

TEEX BASIC WATER WORKS OPERATIONS PRACTICE TEST (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. A common filter is the slow sand filter, having several layers of differently sized media.**
 - A. It has only one layer
 - B. It uses activated carbon
 - C. True
 - D. False
- 2. Which national regulation ensures uniform safety, quality standards, and lack of contaminants in drinking water?**
 - A. Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974
 - B. Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972
 - C. Clean Air Act
 - D. National Environmental Policy Act
- 3. A utility's employees should be informed of plans and policies to maintain smooth operations.**
 - A. True
 - B. False
 - C. Not sure
 - D. Only some
- 4. Which description correctly identifies the agencies described as regional and local in impact on the water utility industry?**
 - A. Federal Agencies
 - B. Regional and Local Agencies
 - C. State Agencies
 - D. Private Companies
- 5. Among chemical characteristics, which item is listed alongside hardness and pH?**
 - A. Turbidity
 - B. Color
 - C. Gases
 - D. Odor

- 6. Water is considered hard when it exceeds how many mg/L of calcium carbonate?**
- A. 25
 - B. 50
 - C. 100
 - D. 250
- 7. Some diseases transmitted by unsafe water include typhoid, dysentery, cholera, measles, polio, and cryptosporidiosis.**
- A. True
 - B. Not always
 - C. Some are not transmitted by unsafe water
 - D. False
- 8. On the pH scale, which range indicates acidic water?**
- A. 7 to 14
 - B. 0 to 6.9
 - C. 7
 - D. 0 to 14
- 9. What are some types of well pumps?**
- A. Submersible
 - B. Vertical turbine
 - C. Series pumps
 - D. All of the above
- 10. What is the purpose of a well vent?**
- A. To vent gases
 - B. To seal the well
 - C. To filter water
 - D. To increase water pressure

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. A common filter is the slow sand filter, having several layers of differently sized media.

- A. It has only one layer
- B. It uses activated carbon
- C. True
- D. False**

Slow sand filtration relies on a bed with multiple media layers: typically a coarse gravel base beneath a finer sand top. The gravel supports the bed and creates large pore spaces, while the sand layer traps smaller particles as water passes slowly through. This arrangement also supports a biologically active layer at the surface that helps remove organic matter and microorganisms, enhancing filtration. Activated carbon isn't a defining feature of this type of filter. So the statement about slow sand filters having several layers of differently sized media is true.

2. Which national regulation ensures uniform safety, quality standards, and lack of contaminants in drinking water?

- A. Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974**
- B. Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972
- C. Clean Air Act
- D. National Environmental Policy Act

Uniform safety and quality of drinking water across the country are established by the Safe Drinking Water Act. This law gives the EPA the authority to set enforceable standards for drinking water quality, including maximum contaminant levels and required treatment methods, and to oversee state programs so water systems meet those standards. It also requires regular monitoring, public notices, and actions to correct issues, ensuring consumers have access to safe, clean drinking water nationwide. The other acts address pollution of waterways, air quality, or environmental impacts of federal actions, but they do not provide nationwide drinking water standards.

3. A utility's employees should be informed of plans and policies to maintain smooth operations.

- A. True**
- B. False
- C. Not sure
- D. Only some

Clear communication of plans and policies to all employees is essential for smooth, safe, and reliable utility operations. When staff know the approved procedures, response protocols, safety rules, and operating limits, they can act quickly and consistently, reducing errors, downtime, and safety risks. This shared understanding also supports training, accountability, and coordination across shifts and departments, helping the organization respond effectively to routine tasks and changes. If information is only partially shared or left uncertain, operations can become fragmented, safety may suffer, and service quality can decline. That's why informing all employees is the best approach.

4. Which description correctly identifies the agencies described as regional and local in impact on the water utility industry?

- A. Federal Agencies
- B. Regional and Local Agencies**
- C. State Agencies
- D. Private Companies

Regional and local agencies influence water utilities within a specific geographic area, such as a city, county, or region. They implement local codes, issue permits for water system operations, conduct inspections, and enforce environmental and public health rules tailored to local conditions. This targeted scope means their impact is felt directly in the communities they serve. In contrast, federal agencies set nationwide standards that apply across the country, and state agencies operate at a broader, statewide level. Private companies aren't government agencies and don't govern public regulatory requirements. So, describing agencies that have regional and local impact best fits the regional and local agencies.

