

The Basic School (TBS) Phase 3 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. 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

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- 1. How does TBS Phase 3 address the integration of new technologies?**
 - A. By incorporating these technologies in static training only**
 - B. By adapting lessons from recent conflicts to leverage modern tools**
 - C. By rejecting new technologies in favor of proven methods**
 - D. By focusing solely on theoretical knowledge**

- 2. What role does physical fitness play during TBS Phase 3?**
 - A. It's essential for maintaining nutritional standards**
 - B. It's crucial for maintaining operational readiness and resilience**
 - C. It plays a minor role compared to tactical knowledge**
 - D. It is only important for physical competitions**

- 3. What does a successful completion of the marginal information on a fire plan sketch include?**
 - A. Details of past military conflicts**
 - B. Specific weather conditions for the operation**
 - C. Essential information about the mission**
 - D. Logistical support plans**

- 4. In the context of General Support, a unit provides fires to assist with what aspect of the supported unit?**
 - A. The supported unit's logistical supply**
 - B. The supported unit's command structure**
 - C. The supported unit's scheme of maneuver**
 - D. The supported unit's training exercises**

- 5. In the context of Close Air Support (CAS), what does the term 'integration' refer to?**
 - A. The coordination of air missions with ground forces**
 - B. The timing of artillery strikes against enemy locations**
 - C. The enhancement of communication between air and ground units**
 - D. The establishment of supply lines for air operations**

- 6. What does the concept of Mobility Support assist forces with?**
- A. Retaining static positions**
 - B. Moving rapidly, massing, dispersing, and resupplying**
 - C. Operating independently of each other**
 - D. Analyzing enemy movements extensively**
- 7. What effect does the 'fix' tactical obstacle produce?**
- A. Slows the enemy within a specific area**
 - B. Breaks enemy formations**
 - C. Prevents enemy supply from reaching front lines**
 - D. Forces enemy units to regroup**
- 8. What should be identified to perform proper reconnaissance before an assault?**
- A. Enemy troop morale**
 - B. Enemy locations, obstacles, and security**
 - C. Current weather conditions**
 - D. Historical conflict reports**
- 9. What defines the maximum effective range of HEDM when using the MK153 SMAW?**
- A. 250 m**
 - B. 300 m**
 - C. 200 m**
 - D. 180 m**
- 10. What should be created as a copy of the fire plan sketch for command purposes?**
- A. One for team leaders only**
 - B. One for higher command and one for internal use**
 - C. A detailed report summarizing the sketch**
 - D. A backup map for visual training**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. How does TBS Phase 3 address the integration of new technologies?

- A. By incorporating these technologies in static training only**
- B. By adapting lessons from recent conflicts to leverage modern tools**
- C. By rejecting new technologies in favor of proven methods**
- D. By focusing solely on theoretical knowledge**

The integration of new technologies in TBS Phase 3 is effectively addressed by adapting lessons from recent conflicts to leverage modern tools. This approach ensures that training is relevant and prepares students for the current operational environment, which increasingly relies on advanced technologies. By examining real-world scenarios and conflicts, the program emphasizes practical applications of technology, allowing students to understand how these tools can enhance mission effectiveness and decision-making. Emphasizing applicable technologies derived from recent experiences encourages adaptability and competence in utilizing modern systems that are in line with contemporary military strategies. This strategy also underscores the importance of learning from past events to better prepare for future challenges, effectively merging theory with practical application.

2. What role does physical fitness play during TBS Phase 3?

- A. It's essential for maintaining nutritional standards**
- B. It's crucial for maintaining operational readiness and resilience**
- C. It plays a minor role compared to tactical knowledge**
- D. It is only important for physical competitions**

Physical fitness is a fundamental aspect of maintaining operational readiness and resilience during TBS Phase 3. The demands of military training and operational tasks require individuals to be in peak physical condition. Optimized physical fitness ensures that trainees can perform effectively in a variety of scenarios, which might include strenuous physical activities, as well as adapting to challenging environments. Additionally, a high level of physical fitness contributes significantly to mental resilience, allowing soldiers to withstand stress and fatigue more effectively. This correlation between physical capability and mental fortitude is critical, as military operations can often push individuals to their limits. While nutrition and tactical knowledge are important components of training, the emphasis on physical fitness directly contributes to the ability to execute tasks, respond to challenges, and maintain overall operational effectiveness. Hence, its central role in ensuring that trainees are ready for real-world scenarios is undeniable.

