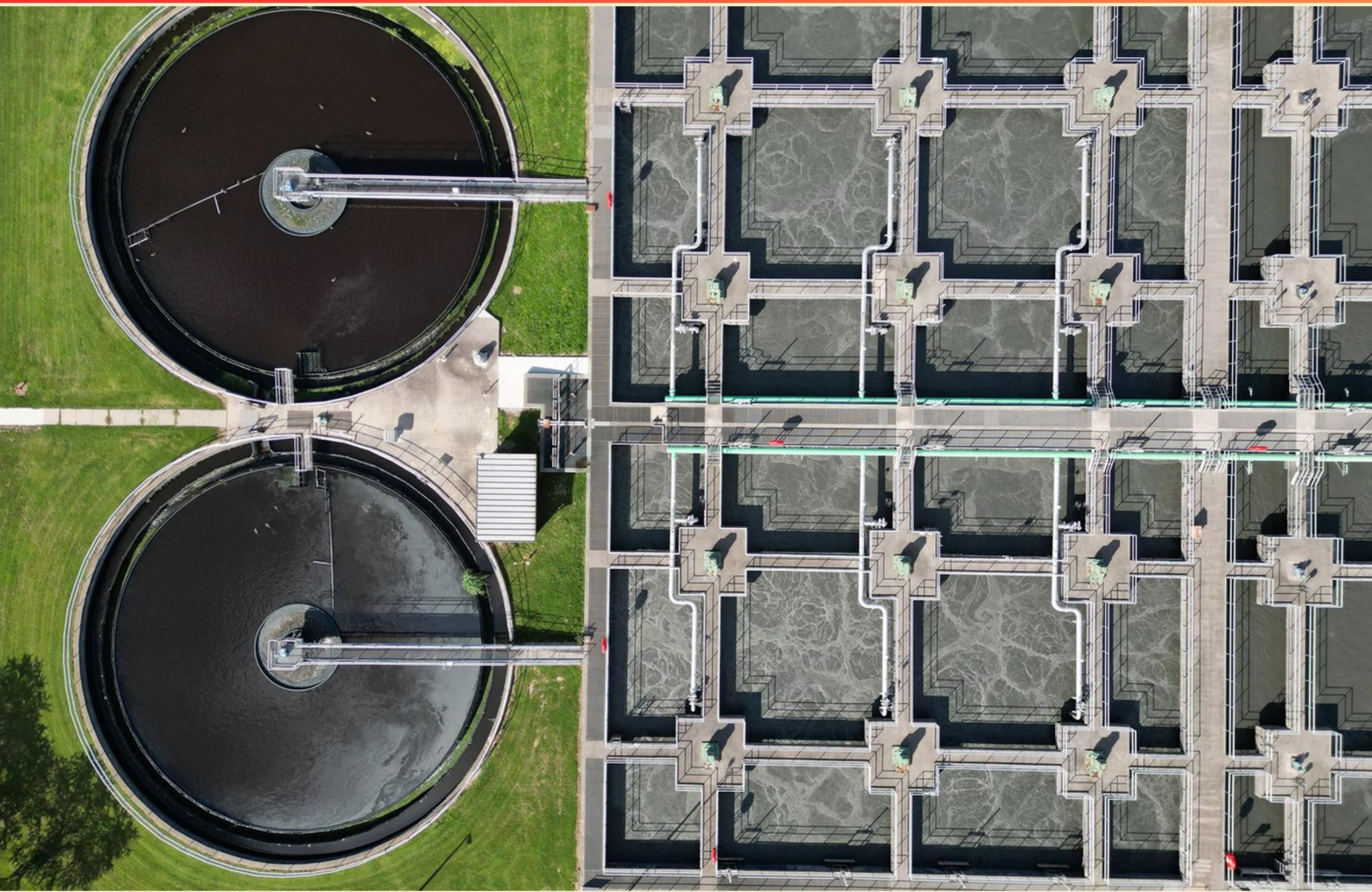


TEXAS WASTEWATER D PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

<https://texaswastewaterd.examzify.com>



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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. It is the duty of the licensed operator to keep TCEQ informed of which item?**
 - A. Address
 - B. Salary
 - C. Phone Number
 - D. Employment Status
- 2. What maintenance activity is typically performed on flow meters to ensure accuracy?**
 - A. Calibration
 - B. Replacement
 - C. Cleaning
 - D. Inspection
- 3. Settleable solids are removed by gravity when the sewage is brought to a ___ state.**
 - A. Turbulent
 - B. Aerated
 - C. Compressed
 - D. Quiescent
- 4. Federal and state law require any system with a daily average flow of ___ or more to have an industrial waste ordinance (IWO) in accordance with the ___ program.**
 - A. 3 mgd / national pretreatment
 - B. 5 mgd / national pretreatment
 - C. 5 mgd / state pretreatment
 - D. 10 mgd / national pretreatment
- 5. The Priority Pollutants List (PPL) refers to which of the following?**
 - A. A List Of 51 Industries
 - B. A List Of 126 Chemicals and Toxic Metals That May Cause Interference Or Pass Through In POTWs
 - C. A List Of Priority Pollutants
 - D. A List Of Prohibited Wastes

