

Tennessee Survey 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 type of topography must be shown outside the shoreline on a hydrographic survey?**
 - A. Topography of adjacent land only**
 - B. Topography determined by the intended use of the Survey Map**
 - C. Topography of submerged land only**
 - D. No topography requirement**

- 2. In differential leveling, Y equals the discrepancy in vertical measurement. What does M represent?**
 - A. Magnitude of error**
 - B. Distance from datum reference**
 - C. Measurement of land area**
 - D. Method of survey**

- 3. How should professional land surveyors conduct their work regarding the lands they survey?**
 - A. With extreme caution and minimal disturbance**
 - B. At the convenience of the landowners**
 - C. With frequent access to government land**
 - D. Only during daylight hours**

- 4. What key elements are determined in hydrographic surveys of lakes and rivers?**
 - A. Shore lines, soundings, and bottom characteristics**
 - B. Water quality and environmental hazards**
 - C. Fish population and water usage**
 - D. Flood risk assessment and land development**

- 5. What must a professional land surveyor ensure is proper before signing a survey?**
 - A. Surveying equipment quality**
 - B. Document accuracy and completeness**
 - C. Cost of the survey**
 - D. Client approval**

- 6. Which of the following is NOT required on a survey sheet?**
- A. The name of the person who requested the survey**
 - B. The name, registration number, and address of the Land Surveyor**
 - C. A graphic scale and a numerical scale**
 - D. Surveyor's personal opinions about the property**
- 7. Which action can be taken against a surveyor for gross negligence?**
- A. Immediate reinstatement**
 - B. Issuing a warning only**
 - C. Suspending their registration**
 - D. Publicly announcing their shortcomings**
- 8. What is a primary concern when establishing a project benchmark?**
- A. It must be temporary**
 - B. It should reference proper datum**
 - C. It can be an estimation**
 - D. It does not need to be documented**
- 9. Appointments to the board can be made by the governor from lists submitted by which group?**
- A. Local community boards**
 - B. National Surveyors Association**
 - C. Tennessee Association of Professional Surveyors**
 - D. General public vote**
- 10. What key information must be included in a survey sheet regarding the location of the property?**
- A. A descriptive location or a vicinity map**
 - B. The date of the last property tax assessment**
 - C. Historical ownership of the property**
 - D. A detailed analysis of market value**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What type of topography must be shown outside the shoreline on a hydrographic survey?

A. Topography of adjacent land only

B. Topography determined by the intended use of the Survey Map

C. Topography of submerged land only

D. No topography requirement

In a hydrographic survey, understanding the intended use of the survey map is crucial for determining what type of topography should be represented. The topography shown outside the shoreline often provides important contextual information that can affect how the surveyed waterway interacts with its surroundings and is utilized. This may include landforms, elevations, and nearby infrastructure that could impact navigation, environmental conditions, or development plans. For instance, if the survey is conducted for recreational boating, information about the nearby parks, docks, or facilities becomes essential. Alternatively, for environmental assessments, details regarding coastal vegetation or land use may be prioritized. Such considerations ensure that the final map is relevant and serves its intended purpose effectively, justifying why the topography is determined by the intended use of the survey map. This tailor-fit approach maximizes the utility and applicability of the hydrographic survey data.

2. In differential leveling, Y equals the discrepancy in vertical measurement. What does M represent?

A. Magnitude of error

B. Distance from datum reference

C. Measurement of land area

D. Method of survey

In differential leveling, the role of M is to represent the distance from the datum reference. The datum reference is a fixed point used as a baseline for measuring elevations in relation to the vertical measurements being taken. Understanding M as the distance from this reference point helps surveyors accurately determine the elevation differences from their starting point to various points of interest in the field. This concept is fundamental in the practice of differential leveling, as it allows surveyors to calculate the precise elevation of various locations relative to the established datum, ensuring that any discrepancies in the measurements can be addressed effectively. Not only does this aid in achieving maximum accuracy in construction projects and land surveys, but it also reinforces the importance of a precise and consistent reference point in all leveling activities.