5. Among chemical characteristics, which item is listed alongside hardness and pH?

- A. Turbidity
- B. Color
- C. Gases**
- D. Odor

In water quality, chemical characteristics describe the dissolved chemical species and reactions in water. Hardness and pH reflect the water's chemical composition and acidity, so gases—dissolved oxygen, carbon dioxide, and other dissolved gases—are also chemical characteristics because they're chemical species present in solution that influence chemistry and behavior of the water. Turbidity, color, and odor are tied to physical or sensory aspects (suspended solids, appearance, and smell) rather than the chemical makeup, so they don't fit this category as directly.

6. Water is considered hard when it exceeds how many mg/L of calcium carbonate?

- A. 25
- B. 50
- C. 100**
- D. 250

Hard water is defined by the amount of dissolved minerals, mainly calcium and magnesium, expressed as calcium carbonate equivalents. A standard cutoff is used to decide when water is hard; when the calcium carbonate equivalent exceeds this cutoff, the water is labeled hard because you'll see more soap scum, reduced soap lather, and more scale in kettles and pipes. Among the options, the one that aligns with that commonly used boundary is the correct choice, since it represents the point at which water shifts from soft to hard. Values below the boundary are softer, while a value above the boundary would be considered very hard.

7. Some diseases transmitted by unsafe water include typhoid, dysentery, cholera, measles, polio, and cryptosporidiosis.

- A. True
- B. Not always
- C. Some are not transmitted by unsafe water
- D. False**

Understanding waterborne transmission means pathogens reach us through contaminated water that we drink or come into contact with. In this set, several classic waterborne infections are present—typhoid fever, dysentery, cholera, and cryptosporidiosis. Measles, on the other hand, is spread through respiratory droplets and is not transmitted via water. Because the statement lists all of these diseases as being transmitted by unsafe water, it would be incorrect. The key idea is that not every disease on the list is waterborne; the inclusion of measles makes the whole claim false.

8. On the pH scale, which range indicates acidic water?

- A. 7 to 14
- B. 0 to 6.9**
- C. 7
- D. 0 to 14

Acidity is defined by having a pH below 7. The pH scale runs from 0 to 14, with 7 being neutral. Water is acidic when its pH is less than 7, and it becomes basic (alkaline) as the pH rises above 7. Therefore, the range that indicates acidic water is 0 to 6.9. In practice, utilities monitor pH to prevent corrosion and to maintain water quality, aiming for a neutral to slightly alkaline range (about 6.5 to 8.5) for most drinking water.

9. What are some types of well pumps?

- A. Submersible
- B. Vertical turbine
- C. Series pumps
- D. All of the above**

Well systems use different pump designs to match how deep the well is and how much pressure is needed. Submersible pumps are built to operate while submerged in water, with the motor sealed and cooled by the surrounding liquid; they're a common choice for deep wells. Vertical turbine pumps have a vertical shaft with multiple stages and are also used for deep wells, providing high head and good efficiency at higher lift. Sometimes, to reach higher pressure or total head than a single pump can provide, pumps can be arranged in series, meaning the output of one pump feeds the next to boost overall push. Because each of these approaches—submersible pumps, vertical turbine pumps, and pumps in series—can appear in well pumping systems, all of the above is the best answer.

10. What is the purpose of a well vent?

- A. To vent gases
- B. To seal the well
- C. To filter water
- D. To increase water pressure

Gas buildup can occur in a well from dissolved gases coming out of solution or from gases produced in the aquifer. A well vent provides a controlled escape path for these gases to the atmosphere, preventing pressure buildup inside the casing and reducing the risk of gas entering the pumping system. This helps keep the operation safe and allows for more reliable water delivery. It isn't intended for sealing the well, filtering water, or increasing water pressure.

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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://teexbasicwaterworksops.examzify.com>

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

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