

# URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE (US&R) STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE LEVEL 2 ADVANCED SHEET PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

## STUDY GUIDE



## SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

<https://usrstructuralcollapse2adv.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. Which factor is explicitly listed as a knowledge item about a structural collapse?**
  - A. Brand of radios
  - B. Time of day
  - C. Weather forecast
  - D. Color of interior walls
- 2. Cribbing and lifting point selection should consider stability of the lifting points.**
  - A. True
  - B. False
  - C. Not Applicable
  - D. Sometimes
- 3. Describe a safe method for creating a stable working platform above a collapsed floor.**
  - A. Build a supported cribbed deck with vertical uprights and horizontal walers, anchored to solid points, tested before standing on it.
  - B. Build a simple plank platform directly on debris.
  - C. Rely on dynamic stability of standing on rubble.
  - D. Use an improvised chair scaffolding.
- 4. Which statement below correctly identifies one floor below the damaged level for shoring in wood or lightweight steel frame structures?**
  - A. One floor below the damaged level
  - B. Two floors below the damaged level
  - C. Three floors below the damaged level
  - D. Four floors below the damaged level
- 5. Which statement best describes the standard shoring weights used for design calculations?**
  - A. Concrete 150 pcf; Steel 490 pcf; Wood 35 pcf
  - B. Concrete 350 pcf; Steel 900 pcf; Wood 120 pcf
  - C. Concrete 90 pcf; Steel 130 pcf; Wood 200 pcf
  - D. Concrete 200 pcf; Steel 400 pcf; Wood 600 pcf

- 6. To prevent the Jack from sinking into the surface, what should you do?**
- A. Use a larger jack
  - B. Apply lubricant
  - C. Place it on a weight distributing base
  - D. Increase lift height
- 7. Which statement describes post-tensioned concrete?**
- A. High tensile steel cables are encased in tubing and wrapped to prevent adhesion, then the steel is stretched after concrete sets and anchored.
  - B. Post-tensioned concrete is poured without any steel reinforcement.
  - C. Steel cables are tensioned before pouring.
  - D. Concrete is poured and no tensioning occurs.
- 8. Which option lists the three actions that safely mitigate a structural hazard?**
- A. Shore it; Seal it; Ventilate
  - B. Avoid it; Remove it; Shore it
  - C. Cover it; Monitor it; Move it
  - D. Ignore it; Rebuild it; Refit
- 9. How should utilities be managed at the scene to prevent energization or gas release?**
- A. Wait for utility company to arrive before acting.
  - B. Do nothing; assume safe.
  - C. De-energize or isolate utilities when possible; use lockout/tagout if required; maintain safe distance from utilities.
  - D. Only shut off electricity.
- 10. What should a pre-lift check of rigging and lifting equipment include?**
- A. Just check color of equipment
  - B. Inspect for wear, corrosion, cracked components; verify load ratings; confirm connections and release mechanisms
  - C. Only inspect after lift
  - D. Only check if you suspect a problem



## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which factor is explicitly listed as a knowledge item about a structural collapse?**

- A. Brand of radios
- B. Time of day**
- C. Weather forecast
- D. Color of interior walls

*Time of day is singled out because it directly changes how you plan and safety-manage a collapse operation. Lighting and visibility drive route selection, hazard recognition, and the amount of auxiliary lighting and crew coordination needed. Daylight can make it easier to see debris patterns and structural conditions, while after-dark work increases the risk and requires tighter risk controls and more robust lighting, which affects how you sequence tasks and allocate resources. The other items are not knowledge items tied to the collapse scene itself: brand of radios is equipment detail, not a condition of the incident; weather forecast, while useful for overall planning, isn't listed as a collapse-specific knowledge item; color of interior walls has no bearing on stability or rescue tactics.*

**2. Cribbing and lifting point selection should consider stability of the lifting points.**

- A. True**
- B. False
- C. Not Applicable
- D. Sometimes

*Ensuring stability of lifting points is essential in cribbing and lifting operations. When planning a lift, the chosen points must stay solid and level under load, avoiding any movement, rocking, or tipping as the rigging is tightened and the lift begins. If a lifting point is unstable—on a deformed surface, an uneven contact, or a weak feature of the object—the load can shift or rotate, pulling on one side more than the other, causing the rigging, cribbing, or even the entire assembly to fail. That kind of instability puts rescuers at risk and can worsen the collapse condition. To maintain stability, inspect the surfaces that will bear the load and the lifting hardware, ensure even load distribution (using appropriate rigging and, if needed, load equalizers), keep the load centered to minimize eccentric forces, and adapt the setup so the contact points are solid and level. If a stable lift point cannot be found, modify the rig or cribbing arrangement to create a safe, stable foundation. Because stability of lifting points is a constant, critical consideration for safety during lifts, it should always be taken into account.*