3. How should professional land surveyors conduct their work regarding the lands they survey?

- A. With extreme caution and minimal disturbance**
- B. At the convenience of the landowners**
- C. With frequent access to government land**
- D. Only during daylight hours**

Professional land surveyors are tasked with conducting their work in a manner that respects both the environment and the properties they are surveying. This approach typically involves extreme caution, ensuring that the physical and legal boundaries of the land are accurately represented while causing minimal disruption to the area. Disturbance during surveying can include physical alterations to the land, which may negatively impact the property or its surroundings. By prioritizing minimal disturbance, surveyors demonstrate respect and professionalism, allowing natural landscapes to remain intact as much as possible. This principle aligns with ethical surveying practices and often conforms to regulations that prioritize environmental conservation. In addition to physical considerations, conducting surveys with caution includes the need to be aware of legal boundaries, property rights, and the needs of landowners. This careful approach ensures that surveyors do not inadvertently encroach on neighboring properties or violate any legal stipulations. Overall, this methodology encapsulates the necessary diligence and ethical responsibility that professional land surveyors must maintain while fulfilling their roles in land assessment and development.

4. What key elements are determined in hydrographic surveys of lakes and rivers?

- A. Shore lines, soundings, and bottom characteristics**
- B. Water quality and environmental hazards**
- C. Fish population and water usage**
- D. Flood risk assessment and land development**

In hydrographic surveys of lakes and rivers, the primary focus is on specific physical characteristics of the water body itself, which includes the determination of shorelines, soundings, and bottom characteristics. Shorelines are crucial for understanding the boundary of the water body and how it interacts with the surrounding land. Soundings refer to the measurement of water depth at various points, which is essential for navigation, construction, and ecological studies. Bottom characteristics involve assessing the substrate material at the bed of the water body, which can affect various factors such as habitat suitability for aquatic life and sediment transport dynamics. While aspects such as water quality, environmental hazards, fish populations, and flood risk assessments are important in broader environmental and ecological studies, they do not fall under the primary objectives of hydrographic surveys. These surveys are primarily aimed at generating accurate bathymetric data and understanding physical attributes rather than biological or environmental conditions.

5. What must a professional land surveyor ensure is proper before signing a survey?

- A. Surveying equipment quality**
- B. Document accuracy and completeness**
- C. Cost of the survey**
- D. Client approval**

A professional land surveyor is responsible for ensuring that the survey's document accuracy and completeness are aligned with the legal and technical standards before signing it. This involves confirming that all measurements, descriptions, and calculations are correct and that the survey accurately reflects the conditions of the property being surveyed. If the document is not accurate or complete, it could lead to significant legal ramifications, disputes over property boundaries, or issues with title transfers. It is crucial for the land surveyor to uphold the integrity of the profession by submitting credible work that stakeholders can rely on. While the quality of surveying equipment, cost considerations, and obtaining client approval are certainly important aspects of conducting a survey, the foremost duty before signing the document is ensuring its accuracy and completeness. This foundational responsibility establishes trust and credibility in the professional standards of land surveying.

6. Which of the following is NOT required on a survey sheet?

- A. The name of the person who requested the survey**
- B. The name, registration number, and address of the Land Surveyor**
- C. A graphic scale and a numerical scale**
- D. Surveyor's personal opinions about the property**

A survey sheet is a critical document that provides essential information about a survey conducted on a specific piece of land. The information included on a survey sheet is typically geared toward accuracy, compliance, and clear communication of facts regarding the property being surveyed. In this case, surveyor's personal opinions about the property are not a standard requirement on a survey sheet. The survey's purpose is to capture measurable data, describe boundaries, and represent the physical characteristics of the property. Personal opinions do not add value or relevance to the objective findings of a survey. Conversely, certain pieces of information are essential for a survey sheet. The name of the person requesting the survey provides a point of contact and establishes who commissioned the work. Likewise, including the name, registration number, and address of the land surveyor is a legal requirement, as it ensures accountability and allows for follow-up if there are questions regarding the survey. Furthermore, a graphic scale and a numerical scale are critical for conveying dimensions and distances accurately, allowing anyone reviewing the survey to interpret the measurements precisely. Hence, the correct answer highlights the absence of a requirement for personal opinions, which do not belong on a professional survey document.