3. What does a successful completion of the marginal information on a fire plan sketch include?

- A. Details of past military conflicts**
- B. Specific weather conditions for the operation**
- C. Essential information about the mission**
- D. Logistical support plans**

A successful completion of the marginal information on a fire plan sketch includes essential information about the mission. This encompasses crucial elements such as the objectives, fire support coordination measures, target areas, and the roles of the units involved. This information is vital for ensuring that all participants have a clear understanding of the mission's intent, the desired outcomes, and the operational environment. Having this information clearly sketched out allows for better coordination and integration of fire support, enhancing operational effectiveness. It ensures that all assets involved are aligned towards the same goals, minimizes the potential for misunderstandings during execution, and supports the overall success of the operation. While details of past military conflicts, specific weather conditions, and logistical support plans might be important for different aspects of planning and execution, they do not directly pertain to the immediate requirements of a fire plan sketch. Therefore, essential information about the mission takes precedence in this context.

4. In the context of General Support, a unit provides fires to assist with what aspect of the supported unit?

- A. The supported unit's logistical supply**
- B. The supported unit's command structure**
- C. The supported unit's scheme of maneuver**
- D. The supported unit's training exercises**

In military operations, the concept of General Support refers to providing assistance in a way that enhances the effectiveness of the supported unit's overall combat operations. When a unit provides fires in General Support, it is primarily aimed at bolstering the scheme of maneuver of the supported unit. The scheme of maneuver encompasses the planned movement and employment of forces to accomplish tactical objectives. By offering fire support, units can create conditions that allow the supported unit to maneuver more effectively, whether that involves suppressing enemy positions, providing cover as troops advance, or shaping the battlefield to enhance operational success. This support is crucial in maintaining the momentum and flexibility necessary for a unit's successful execution of its mission. The other aspects listed, such as logistical supply, command structure, and training exercises, while important in their own right, do not directly relate to the immediate tactical operations or engagements that fires are designed to influence. Therefore, the focus on the scheme of maneuver directly addresses the operational context in which fire support elements are employed to assist in the effective execution of a unit's combat actions.

5. In the context of Close Air Support (CAS), what does the term 'integration' refer to?

- A. The coordination of air missions with ground forces**
- B. The timing of artillery strikes against enemy locations**
- C. The enhancement of communication between air and ground units**
- D. The establishment of supply lines for air operations**

In the context of Close Air Support (CAS), the term 'integration' specifically refers to the coordination of air missions with ground forces. This involves ensuring that air support is effectively synchronized with ground operations, thereby maximizing its impact while minimizing the risk of friendly fire and collateral damage. Integration is crucial because it requires clear communication and planning between air and ground commanders. This coordinated effort allows ground forces to call for air support that directly complements their tactical maneuvers, ensuring that air assets are utilized at the right time and place to achieve the desired operational outcomes. The other choices highlight important concepts related to military operations, but they do not fully capture the essence of 'integration' within the CAS context. Timing of artillery strikes focuses more on ground-based fire support rather than the air-ground coordination aspect, while enhancing communication and establishing supply lines are essential for overall operational success but do not specifically define the direct coordination of air missions with ground elements in a CAS framework.

6. What does the concept of Mobility Support assist forces with?

- A. Retaining static positions**
- B. Moving rapidly, massing, dispersing, and resupplying**
- C. Operating independently of each other**
- D. Analyzing enemy movements extensively**

The concept of Mobility Support is crucial for military operations as it enhances the ability of forces to move effectively and efficiently on the battlefield. By focusing on the capabilities to move rapidly, mass forces, disperse when necessary, and resupply in a timely manner, Mobility Support ensures that units can adapt to changing tactical situations, enhance their operational reach, and maintain the initiative against adversaries. Rapid movement allows forces to engage or disengage from combat quickly, creating opportunities for offensive actions and minimizing vulnerability. Massing facilitates concentrated force at decisive points, while dispersal can improve survivability and complicate enemy targeting efforts. Moreover, effective resupply operations are vital for sustaining combat power and ensuring that units remain effective over extended engagements. This integrated approach to movement directly supports operational flexibility and responsiveness, thereby increasing the likelihood of mission success. The other options, while related to various tactical considerations, do not encapsulate the broad, dynamic nature of support that Mobility Support provides in terms of rapid maneuvering and logistic adaptations necessary for successful military operations.

