

TEXAS SURVEYORS PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

<https://texassurveyor.examzify.com>



Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	16

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

- 1. What should a surveyor do first upon arrival at the site?**
 - A. Measure the property lines
 - B. Contact adjacent owners
 - C. Review previous surveys
 - D. Set up surveying equipment
- 2. What happens when there are no clear monuments according to Texas surveying practices?**
 - A. Monuments must be reconstructed
 - B. Only area measurements are used
 - C. Direction and distance can establish title lines
 - D. Surveys are deemed invalid
- 3. What does magnetic declination refer to in surveying?**
 - A. The angle between true north and magnetic north
 - B. The difference in elevation between two points
 - C. The change in geographical coordinates over time
 - D. The distance between survey markers
- 4. What is considered the best tool for effective communication with a client?**
 - A. A detailed progress report
 - B. A complete contract
 - C. A follow-up email
 - D. A verbal agreement
- 5. What is the current limit of off-shore control by the State of Texas?**
 - A. 1 marine league
 - B. 3 marine leagues
 - C. 5 marine leagues
 - D. 10 marine leagues

- 6. Which agency is primarily responsible for handling the public lands of the State of Texas?**
- A. The Department of Land Management
 - B. The Texas General Land Office
 - C. The Texas Land Commission
 - D. The Office of Public Lands
- 7. What is the hierarchy order of the three types of monuments?**
- A. Artificial, record, natural
 - B. Record, artificial, natural
 - C. Natural, artificial, record
 - D. Artificial, natural, record
- 8. What additional step is necessary for the application to become a Registered Professional Land Surveyor?**
- A. Submit proof of educational qualifications
 - B. Complete an internship with a licensed surveyor
 - C. Pass the NCEES Principles and Practice of Surveying examination
 - D. Attend a workshop on local laws
- 9. What is a key responsibility of the School Land Board established in 1883?**
- A. Classification of Federal lands
 - B. Classification of State lands
 - C. Issuing land patents to citizens
 - D. Enforcing mineral rights
- 10. How much land was granted to an empresario for bringing in 100 families?**
- A. 10 leagues of land
 - B. 5 leagues and 5 labors
 - C. 20 leagues of land
 - D. 1 league of land

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What should a surveyor do first upon arrival at the site?

- A. Measure the property lines
- B. Contact adjacent owners**
- C. Review previous surveys
- D. Set up surveying equipment

Upon arriving at the site, it is essential for a surveyor to first contact adjacent owners. This step serves multiple important purposes: it allows the surveyor to gather any relevant information from neighboring property owners about the boundaries, any previously established markers, and their understanding of property lines. Engaging with adjacent owners can also help identify possible disputes or issues that may arise during the surveying process. This initial contact lays a solid foundation for the survey and can provide useful insights that inform later steps, such as measuring property lines or reviewing previous surveys. Additionally, understanding the context around the boundaries can lead to a more accurate and comprehensive survey outcome. It is important to recognize that while measuring property lines and setting up surveying equipment are critical tasks, they should come after establishing clear communication with neighboring property owners. This approach can ensure that the surveyor is fully informed before commencing measurements and other technical activities on the property.

2. What happens when there are no clear monuments according to Texas surveying practices?

- A. Monuments must be reconstructed
- B. Only area measurements are used
- C. Direction and distance can establish title lines**
- D. Surveys are deemed invalid

In Texas surveying practices, when there are no clear monuments, direction and distance can be utilized to establish title lines. This relies on the principles of boundary retracement, where the surveyor can determine the location of the property boundaries based on the recorded deeds, previous surveys, and measuring techniques. By employing these methods, the surveyor interprets the intent behind the original surveys and legal descriptions. This process can often include referencing natural landmarks or other established lines that may serve as alternative means to demarcate boundaries when traditional physical monuments are absent. Establishing title lines through direction and distance is a crucial aspect of the surveying profession, as it enables property owners to understand their rights and resolves disputes related to property boundaries. While other options might suggest actions like reconstructing monuments or deeming surveys invalid, these scenarios are less practical and do not reflect the established practices under such conditions in Texas.

