it helps the systems coordinate with each other for timing-related processes, such as encryption and secure communications. This synchronization is particularly important in military operations where timing can significantly impact the success of missions. The other options, while relevant to the operation and functionality of radios, do not play a direct role in achieving synchronization. Battery status pertains to the power available for operation, frequency range relates to communication channels, and the serial number is for identification purposes, but none of these factors addresses the synchronization timing aspect that the Julian date provides.

2. What is the primary function of a protocol analyzer in TBS systems?

- A. To enhance network security
- B. To monitor and analyze network traffic**
- C. To increase data storage capacity
- D. To manage user access control

The primary function of a protocol analyzer in TBS systems is to monitor and analyze network traffic. Protocol analyzers capture data packets as they traverse the network, allowing network administrators and engineers to inspect the details of the communication occurring between devices. This analysis is crucial for understanding network performance, diagnosing issues, and ensuring that protocols are functioning correctly. By providing insights into the types of data being transmitted, the timing of communications, and the volume of traffic, protocol analyzers facilitate effective network management and troubleshooting. While enhancing network security, increasing data storage capacity, and managing user access control are important functions in networking, they are not the core purpose of a protocol analyzer. Instead, these functions may utilize the insights gained from protocol analysis to improve overall network health and security.

3. In terms of safety, why is proper user training integral to TBS communication equipment?

- A. It complicates user interactions
- B. It enhances overall system performance and safety**
- C. It restricts user access to certain features
- D. It increases the need for technical support

Proper user training is integral to TBS communication equipment because it directly contributes to both overall system performance and safety. When users are adequately trained, they understand how to operate the equipment correctly and efficiently, which minimizes the risk of accidents or errors that could lead to safety hazards. Additionally, well-trained users are more likely to follow safety protocols and procedures when using the communication equipment, thereby reducing the chances of misuse that could have harmful consequences. Consequently, training not only enhances the user's skill in utilizing the equipment effectively but also ensures that safety measures are actively upheld, creating a safer environment for everyone involved in the communication process. This understanding of operations and safety measures fosters greater confidence among users, resulting in smoother and safer communication operations.

4. For what purpose must the responsibility for unit communications be clearly delineated?

- A. To minimize equipment costs
- B. To enhance combat effectiveness**
- C. To ensure clarity in command structures
- D. To facilitate regular training programs

Clearly delineating the responsibility for unit communications enhances combat effectiveness by ensuring that all personnel understand their roles and the flow of information during operations. In military settings, effective communication can be a decisive factor in mission success. When communication responsibilities are well-defined, it reduces the risk of miscommunication and confusion among units, allowing for quicker decision-making and operational responsiveness. This clarity ensures that vital information regarding enemy movements, logistics, and strategic decisions is shared promptly and accurately, which is critical for coordinating actions and maintaining a tactical advantage over adversaries. The synchronization of efforts and resources through effective communication directly contributes to the overall preparedness and operational efficiency of the unit in combat scenarios.

5. In TBS communications, what does frequency shift keying (FSK) involve?

- A. Varying the amplitude of the signal
- B. Changing the phase of the signal
- C. Modulating the frequency of the signal**
- D. None of the above

Frequency Shift Keying (FSK) involves modulating the frequency of a signal to represent data. In this method of digital communication, different frequency signals correspond to different data values. For instance, one frequency may represent a binary '1', while another frequency represents a binary '0'. This modulation technique allows for the transmission of digital information over communication channels effectively and is particularly useful in applications such as digital data transmission, radio communications, and telecommunications. The other choices describe different types of modulation. Varying the amplitude of a signal refers to Amplitude Modulation (AM), while changing the phase of a signal is characteristic of Phase Shift Keying (PSK). Since the question specifically asks about frequency shift keying, the modulation of frequency is the defining feature, making it the correct answer.

6. What general term describes military action using electromagnetic or directed energy?

- A. Signal Jamming
- B. Electronic Warfare**
- C. Communication Maintenance
- D. Information Security

The correct answer, which describes military action using electromagnetic or directed energy, is Electronic Warfare. This term encompasses a variety of techniques and operations that utilize the electromagnetic spectrum to disrupt, deceive, or damage enemy radar and communication systems. Electronic Warfare can include activities such as jamming signals to prevent enemy communications, using directed energy to disable systems, or employing technologies to gather intelligence from adversaries' electronic resources. In contrast, signal jamming is a specific application within Electronic Warfare that focuses solely on disrupting communications. Communication maintenance refers to the upkeep and repair of communication systems, which falls outside the scope of military action. Information security involves protecting data and information systems from unauthorized access or attacks, which is more about safeguarding assets rather than conducting military operations. Therefore, Electronic Warfare is the most encompassing term that accurately reflects military operations in this context.

