

Texas Wastewater Class B Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of 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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.

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.

7. Use Other Tools

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!

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Questions

- 1. What is a common voltage for electrical equipment in wastewater treatment?**
 - A. 110 volts**
 - B. 220 or 440 volts**
 - C. 480 volts**
 - D. 240 volts**
- 2. When an operator experiences equipment failures, what is the recommended course of action to avoid electrical shock?**
 - A. Attempt to fix the problem independently**
 - B. Refer to a trained electrical repairperson**
 - C. Ignore the issue until it resolves itself**
 - D. Contact management and wait for instructions**
- 3. What is the minimum inside diameter for new manholes?**
 - A. 2 feet**
 - B. 3 feet**
 - C. 4 feet**
 - D. 5 feet**
- 4. Which test provides the best information on how efficiently a trickling filter is operating?**
 - A. Solids retention time**
 - B. Percent BOD Removal**
 - C. Sludge volume index**
 - D. Flow rate measurement**
- 5. What happens when a centrifuge pump loses prime?**
 - A. The pump starts moving air**
 - B. The pump stops moving liquid**
 - C. The pump increases pressure**
 - D. The pump continues to operate normally**

- 6. If a ladder is used in an excavation, how far must it extend above the ground?**
- A. 2 feet above the ground**
 - B. 3 feet above the ground**
 - C. 4 feet above the ground**
 - D. 5 feet above the ground**
- 7. To ensure compliance with water quality regulations, what is essential for wastewater treatment facilities?**
- A. Regular equipment maintenance**
 - B. Increasing chemical usage**
 - C. Reducing operational costs**
 - D. Limiting workforce hours**
- 8. What is the proper settling quality of good sludge in an activated sludge plant?**
- A. Gently and Uniformly over 5 minutes**
 - B. Gently and Uniformly over 15 to 20 minutes**
 - C. Rapidly and Ragged over 5 minutes**
 - D. Rapidly and Ragged over 15 to 20 minutes**
- 9. What color must all reclaimed water piping be?**
- A. Red**
 - B. Green**
 - C. Black**
 - D. Purple**
- 10. Which of the following solids can be classified as floatable?**
- A. Organic solids only**
 - B. Inorganic solids only**
 - C. Both organic and inorganic solids**
 - D. Neither organic nor inorganic solids**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is a common voltage for electrical equipment in wastewater treatment?

- A. 110 volts
- B. 220 or 440 volts**
- C. 480 volts
- D. 240 volts

In wastewater treatment facilities, the common voltage for electrical equipment usually falls within the range of 220 to 480 volts. This range is preferred because it effectively powers the various pumps, motors, and other heavy-duty equipment typically used in these systems. The higher voltage levels are generally more efficient for operating large motors, which are essential in a wastewater treatment plant for processes such as aeration, mixing, and pumping. Operating at voltages like 220, 440, or 480 volts minimizes current draw, which reduces the size of the wiring needed and helps prevent overheating or energy loss in the system. Understanding the use of these voltage levels is crucial for ensuring safe and efficient operation of wastewater treatment facilities. Lower voltages such as 110 or 240 volts are generally utilized for smaller equipment or general lighting circuits rather than for the heavy-duty machinery required in this context.

2. When an operator experiences equipment failures, what is the recommended course of action to avoid electrical shock?

- A. Attempt to fix the problem independently
- B. Refer to a trained electrical repairperson**
- C. Ignore the issue until it resolves itself
- D. Contact management and wait for instructions

The recommended course of action when experiencing equipment failures, especially related to electrical systems, is to refer to a trained electrical repairperson. This approach is crucial because trained professionals possess the necessary skills and knowledge to safely diagnose and repair electrical issues. They understand the risks associated with electricity, including the potential for electrical shock, and they are equipped with the right tools and protective gear to handle such jobs safely. Attempting to fix the problem independently can pose significant dangers, as untrained personnel might not recognize the hazards involved or how to mitigate them effectively. Ignoring the issue could lead to worsening equipment failure and increased risk of accidents. Additionally, while contacting management might seem prudent, it does not ensure the issue will be resolved promptly or safely without the expertise of a qualified repairperson. Therefore, involving a trained professional is the most effective way to ensure both safety and proper equipment function.

3. What is the minimum inside diameter for new manholes?

- A. 2 feet
- B. 3 feet
- C. 4 feet**
- D. 5 feet

The minimum inside diameter for new manholes is 4 feet. This size is crucial to ensure safe access for workers during maintenance and inspection operations. It provides enough space for personnel to maneuver and handle equipment, minimizing the risk of injury. Additionally, the 4-foot diameter allows for effective airflow and reduces the likelihood of hazardous conditions. Smaller diameters may restrict access and limit the ability to perform necessary tasks, making compliance with safety regulations more challenging. The other diameter options either fall below this standard or are not typically required for regular manhole constructions, which is why they would not meet the operational needs for access and safety.

4. Which test provides the best information on how efficiently a trickling filter is operating?

- A. Solids retention time
- B. Percent BOD Removal**
- C. Sludge volume index
- D. Flow rate measurement

The most effective measure of a trickling filter's efficiency is the percent Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) removal. This test evaluates the filter's performance by quantifying how much organic matter is being removed from the wastewater as it passes through the filter media. A high percentage of BOD removal indicates that the microorganisms colonizing the media are successfully converting and degrading organic pollutants, thereby demonstrating the filter's operational efficiency. In contrast, the solids retention time focuses primarily on how long the solids are held in the system, which doesn't directly reflect the biological degradation happening within the filter. The sludge volume index is a measure of the amount of sludge produced and its settleability, which is also not a direct measure of the filter's treatment ability. Flow rate measurement pertains to the volume of wastewater being treated but does not indicate the effectiveness of the trickling filter in breaking down organic pollutants.