3. What does magnetic declination refer to in surveying?

- A. The angle between true north and magnetic north**
- B. The difference in elevation between two points
- C. The change in geographical coordinates over time
- D. The distance between survey markers

Magnetic declination, commonly referred to as magnetic variation, is the angle that represents the difference between true north (geodetic north) and magnetic north (the direction the north end of a compass points). This is critical in surveying because accurate measurements of angles and direction are essential for determining precise locations on the earth's surface. In practical terms, when a surveyor is planning or executing a project, understanding the magnetic declination allows for accurate adjustments when using a compass for navigation or alignment. This variation can change depending on geographic location and can also shift over time due to changes in the earth's magnetic field. The other concepts listed relate to different metrics in surveying and navigation. The difference in elevation between two points pertains to vertical measurements, geographical coordinates change over time relate more to tectonic shifts and not specifically to magnetic navigation, and the distance between survey markers refers to spatial separation rather than directional alignment. Thus, understanding magnetic declination is essential for ensuring accurate surveying practices and proper site layout.

4. What is considered the best tool for effective communication with a client?

- A. A detailed progress report
- B. A complete contract**
- C. A follow-up email
- D. A verbal agreement

The best tool for effective communication with a client is a complete contract. A contract serves as a formal agreement outlining the expectations, responsibilities, and rights of both parties involved in the surveying project. It acts as a comprehensive reference point that can help prevent misunderstandings and disputes, as it explicitly states the terms of the engagement, including scope of work, timelines, and compensation. Having a complete contract ensures that both the surveyor and the client are on the same page from the start. It can be an essential document in fostering trust and confidence, as it provides clarity about what is expected and helps to establish a professional working relationship. Unlike other options, such as progress reports or follow-up emails, which may focus on updates or reminders rather than foundational agreements, a contract fundamentally lays the groundwork for effective communication throughout the project.

5. What is the current limit of off-shore control by the State of Texas?

- A. 1 marine league
- B. 3 marine leagues**
- C. 5 marine leagues
- D. 10 marine leagues

The current limit of offshore control by the State of Texas is defined as 3 marine leagues. A marine league is a measurement of approximately 3.452 miles, which establishes the jurisdictional boundary for the state over navigable waters beyond the coastline. This limit stems from Texas's historical land grants and legal precedents, which grant the state authority and rights to resources and governance up to this specified distance from the shore. This jurisdiction includes the management of natural resources, regulatory powers, and environmental oversight in this maritime zone. The establishment of this boundary reflects the unique legal status of Texas, derived from its annexation into the United States and its original land grants when it was an independent republic. Being aware of the 3 marine leagues limit is crucial for surveyors and professionals in the field as it affects land use, resource management, and property rights along the Texas coast.

6. Which agency is primarily responsible for handling the public lands of the State of Texas?

- A. The Department of Land Management
- B. The Texas General Land Office**
- C. The Texas Land Commission
- D. The Office of Public Lands

The Texas General Land Office is the agency that handles the public lands of the State of Texas. This office is tasked with managing state lands, which includes overseeing land leases, sales, and the preservation of natural resources. Additionally, the Texas General Land Office plays a vital role in enforcing state land laws, providing education about land use, and ensuring responsible stewardship of resources, including mineral rights. This agency also manages the Permanent School Fund, which benefits public education in Texas, and it takes an active role in promoting land conservation. Unlike other options, such as the hypothetical Department of Land Management or an Office of Public Lands, the Texas General Land Office has a well-established history and a defined role within the Texas government, making it the primary agency for public land management in the state.