7. Ground waves primarily travel from which source?

- A. The ground station to the satellite
- B. The transmitting antenna along the earth's surface**
- C. A receiving antenna to a transmitting tower
- D. Between two communicating systems through space

The correct answer is that ground waves primarily travel from the transmitting antenna along the earth's surface. Ground waves are a type of radio wave that follows the curvature of the Earth and travels along its surface. They are typically used for communication over significant distances, especially at lower frequencies. Ground waves are particularly effective in enabling communication in situations where direct line-of-sight propagation is not possible — often due to obstacles like hills, buildings, or the curvature of the Earth itself. This characteristic allows them to be utilized for broadcasting over land, which is essential for regional AM radio stations, for example. Other options pertain to different types of communication or transmission paths that do not encapsulate the behavior of ground waves. For instance, a ground station's communication with a satellite involves satellite communication rather than ground wave propagation, and the interaction between a receiving antenna and a transmitting tower typically relies on line-of-sight propagation or other wave types, rather than ground waves. Likewise, communication between two systems through space often refers to propagation via sky waves or direct line-of-sight transmission, rather than the surface-following characteristics unique to ground waves.

8. What is a characteristic of the OE-254 antenna?

- A. Power amplified for longer range
- B. Height of 39 feet**
- C. Weight less than 5 lbs
- D. Requires only one person for erection

The OE-254 antenna is known for its characteristic height of 39 feet. This height is significant because it allows for improved signal propagation and reception, making it effective for various communication needs. The elevation plays a critical role in the performance of the antenna, enabling it to operate effectively over longer distances and in diverse environments. While some of the other attributes pertaining to power amplification, weight, and ease of erection are features of different antenna models or setups, they do not specifically define the OE-254 antenna. The height of the OE-254 is a defining feature that impacts its functionality, confirming its suitability for various operational requirements in the field.

9. What defines the beginning of the frequency hopping in a communication circuit?

- A. Transmission Security Key
- B. Transmission Encryption Key
- C. Time
- D. Net Identifier**

The beginning of frequency hopping in a communication circuit is defined by the Net Identifier. This identifier serves as the basis for the sequence and coordination of frequencies that the communication system jumps between during transmission. The Net Identifier ensures that all participating units in the circuit are synchronized and communicate effectively without interference from other devices operating in nearby frequency ranges. This is crucial for maintaining secure and reliable communication, as it allows multiple users to share the same frequency spectrum without causing disruptions. The Net Identifier also provides a way to distinguish between different communication networks, further enhancing operational security and efficiency. In contrast, while options such as the Transmission Security Key and Transmission Encryption Key play crucial roles in securing the communication, they do not directly define the timing or sequence of frequency hops. Time is also essential in the context of coordination, but it does not uniquely identify the start of the frequency hopping process as the Net Identifier does.

10. Which factor does NOT affect ground wave propagation?

- A. Dense vegetation
- B. High altitude**
- C. Mountainous terrain
- D. Severe weather

Ground wave propagation refers to the transmission of radio waves along the surface of the Earth. This type of propagation is influenced by various factors that can either enhance or hinder signal strength and coverage. High altitude does not significantly impact ground wave propagation. Ground waves travel along the surface of the Earth, and their characteristics are primarily dictated by the properties of the ground and atmospheric conditions near the surface. When operating at high altitudes, there may be variations in signal coverage, but it is not as directly related to the propagation of ground waves, which are more concerned with the immediate surface environment. In contrast, dense vegetation, mountainous terrain, and severe weather conditions can all create physical obstructions or changes in the environment that affect how well the ground wave signal can propagate. For instance, dense vegetation can absorb and scatter radio waves, mountainous terrain can block or reflect signals, and severe weather can introduce atmospheric variations that alter propagation characteristics. Therefore, understanding that high altitude is less of a direct factor in ground wave propagation helps clarify the concept effectively.

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:

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

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