7. Which action can be taken against a surveyor for gross negligence?

- A. Immediate reinstatement**
- B. Issuing a warning only**
- C. Suspending their registration**
- D. Publicly announcing their shortcomings**

Taking action against a surveyor for gross negligence involves a serious commitment to ensuring that professional standards and public safety are maintained. Suspending their registration serves as an appropriate course of action in cases of gross negligence because it protects the integrity of the surveying profession and the public trust. Such a suspension typically results from significant failures in practice that could lead to detrimental outcomes, such as incorrect land measurements or failure to comply with legal standards. Suspension acts as both a corrective measure and a deterrent, ensuring that the surveyor cannot practice until the issues are adequately addressed. This action reflects the severity of gross negligence and serves to remind all practitioners of the importance of adherence to professional standards. In this context, other options, such as issuing only a warning or immediate reinstatement, do not convey the seriousness required in addressing gross negligence. Publicly announcing shortcomings also does not directly address professional accountability and corrective measures necessary in such cases.

8. What is a primary concern when establishing a project benchmark?

- A. It must be temporary**
- B. It should reference proper datum**
- C. It can be an estimation**
- D. It does not need to be documented**

Establishing a project benchmark is a critical step in surveying that involves creating a reference point that is vital for ensuring the accuracy and reliability of measurements throughout the duration of the project. The primary concern when establishing a benchmark is that it should reference proper datum. This reference ensures that all additional measurements and data collected throughout the project are aligned and can be accurately compared. Using the correct datum is essential for several reasons. It provides a standard reference frame that can be universally understood and used, which is crucial when integrating data from multiple sources or when working across different regions. Proper datum allows for consistency in vertical and horizontal measurements, thereby minimizing errors during computations and analysis. In contrast, benchmarks that are temporary or estimations may lead to inaccuracies and misinterpretations in the data, as they lack the stability and reliability that a well-established reference framework provides. Additionally, failing to properly document the benchmark can result in confusion and challenges in maintaining the integrity of the project's measurements over time. Thus, ensuring that a benchmark references proper datum is fundamental to the success of any surveying project.

9. Appointments to the board can be made by the governor from lists submitted by which group?

- A. Local community boards**
- B. National Surveyors Association**
- C. Tennessee Association of Professional Surveyors**
- D. General public vote**

Appointments to the board are made by the governor from lists submitted by the Tennessee Association of Professional Surveyors. This association plays a crucial role in the surveying profession within the state and serves as a representative body for professionals in the field. By providing a list of qualified candidates, the association ensures that the governor has access to individuals who understand the specific needs and standards of surveying in Tennessee. This system of appointments is designed to leverage the expertise of an established professional organization, ensuring that board members are well-versed in the relevant laws, regulations, and best practices in surveying. By drawing from a specialized organization rather than a more general source, the focus remains on maintaining high professional standards and addressing the unique challenges faced in the field.

10. What key information must be included in a survey sheet regarding the location of the property?

- A. A descriptive location or a vicinity map**
- B. The date of the last property tax assessment**
- C. Historical ownership of the property**
- D. A detailed analysis of market value**

Including a descriptive location or a vicinity map in a survey sheet is essential because it provides a clear visual representation of where the property is situated in relation to its surroundings. This information helps to establish context, showing nearby landmarks, roadways, and other properties, which can be crucial for prospective buyers, appraisers, and anyone needing to locate the property. A well-prepared survey should effectively communicate the property's precise positioning, allowing for easy identification and understanding of its locale. Other information, such as the date of the last property tax assessment, historical ownership, or a detailed analysis of market value, can be useful in specific contexts but does not provide the immediate geographic context that a vicinity map and descriptive location do. These other elements serve different purposes and do not directly aid in identifying the property's location on the ground.

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://tnsurvey.examzify.com>

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

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