**3. Describe a safe method for creating a stable working platform above a collapsed floor.**

**A. Build a supported cribbed deck with vertical uprights and horizontal walers, anchored to solid points, tested before standing on it.**

B. Build a simple plank platform directly on debris.

C. Rely on dynamic stability of standing on rubble.

D. Use an improvised chair scaffolding.

*The main idea is to create a rigid, load-bearing platform that transfers work loads to solid, stable points and remains stable even as the surrounding debris shifts. A supported cribbed deck uses vertical uprights (cribbing) and horizontal walers to form a sturdy frame that spreads the load over multiple points. Anchoring this frame to solid points helps prevent movement if debris settles or shifts. Testing the deck before stepping onto it verifies that it can carry the anticipated load and reveals hidden weaknesses, reducing the chance of a sudden failure. This approach works because it provides redundancy and a controlled load path. The cribbing distributes weight evenly, the deck surface is above the debris (reducing direct contact with unstable material), and anchoring prevents tipping or sliding. By contrast, placing a plank directly on debris can hide voids and permit unexpected settlement; relying on the dynamic stability of rubble is unreliable and dangerous; improvised chair scaffolding lacks the proper load path and may collapse under use.*

**4. Which statement below correctly identifies one floor below the damaged level for shoring in wood or lightweight steel frame structures?**

**A. One floor below the damaged level**

B. Two floors below the damaged level

C. Three floors below the damaged level

D. Four floors below the damaged level

*In wood or lightweight frame structures, the load path from the damaged floor must be intercepted as close to the failure point as practical to prevent further movement and to create a stable working area. Placing shoring one floor below the damaged level achieves this by directly supporting the floor above the damaged zone, catching any sag or collapse before it travels to lower levels. This location provides a solid bearing for cribbing and stabilizes the structure around the damaged area, which helps protect rescuers and maintains a usable gap for operations. Placing shoring farther below—two, three, or four floors—reduces the effectiveness of the load transfer, increases the risk of progressive collapse spreading downward, and can create instability as the lower levels are subjected to loads they weren't meant to bear.*

**5. Which statement best describes the standard shoring weights used for design calculations?**

**A. Concrete 150 pcf; Steel 490 pcf; Wood 35 pcf**

B. Concrete 350 pcf; Steel 900 pcf; Wood 120 pcf

C. Concrete 90 pcf; Steel 130 pcf; Wood 200 pcf

D. Concrete 200 pcf; Steel 400 pcf; Wood 600 pcf

*The main idea is using standard unit weights (densities) for quick dead-load estimates in shoring design. For typical design calculations, the common reference values are about 150 pounds per cubic foot for concrete, about 490 pcf for steel, and about 35 pcf for wood. This combination matches the well-established densities engineers rely on when sizing shoring systems. That's why the choice with concrete near 150 pcf, steel near 490 pcf, and wood near 35 pcf is the best fit. The other options mix values that aren't representative of these materials—concrete around 350 pcf or 200 pcf is far heavier than usual, steel at 900 pcf is not correct for structural steel, and wood at 120 or 600 pcf is outside typical wood densities.*

**6. To prevent the Jack from sinking into the surface, what should you do?**

- A. Use a larger jack
- B. Apply lubricant
- C. Place it on a weight distributing base**
- D. Increase lift height

*Distributing the load across a wider area to lower bearing pressure is the key idea. A jack applies a concentrated force to a small contact point; on soft or uneven surfaces, that pressure can cause the ground to yield or the jack to sink, compromising stability. A weight-distributing base increases the contact area, spreading the load and keeping the jack from penetrating the surface. Use a rigid base that won't deform—like a thick plate or a sturdy sheet of plywood or timber—that stays flat and under full contact as you lift. Larger jacks might seem helpful for capacity, but they don't address the issue of ground bearing pressure. Lubricant can reduce friction in moving parts, but it doesn't prevent sinking and can create control problems. Increasing lift height can destabilize the setup and raise the risk of tipping or losing contact with the base.*

**7. Which statement describes post-tensioned concrete?**

- A. High tensile steel cables are encased in tubing and wrapped to prevent adhesion, then the steel is stretched after concrete sets and anchored.**
- B. Post-tensioned concrete is poured without any steel reinforcement.
- C. Steel cables are tensioned before pouring.
- D. Concrete is poured and no tensioning occurs.