- 6. A high pH in the collection system most commonly indicates the release of**
- A. neutral material
 - B. caustic material
 - C. acidic material
 - D. oxidizing material
- 7. Sludge blanket depth should not be higher than bottom ___ of the clarifier sidewall depth.**
- A. 1/2
 - B. 1/4
 - C. 1/3
 - D. 3/4
- 8. A large sewer serving two or more sewer mains is called a trunk main.**
- A. Branch main
 - B. Trunk main
 - C. Collector
 - D. Interceptor
- 9. Depending upon the particular modification of the activated sludge process used, enough air must be supplied to produce a DO content of ___ to ___ mg/L**
- A. 1 to 4
 - B. 0.5 to 1.5
 - C. 2 to 6
 - D. 4 to 8
- 10. The activated sludge process operates on the principle of which type of activity in what environment?**
- A. Concentrated biological activity in an aerobic environment
 - B. Concentrated biological activity in an anaerobic environment
 - C. Diffuse biological activity in an aerobic environment
 - D. Random microbial activity in an aerobic environment

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. It is the duty of the licensed operator to keep TCEQ informed of which item?

- A. Address**
- B. Salary
- C. Phone Number
- D. Employment Status

Keeping the agency informed of your current address ensures they can send all official communications, renewal notices, regulatory updates, and any actions related to your certification. Address information is the key channel for delivering time-sensitive documents, so updating it promptly whenever you move helps you stay compliant and avoid missing important deadlines. Other items like salary, phone number, or employment status aren't part of the formal notices and therefore aren't the duty highlighted for regulatory contact.

2. What maintenance activity is typically performed on flow meters to ensure accuracy?

- A. Calibration**
- B. Replacement
- C. Cleaning
- D. Inspection

Calibration is the maintenance activity that directly ensures flow meter accuracy. It involves comparing the meter's readings to a known reference flow and adjusting the instrument so its output matches the standard across the operating range. This corrects drift from aging, temperature effects, or wear, keeping measurements within the specified tolerance. Cleaning can help if buildup affects readings, but it doesn't verify or adjust accuracy across the measurement range. Inspection checks condition and installation, not the actual accuracy. Replacement is for devices or components that can't be brought back into spec. Regular calibration, as recommended by the manufacturer or regulations, keeps flow measurements reliable for process control and reporting.

3. Settleable solids are removed by gravity when the sewage is brought to a ___ state.

- A. Turbulent
- B. Aerated
- C. Compressed
- D. Quiescent**

Gravity settling relies on still water for heavier particles to fall out of the wastewater. When the sewage is brought to a quiescent state, the flow is calm with minimal mixing, allowing settleable solids to descend to the bottom while clearer liquid remains above. Turbulence or aeration introduces agitation that keeps particles suspended, preventing gravity from acting effectively. A compressed state isn't conducive to settling because it doesn't create the calm conditions needed for particles to settle out. So, a calm, quiescent condition is what enables gravity to remove the settleable solids.

4. Federal and state law require any system with a daily average flow of ___ or more to have an industrial waste ordinance (IWO) in accordance with the ___ program.

A. 3 mgd / national pretreatment

B. 5 mgd / national pretreatment

C. 5 mgd / state pretreatment

D. 10 mgd / national pretreatment

Federal and state rules require a municipal wastewater system that treats 5 million gallons per day (mgd) or more and accepts industrial wastewater to have an industrial waste ordinance. That ordinance must align with the national pretreatment program, which provides the standard framework for regulating industrial discharges to POTWs. The 5 mgd threshold triggers the need for an IWO so industrial users can be permitted, monitored, and limited to protect treatment works and public health. Why the other options don't fit: the 3 mgd or 10 mgd figures aren't the established threshold, and while some states run their own pretreatment programs, the required ordinance is specified to be in accordance with the national pretreatment program, not a different program.