5. What happens when a centrifuge pump loses prime?

- A. The pump starts moving air
- B. The pump stops moving liquid**
- C. The pump increases pressure
- D. The pump continues to operate normally

When a centrifuge pump loses prime, it primarily affects its ability to move liquid effectively. Losing prime means that the pump is no longer filled with liquid; instead, it may begin to move air or vapor, which can lead to various operational issues. In this situation, since the pump relies on the presence of liquid to create pressure and generate flow, it will stop moving liquid. Maintaining prime is essential for a centrifuge pump to function properly, as it creates the necessary suction to draw in fluid. Without this, the pump cannot perform its intended function, which is to continuously move wastewater through the system. The correct understanding of this behavior is critical for effective operation and management of pump systems in wastewater treatment facilities.

6. If a ladder is used in an excavation, how far must it extend above the ground?

- A. 2 feet above the ground**
- B. 3 feet above the ground**
- C. 4 feet above the ground**
- D. 5 feet above the ground**

The requirement for a ladder used in an excavation to extend above the ground is crucial for ensuring safety and proper egress. The correct standard dictates that the ladder must extend at least 3 feet above the edge of the excavation hole. This extension provides sufficient height for individuals to safely grasp the ladder when climbing in and out, reducing the risk of falls or accidents. This requirement is established to promote safety in potentially hazardous environments like excavations, where stability and a secure grip are vital. Thus, 3 feet is the optimum height that allows workers easy access while maintaining balance and safety. Other options do not meet this specific safety standard. A smaller extension may not provide adequate stability or accessibility, leading to increased risks, while a greater extension could be unnecessary and possibly create a different set of hazards.

7. To ensure compliance with water quality regulations, what is essential for wastewater treatment facilities?

- A. Regular equipment maintenance**
- B. Increasing chemical usage**
- C. Reducing operational costs**
- D. Limiting workforce hours**

Regular equipment maintenance is crucial for wastewater treatment facilities to ensure compliance with water quality regulations. Properly maintained equipment operates efficiently and effectively, which is vital for the treatment process. This maintenance helps prevent breakdowns that could lead to untreated or inadequately treated wastewater being released into the environment, thus violating regulations designed to protect water quality and public health. Increasing chemical usage, while sometimes necessary, does not guarantee compliance and can lead to other issues such as chemical imbalances or system inefficiencies. Reducing operational costs may affect overall performance negatively and might compromise essential treatment processes. Limiting workforce hours could lead to inadequate oversight and insufficient maintenance, which directly impacts the facility's compliance with regulations. Therefore, consistent and thorough maintenance is the foundation for meeting the stringent requirements set forth by water quality standards.

8. What is the proper settling quality of good sludge in an activated sludge plant?

- A. Gently and Uniformly over 5 minutes**
- B. Gently and Uniformly over 15 to 20 minutes**
- C. Rapidly and Ragged over 5 minutes**
- D. Rapidly and Ragged over 15 to 20 minutes**

The proper settling quality of good sludge in an activated sludge plant is characterized by a gentle and uniform settling over a duration of 15 to 20 minutes. This indicates that the sludge particles are of an appropriate size and density, allowing them to interact effectively with the water during the settling process. Such conditions promote the formation of flocs that are compact and can settle nicely, leading to clearer effluent and a higher quality of treated water. A gentle and uniform settling process helps to prevent disturbances in the sludge blanket, ensuring that there is minimal resuspension of solids. The duration of 15 to 20 minutes reflects a well-functioning activated sludge system where the conditions are optimal for biological treatment and sedimentation. Good settling characteristics are essential for efficient operation and maintenance of the treatment plant, allowing for effective separation of solids from the liquid phase and ensuring regulatory compliance for effluent discharge.

9. What color must all reclaimed water piping be?

- A. Red**
- B. Green**
- C. Black**
- D. Purple**

The requirement for reclaimed water piping to be purple is based on national standards to promote safety and prevent cross-contamination with potable water sources. The purple color serves as a clear and recognizable identifier for non-potable water, specifically reclaimed water that is treated and reused. This distinct marking helps ensure that people can easily differentiate it from drinking water pipes, thereby minimizing the risk of accidental misuse or exposure. By using a standardized color, operators, maintenance personnel, and the general public can recognize and react appropriately to the reclaimed water system. This consistency in labeling is essential for safe and efficient water management practices.

10. Which of the following solids can be classified as floatable?

- A. Organic solids only**
- B. Inorganic solids only**
- C. Both organic and inorganic solids**
- D. Neither organic nor inorganic solids**

The classification of floatable solids includes both organic and inorganic types. Floatable solids are those that can remain suspended on the surface of the liquid due to their physical properties, primarily their density relative to the liquid. Organic solids, such as oils, greases, and some types of biodegradable materials, often exhibit floatability because they are less dense than water. Inorganic solids, while often denser than water, can also be floatable under certain conditions. For example, certain types of plastics, wood, and other materials can remain afloat, making them floatable solids as well. The option discussing only organic solids or only inorganic solids limits the classification to a single type, which does not encompass the capability of both categories to float. Therefore, recognizing that both organic and inorganic materials can be floatable is crucial in understanding solid waste management in wastewater processes.

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://texaswastewaterclassb.examzify.com>

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