7. What effect does the 'fix' tactical obstacle produce?

- A. Slows the enemy within a specific area**
- B. Breaks enemy formations**
- C. Prevents enemy supply from reaching front lines**
- D. Forces enemy units to regroup**

The 'fix' tactical obstacle is designed to slow the enemy within a specific area. This type of obstacle impedes the movement of enemy forces, making it more difficult for them to advance or maneuver effectively in that particular environment. By slowing the enemy, the defending forces can gain a critical advantage, allowing them to better prepare for engagements or to manage their resources effectively. In contrast, breaking enemy formations typically involves disrupting their organization and cohesion, which is not the primary purpose of a 'fix' obstacle. While a 'fix' obstacle may cause some disruption, its main objective is to slow down enemy progress rather than fundamentally alter their tactical structure. Preventing supply from reaching front lines refers to a different approach, usually targeting logistical routes rather than directly impeding movement in a specific combat area. Forcing enemy units to regroup may happen as a secondary effect of slowing them down but is not the main goal of implementing a 'fix' tactical obstacle. Thus, the focus remains on the specific intention to slow the enemy's advance.

8. What should be identified to perform proper reconnaissance before an assault?

- A. Enemy troop morale**
- B. Enemy locations, obstacles, and security**
- C. Current weather conditions**
- D. Historical conflict reports**

To effectively perform reconnaissance before an assault, identifying enemy locations, obstacles, and security is crucial. This information provides the essential groundwork for understanding the battlefield. Knowing where enemy forces are positioned helps in planning maneuvers and engaging effectively. Additionally, recognizing obstacles allows for the strategizing of routes to advance or retreat without unnecessary risk. Awareness of security measures in place helps in assessing the level of threat posed by the enemy and informs decisions on the timing and method of the assault. While factors such as enemy troop morale, current weather conditions, and historical conflict reports may offer valuable information, they do not provide the direct and actionable intelligence needed about the immediate operational environment. Understanding the layout and defenses of the enemy's positions directly influences the success of the assault.

9. What defines the maximum effective range of HEDM when using the MK153 SMAW?

- A. 250 m**
- B. 300 m**
- C. 200 m**
- D. 180 m**

The correct answer indicates that the maximum effective range of High-Explosive Dual Purpose (HEDP) rounds when utilized with the MK153 Shoulder-Launched Multipurpose Assault Weapon (SMAW) is 250 meters. This distance is essential for tactical operations, allowing troops to engage targets effectively at a range that maximizes the explosive potential of the HEDP while ensuring accuracy. Understanding the effective range is crucial because it helps in planning engagements, ensuring that operators can hit targets reliably within that distance while also avoiding potential hazards to friendly forces or civilians. The HEDP rounds are designed to engage a variety of targets, including light armored vehicles and fortified positions, making proficiency with range limitations vital for operational success. Other options present alternative ranges, but they do not align with the established specifications for the MK153 SMAW and HEDP ammunition. Knowing this maximum effective range informs training and strategic mission planning, ensuring that personnel are prepared to engage threats within the correct parameters.

10. What should be created as a copy of the fire plan sketch for command purposes?

- A. One for team leaders only**
- B. One for higher command and one for internal use**
- C. A detailed report summarizing the sketch**
- D. A backup map for visual training**

Creating a copy of the fire plan sketch for command purposes is essential for effective communication and coordination during an incident. Having one for higher command ensures that they have the necessary situational awareness and can make informed decisions based on a comprehensive view of the incident. This level of detail allows higher command to understand resource allocation, safety, and operational strategies. Additionally, providing a copy for internal use means that all personnel on the ground can reference the same plan. This consistency helps unify the team's approach to the incident, allowing them to operate under a common understanding and strategy. The ability for different levels of command to receive and rely on accurate, up-to-date information is crucial for maintaining safety and effectiveness during emergency operations. The other options do not adequately provide the necessary breadth of communication required in a fire fighting situation. For instance, limiting the distribution to team leaders only would significantly restrict the information flow to higher command and other necessary operational personnel. A detailed report could complement the sketch but would not replace the need for visual reference, which is integral in fast-moving situations. Furthermore, a backup map for visual training does not serve a direct purpose in immediate command operations and may divert focus from critical real-time decision-making.

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://tbsphase3.examzify.com>

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