*Post-tensioned concrete uses high-tensile steel tendons placed inside ducts within the concrete, which are kept separate from the concrete during the pour so they can be tensioned later. After the concrete cures, those tendons are stretched with hydraulic jacks and anchored at the ends, imparting compressive force into the concrete. This compression helps the member resist tensile stresses, improves crack control, and allows longer spans. The description in this option captures the essential sequence: steel cables enclosed in tubing to prevent adhesion, then tensioning after the concrete has set and anchoring to hold the compression. This distinguishes post-tensioning from other methods. Why the other ideas don't fit: post-tensioned systems rely on steel tendons to carry the post-tensioning force (not no steel reinforcement), tensioning happens after curing (not before pouring), and there is tensioning involved (not poured with no tensioning).*

**8. Which option lists the three actions that safely mitigate a structural hazard?**

- A. Shore it; Seal it; Ventilate
- B. Avoid it; Remove it; Shore it**
- C. Cover it; Monitor it; Move it
- D. Ignore it; Rebuild it; Refit

*Mitigating a structural hazard safely relies on a simple risk-reduction sequence: avoid the hazard, remove it if feasible, and shore the structure to prevent further movement. Avoiding the hazard means staying clear of the unstable area and not entering until conditions are stabilized, so you're not exposing yourself to collapse or secondary failures. Removing the hazard involves physically taking away or isolating the threat—debris, obstructions, or dangerous materials—only when doing so won't create more instability. Shoring provides temporary structural support to prevent further collapse while operations continue, protecting both rescuers and potential victims. This trio—avoid, remove, shore—gives a clear, practical framework that covers immediate risk reduction, actionable control of the hazard, and stabilization to enable safe work. Other options may address related concerns (like sealing, ventilation, or monitoring) but don't constitute the core, time-tested sequence for safely managing structural hazards in the field.*



**9. How should utilities be managed at the scene to prevent energization or gas release?**

- A. Wait for utility company to arrive before acting.
- B. Do nothing; assume safe.
- C. De-energize or isolate utilities when possible; use lockout/tagout if required; maintain safe distance from utilities.**
- D. Only shut off electricity.

*Preventing energization or gas release at a collapse scene comes down to proactively removing energy sources and isolating fuels so rescuers can work safely. The best approach is to de-energize or isolate utilities when possible, and apply lockout/tagout if required, while keeping a safe distance from any utility lines, valves, or outlets. De-energizing electrical circuits and shutting off gas and water at their mains removes the immediate hazards that could ignite, feed a leak, or flood the area, and lockout/tagout helps ensure energy cannot be restored while work is underway. If you can't safely operate the controls from a safe location, you should still isolate the area and establish a buffer zone, coordinating with utility personnel as soon as feasible. Waiting for utility crews or doing nothing leaves live energy sources and gas releases in play, and shutting off only electricity fails to address other potential hazards.*

**10. What should a pre-lift check of rigging and lifting equipment include?**

- A. Just check color of equipment
- B. Inspect for wear, corrosion, cracked components; verify load ratings; confirm connections and release mechanisms**
- C. Only inspect after lift
- D. Only check if you suspect a problem

*A pre-lift check is about making sure all rigging and lifting gear is safe, serviceable, and properly rated before the lift begins. This means looking for wear, corrosion, cracks, or deformation in components like slings, shackles, hooks, chains, and wire rope; confirming that load ratings match the planned lift; and ensuring pins, bolts, latches, and release mechanisms are present and functioning so the load can be secured or released as needed. It also covers the rigging configuration itself—checking for proper attachment points, avoiding twists or knots, guarding against sharp edges, and ensuring everything is compatible with the lift path. Color or labeling alone doesn't reveal actual condition, and inspecting only after a lift or only when you suspect a problem misses hidden damage and can lead to a dangerous situation. A thorough pre-lift check catches issues before they become failures.*

## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://usrstructuralcollapse2adv.examzify.com>

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

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