5. The Priority Pollutants List (PPL) refers to which of the following?

A. A List Of 51 Industries

B. A List Of 126 Chemicals and Toxic Metals That May Cause Interference Or Pass Through In POTWs

C. A List Of Priority Pollutants

D. A List Of Prohibited Wastes

The question tests your understanding of what the Priority Pollutants List (PPL) is used for in wastewater regulation. The PPL is a catalog of substances that can interfere with a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) or that may pass through the treatment system and end up in the environment. The correct answer identifies this as a list of 126 chemicals and toxic metals known to cause either interference or pass-through in POTWs. This focus on specific contaminants helps agencies set pretreatment requirements and monitoring for industrial users discharging to wastewater systems. This isn't describing a list of industries, nor just a generic "priority pollutants" without specifics, nor a list of prohibited wastes. It's a defined set of chemical and metal pollutants that POTWs must watch for because of their potential to disrupt treatment processes or escape treatment.

6. A high pH in the collection system most commonly indicates the release of

A. neutral material

B. caustic material

C. acidic material

D. oxidizing material

A high pH means the wastewater is very alkaline. When caustic substances such as lime or sodium hydroxide are released, they raise the solution's pH, pushing it toward basic values. These caustic materials are commonly used in industrial processes and in pH adjustment, so their release is the typical cause of a rise in pH in the collection system. Acidic materials would lower pH, not raise it. Neutral materials don't shift pH much, and oxidizing materials can affect pH but don't consistently cause a high pH like caustic substances do.

7. Sludge blanket depth should not be higher than bottom ____ of the clarifier sidewall depth.

- A. 1/2
- B. 1/4**
- C. 1/3
- D. 3/4

Sludge blanket depth in a clarifier should be kept shallow to prevent solids from being carried over with the effluent and to maintain stable clarification performance. The safe, commonly used limit is a depth no higher than one-quarter of the clarifier's sidewall depth, measured from the bottom up. Keeping the blanket within this quarter-depth helps ensure clear effluent and reliable sludge removal by the clarifier mechanism. For example, if the clarifier is 8 feet deep, the sludge blanket should not exceed about 2 feet from the bottom. Options that imply a deeper blanket (such as one-half, one-third, or three-quarters of the depth) are more likely to cause solids carryover and poorer effluent quality, so they are not used in practice.

8. A large sewer serving two or more sewer mains is called a trunk main.

- A. Branch main
- B. Trunk main**
- C. Collector
- D. Interceptor

In a sewer network, large conduits gather flow from multiple smaller lines to move it toward treatment facilities. A trunk main is exactly that: a large-diameter pipeline that collects sewage from two or more branch mains and carries it onward toward interceptors or a treatment plant. This contrasts with a branch main, which is smaller and feeds into a larger trunk; a collector, which gathers wastewater within a district toward a trunk or interceptor; and an interceptor, which carries sewage from collection systems to treatment facilities, often over longer distances. So the description fits a trunk main because it describes a large line that serves several mains and consolidates their flow.

9. Depending upon the particular modification of the activated sludge process used, enough air must be supplied to produce a DO content of __ to __ mg/L

- A. 1 to 4**
- B. 0.5 to 1.5
- C. 2 to 6
- D. 4 to 8

In activated sludge, the amount of air supplied is tuned to keep the dissolved oxygen (DO) in the aeration tank at a level that supports aerobic microorganisms without wasting energy. Across the different modifications of the process, a practical operating DO range is about 1 to 4 mg/L. Why this range works: around 1 mg/L provides enough oxygen for microbial metabolism in many configurations, ensuring steady oxidation of organics. Going up to about 4 mg/L keeps the oxygen supply sufficient for effective treatment, including nitrification where present, but pushing beyond 4 mg/L tends to yield diminishing returns while dramatically increasing energy use. Conversely, DO much below 1 mg/L can lead to incomplete treatment and odor problems. Therefore, 1 to 4 mg/L is the typical, balanced target for most activated-sludge systems.

10. The activated sludge process operates on the principle of which type of activity in what environment?

- A. Concentrated biological activity in an aerobic environment**
- B. Concentrated biological activity in an anaerobic environment
- C. Diffuse biological activity in an aerobic environment
- D. Random microbial activity in an aerobic environment

Activated sludge relies on concentrated biological activity in an aerobic environment. In this suspended-growth process, a dense population of microorganisms forms flocs in the aerated mixed liquor and rapidly oxidizes organic matter, with oxygen supplied by continuous aeration to keep conditions aerobic. This high biomass in suspension enables fast treatment and allows the solids to settle in a secondary clarifier, separating treated water from sludge. If it were anaerobic, you'd lose the rapid oxidation and would be producing different end products; and if the activity were diffuse or random, the system wouldn't achieve the controlled, high-rate treatment characteristic of activated sludge.

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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://texaswastewaterd.examzify.com>

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

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