

# US Army Sniper School Practice Test (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. 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

- 1. What are the major components of the M110 SASS?**
  - A. Sniper rifle, hard case, advanced sights, deployment kit**
  - B. Sniper rifle, hard case, drag bag, Harris bipod**
  - C. Sniper rifle, ammunition case, cleaning kit, deployment kit**
  - D. Sniper rifle, hard case, tactical vest, communication kit**
- 2. Why is target engagement crucial in sniper operations?**
  - A. It determines the type of camouflage used**
  - B. It affects the decision to use a suppressor**
  - C. It enables effective neutralization of threats**
  - D. It determines the optimal shooting position**
- 3. How does physical fitness impact a sniper's capabilities?**
  - A. It has no effect on performance**
  - B. It enhances endurance and operational capacity**
  - C. It increases weapon accuracy**
  - D. It decreases the need for logistics**
- 4. What are "engagement rules" for snipers meant to ensure?**
  - A. Fast target acquisition**
  - B. Compliance with weapons training**
  - C. Ethical considerations and minimizing civilian casualties**
  - D. Increased ammunition consumption**
- 5. What is a key function of a sniper's mission?**
  - A. To provide close combat support.**
  - B. To deliver long range precision fire on key targets.**
  - C. To engage in hand-to-hand combat.**
  - D. To organize and lead infantry units in battle.**
- 6. What was a primary focus of snipers during the historical establishment of their units?**
  - A. To serve as medics on the battlefield.**
  - B. To deliver long-range precision fire on key positions.**
  - C. To gather intelligence behind enemy lines.**
  - D. To lead infantry charges during attacks.**

- 7. Which of the following is a key advantage of the M110 SASS?**
- A. Low recoil**
  - B. High magazine capacity**
  - C. Effective range up to 1500m**
  - D. Modular design for attachments**
- 8. What are the types of reconnaissance patrols recognized in sniper operations?**
- A. Area, strategic, and tactical**
  - B. Zone, route, and area**
  - C. Utility, direct, and indirect**
  - D. Route, area, and special**
- 9. Who is Maj Patrick Ferguson known for?**
- A. His role in the American Revolution**
  - B. Developing modern sniping techniques**
  - C. A famous shot that was not taken on Washington**
  - D. His writings on military strategy**
- 10. What is the "first hit" concept in sniper engagement?**
- A. Prioritizing rapid fire over accuracy**
  - B. First shot to neutralize the target effectively**
  - C. Taking multiple shots before confirming a hit**
  - D. Engaging the second target before the first**



## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. What are the major components of the M110 SASS?

- A. Sniper rifle, hard case, advanced sights, deployment kit
- B. Sniper rifle, hard case, drag bag, Harris bipod**
- C. Sniper rifle, ammunition case, cleaning kit, deployment kit
- D. Sniper rifle, hard case, tactical vest, communication kit

The major components of the M110 Semi-Automatic Sniper System (SASS) include the sniper rifle itself, which is the primary weapon used for precision shooting. The hard case provides essential protection for the rifle during transport and storage, ensuring it remains in optimal condition. The drag bag is designed for easy carry and quick deployment of the sniper system while offering additional protection from environmental elements. The Harris bipod is a critical accessory that stabilizes the rifle during shooting, allowing the sniper to maintain accuracy, especially when firing from unsupported positions. This answer highlights the integral components needed for effective operation of the M110 SASS, emphasizing the tactical nature of each item in enabling snipers to perform their duties effectively.

## 2. Why is target engagement crucial in sniper operations?

- A. It determines the type of camouflage used
- B. It affects the decision to use a suppressor
- C. It enables effective neutralization of threats**
- D. It determines the optimal shooting position

Target engagement is crucial in sniper operations because it encompasses the entire process of identifying, prioritizing, and neutralizing threats effectively. When engaging a target, a sniper must assess various factors such as distance, wind, bullet drop, and the specific threat posed by the target. The primary goal of target engagement is to ensure that the threat is neutralized efficiently and accurately, which can be vital for mission success and overall safety of the unit. This concept is central to the sniper's role on the battlefield, where precision and timing are critical. Effective target engagement allows snipers to deliver lethal force while minimizing collateral damage, which is essential in various operational environments, particularly in urban or populated areas. By focusing on effective neutralization, snipers can also support their team and achieve the operational objectives of their mission. While the decision on camouflage, the use of suppressors, and the optimal shooting position are all important considerations in the sniper's overall strategy and execution, these elements derive their significance primarily from the necessity of effective target engagement.

### 3. How does physical fitness impact a sniper's capabilities?

- A. It has no effect on performance
- B. It enhances endurance and operational capacity**
- C. It increases weapon accuracy
- D. It decreases the need for logistics

Physical fitness significantly enhances a sniper's endurance and operational capacity, which are crucial for mission success. A sniper often has to operate in challenging environments for extended periods, requiring both mental sharpness and physical stamina. Good physical conditioning allows a sniper to maintain focus and effectiveness during long missions, especially when extreme patience and the ability to remain steady for accurate shooting are required. Moreover, a high level of fitness enables snipers to navigate difficult terrain, carry heavy equipment, and respond to dynamic situations without succumbing to fatigue. By being physically fit, they can also recover more quickly from exertion and maintain the necessary physical readiness to perform their duties effectively. Overall, fitness is an integral part of a sniper's training that directly impacts their ability to function optimally in various operational scenarios.

### 4. What are "engagement rules" for snipers meant to ensure?

- A. Fast target acquisition
- B. Compliance with weapons training
- C. Ethical considerations and minimizing civilian casualties**
- D. Increased ammunition consumption

Engagement rules for snipers are designed primarily to ensure ethical considerations are upheld and to minimize civilian casualties during operations. These rules are crucial in defining the conditions under which snipers may engage targets, emphasizing the importance of distinguishing between combatants and non-combatants. By adhering to these rules, snipers not only comply with the laws of armed conflict but also maintain operational integrity and the moral high ground in complex environments where the risk of collateral damage is high. Establishing clear engagement rules helps to guide decision-making in the field, ensuring that all actions taken are justifiable and focused on mission success while preserving the safety of non-combatants. This focus on ethical behavior is fundamental to the principles of military engagement and reflects a commitment to professionalism in combat operations.

**5. What is a key function of a sniper's mission?**

- A. To provide close combat support.**
- B. To deliver long range precision fire on key targets.**
- C. To engage in hand-to-hand combat.**
- D. To organize and lead infantry units in battle.**

The key function of a sniper's mission is to deliver long-range precision fire on key targets. This role is essential in obtaining a tactical advantage by engaging high-value targets from a concealed position, ensuring minimal risk to both the sniper and their team. The ability to accurately hit targets at extended ranges allows snipers to disrupt enemy operations, gather intelligence, and provide critical support to ground forces without revealing their location. This capability leverages specialized training in marksmanship, ballistics, and fieldcraft, enabling snipers to execute their tasks effectively with a high degree of precision. This precision fire is integral to both eliminating threats and shaping the battlefield, directly affecting the outcome of engagements in a strategic manner.

**6. What was a primary focus of snipers during the historical establishment of their units?**

- A. To serve as medics on the battlefield.**
- B. To deliver long-range precision fire on key positions.**
- C. To gather intelligence behind enemy lines.**
- D. To lead infantry charges during attacks.**

The primary focus of snipers during the historical establishment of their units was to deliver long-range precision fire on key positions. This role was essential for a few key reasons. Firstly, snipers were specifically trained to engage high-value targets, such as enemy commanders, weapon systems, or crew-served weapons, which could disrupt enemy operations significantly. Their ability to shoot accurately from a distance not only neutralized threats but also instilled fear and confusion within enemy ranks. Secondly, snipers operated with the intent of providing support to their own forces by targeting threats that could jeopardize the success of operations. By taking out key enemy personnel or capabilities, they directly contributed to the effectiveness of friendly troops advancing or holding positions. In contrast, while roles such as gathering intelligence or providing support in the capacity of medics are vital in warfare, they were not the primary reason for the establishment of sniper units. Snipers were distinctly created to wield precision firepower, and their effectiveness was measured by their ability to engage targets at long distances rather than taking on roles that might detract from their specialized skills.

**7. Which of the following is a key advantage of the M110 SASS?**

- A. Low recoil**
- B. High magazine capacity**
- C. Effective range up to 1500m**
- D. Modular design for attachments**

The M110 Semi-Automatic Sniper System (SASS) features a modular design that allows for various attachments and customization options, making it a significant advantage in combat scenarios. This design flexibility enables snipers to adapt the weapon system to different mission requirements, enhancing versatility and effectiveness. For example, a sniper may need to attach different optics, suppressors, or other accessories depending on the environment or specific objectives. This adaptability can be crucial in various operational contexts, allowing snipers to optimize their equipment for better performance and efficiency. While the other options highlight potential characteristics of the M110 SASS, such as low recoil, high magazine capacity, and effective range, the modular design stands out in terms of providing operational flexibility and the ability to tailor the weapon to specific tasks, which is a vital consideration for modern sniping operations.

**8. What are the types of reconnaissance patrols recognized in sniper operations?**

- A. Area, strategic, and tactical**
- B. Zone, route, and area**
- C. Utility, direct, and indirect**
- D. Route, area, and special**

In the context of sniper operations, reconnaissance patrols play a crucial role in gathering intelligence and aiding mission planning. The types recognized in sniper operations include zone, route, and area reconnaissance. Zone reconnaissance involves exploring a specific geographical area to collect detailed information, which is essential for understanding the terrain and identifying potential enemy positions or activities. This approach allows snipers to assess a broader area, providing a comprehensive understanding of the environment. Route reconnaissance focuses on gathering information about specific travel corridors. This is particularly significant for determining safe and efficient routes for movement, whether for approaching a target or retreating after completing a mission. Snipers are trained to identify possible ambush points or areas of enemy activity along these routes. Area reconnaissance is concentrated on a defined area where specific enemy activities are expected. This type provides in-depth information about enemy forces and their capabilities, which can directly impact the sniper's mission. The other options listed do not accurately reflect the types of reconnaissance patrols utilized in sniper operations. Therefore, zone, route, and area reconnaissance stand out as the correct answer, highlighting their unique functions in effective sniper missions.

## 9. Who is Maj Patrick Ferguson known for?

- A. His role in the American Revolution
- B. Developing modern sniping techniques
- C. A famous shot that was not taken on Washington**
- D. His writings on military strategy

Maj Patrick Ferguson is primarily recognized for his significant contributions during the American Revolution, most notably as the creator of the Ferguson rifle, an innovative breech-loading firearm. His military tactics and engagements, particularly at the Battle of Kings Mountain, played a crucial role in illustrating the effectiveness of fast-moving light infantry that utilized rifled weapons—an advancement that would influence sniping techniques in the years to come. While option C mentions a famous shot not taken on Washington, it does not capture Ferguson's legacy as accurately as the correct option, which would highlight his role in the American Revolution. This context emphasizes Ferguson's importance in the history of military engagements rather than just a singular event or anecdote. His innovations and actions significantly shaped military strategy and the development of sniper tactics, showcasing his lasting impact on the field of warfare.

## 10. What is the "first hit" concept in sniper engagement?

- A. Prioritizing rapid fire over accuracy
- B. First shot to neutralize the target effectively**
- C. Taking multiple shots before confirming a hit
- D. Engaging the second target before the first

The "first hit" concept in sniper engagement emphasizes the importance of ensuring that the first shot taken at a target is effective and neutralizes that target. In the highly stressful and time-sensitive environment in which snipers operate, making the first shot count is crucial. This concept is rooted in the idea that achieving a decisive and accurate hit on the first attempt not only reduces the need for follow-up shots—thereby conserving ammunition and maintaining stealth—but also increases the overall effectiveness of the sniper's mission. In sniper operations, accuracy and precision are paramount. Snipers are trained to assess the environment, calculate range, windage, and leading the target before pulling the trigger on their first shot. A successful "first hit" can significantly impact the outcome of the engagement and ensure the sniper's continued operational effectiveness. Other choices convey concepts that do not align with the primary objective of a sniper's role, which is to eliminate without drawing attention or wasting ammunition. Rapid fire or engaging multiple targets before securing a hit could jeopardize mission success and compromise the shooter's position. Prioritizing a single, effective shot reflects the tactical principles integral to sniper training and operations.



## 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://usarmysniperschool.examzify.com>**

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