7. What is the hierarchy order of the three types of monuments?

- A. Artificial, record, natural
- B. Record, artificial, natural
- C. Natural, artificial, record**
- D. Artificial, natural, record

The hierarchy order of the three types of monuments is based on the reliability and permanence of the monuments used in surveying practices. The correct sequence starts with natural monuments, followed by artificial monuments, and finally, record monuments. Natural monuments are features like trees, rocks, streams, or other significant landscape elements. They are the most permanent and can be the most reliable as they are less likely to be altered or moved by human activity. Artificial monuments are human-made markers that have been established for the purpose of defining boundaries or locations. While they can be reliable, their permanence may be compromised by changes in the environment or development. Record monuments refer to documents or maps that record the locations of boundaries and monuments. Though they can provide valuable information, they are subject to inaccuracies in interpretation or updates over time, making them less reliable than physical monuments. This hierarchy underscores the preference for using natural features whenever possible, supplemented by artificial markers, and referencing recorded information as necessary to ensure precision in surveying.

8. What additional step is necessary for the application to become a Registered Professional Land Surveyor?

- A. Submit proof of educational qualifications
- B. Complete an internship with a licensed surveyor
- C. Pass the NCEES Principles and Practice of Surveying examination**
- D. Attend a workshop on local laws

To become a Registered Professional Land Surveyor, passing the NCEES Principles and Practice of Surveying examination is a crucial step. This examination assesses knowledge of the laws, practices, principles, and technical knowledge necessary for competent practice as a land surveyor. It ensures that candidates possess the expertise to perform the duties required in the profession and to protect public safety, welfare, and property rights. While educational qualifications and internships are essential parts of the overall process to become a licensed surveyor, they primarily contribute to the foundational knowledge and practical experience needed before sitting for the licensing exam. Additionally, while workshops on local laws can be beneficial for understanding specific regulations and practices, they do not directly confer licensure. Therefore, passing the NCEES examination is the essential step that confirms readiness to practice independently and is a requirement for obtaining licensure as a Registered Professional Land Surveyor.

9. What is a key responsibility of the School Land Board established in 1883?

- A. Classification of Federal lands
- B. Classification of State lands**
- C. Issuing land patents to citizens
- D. Enforcing mineral rights

The School Land Board, established in Texas in 1883, primarily focuses on the management and classification of state lands. This was crucial because the board's role involved determining how land could be utilized for the benefit of public education, particularly through the sale or lease of these lands to generate revenue. The classification process helps in identifying which lands were suitable for agricultural, commercial, or other uses, thus ensuring that the land resources were properly allocated to serve the educational needs of the state. By classifying state lands, the School Land Board plays an integral role in maintaining the integrity and financial viability of public education funding in Texas. Effective management of these resources can lead to increased revenue, which can be reinvested into schools and educational programs. The responsibilities of the board extend beyond mere classification, deeply impacting the economic landscape of education in the state.

10. How much land was granted to an empresario for bringing in 100 families?

- A. 10 leagues of land
- B. 5 leagues and 5 labors**
- C. 20 leagues of land
- D. 1 league of land

In the context of Texas history, specifically regarding the empresarios who were instrumental in settling Texas during the early 19th century, a clear understanding of land grant policies is essential. The correct amount of land granted to an empresario for bringing in 100 families was 5 leagues and 5 labors. This allocation reflects the incentive structure established by the Mexican government to encourage settlement. Each league is equivalent to approximately 4,428.4 acres, and a labor is a subdivision of land that is roughly one-third of a league, translating to about 1,476 acres. Therefore, the total land granted would include a considerable acreage, emphasizing the importance of each family that the empresario successfully brought into the region. This provision specifically acknowledges the vital role that these empresarios played in populating and developing Texas during a period when it was crucial for the region's growth and stability. The other options, while they represent other quantities of land potentially known in historical contexts, do not align with the established agreements that typically defined the land grants associated with the settlement of families by empresarios.

SAMPLE

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://texassurveyor.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE