

USAF MOBILE WATER SUPPLY (MWS) FIRE PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

<https://usafmwsfire.examzify.com>



Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

- 1. Why should piping, pump, and booster lines be drained before storage?**
 - A. To prevent freezing
 - B. To reduce wear
 - C. To increase pressure
 - D. To prevent rusting
- 2. Which of the following is a correct practice for driving maneuvers near obstructions?**
 - A. Stopping at a STOP sign.
 - B. Running a red light.
 - C. Speeding.
 - D. Not signaling.
- 3. For drafting, the pump's rated capacity requires how many inches of water above the traditional strainer?**
 - A. 12 inches
 - B. 24 inches
 - C. 36 inches
 - D. 48 inches
- 4. Identify the intake configuration that provides the best flow rate for a 4-inch direct fill connection.**
 - A. One LDH With A Manifold With One LDH And Two MDHs
 - B. One LDH With An In-Line Gate Valve
 - C. Two LDHs In Parallel
 - D. A Single LDH
- 5. When incident flow rates exceed 300 gpm, which setup should be used?**
 - A. One portable tank
 - B. Two or more portable tanks
 - C. Three portable tanks
 - D. Four portable tanks

- 6. Which statement indicates a steering problem?**
- A. It is a normal condition
 - B. Possible steering problem
 - C. Engine issue
 - D. Brakes worn
- 7. What net discharge pressure corresponds to 100% discharge?**
- A. 150 psi
 - B. 200 psi
 - C. 250 psi
 - D. 100 psi
- 8. An apparatus with capacity greater than 2,500 gallons is best suited for which application?**
- A. Shuttle operations
 - B. Mobile rescue
 - C. Stationary water supply
 - D. Rapid response
- 9. Which statement accurately reflects the drafting head requirement for maintaining rated capacity?**
- A. Drafting requires a 4 inch head above a traditional strainer
 - B. Drafting requires a 48 inch head above a traditional strainer
 - C. Drafting requires a 24 inch head above a traditional strainer to operate at rated capacity
 - D. Drafting requires a 12 inch head above a traditional strainer
- 10. A major advantage of large diameter hoses is their:**
- A. Use as supply lines
 - B. Lightweight handling
 - C. High maneuverability in tight spaces
 - D. Low durability

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. Why should piping, pump, and booster lines be drained before storage?

- A. To prevent freezing
- B. To reduce wear
- C. To increase pressure
- D. To prevent rusting

Water left in piping, pumps, and booster lines can freeze when temperatures drop during storage. Ice expands, and that expansion inside pipes and fittings creates internal pressure that can crack, split, or burst components and damage seals or pump housings. Draining removes the water from these lines, so there's nothing to freeze and form ice plugs or cause damage. While minimizing moisture can help with corrosion over time, the immediate and primary reason for draining before storage is to prevent freezing. The other options don't address that freezing hazard directly—reducing wear isn't the main concern, draining doesn't raise pressure, and rust prevention is a longer-term issue.

2. Which of the following is a correct practice for driving maneuvers near obstructions?

- A. Stopping at a STOP sign.
- B. Running a red light.
- C. Speeding.
- D. Not signaling.

Stopping at a STOP sign is the correct practice because it gives you a required, full stop to assess the scene and any obstructions before proceeding. When visibility is limited by nearby objects or other vehicles, this pause lets you check for cross traffic, pedestrians, or sudden hazards and determine the safe gap to enter or pass the obstruction. After coming to a halt, you yield the right of way where appropriate and proceed only when it's safe. Rationale against the other options: running a red light is illegal and extremely dangerous, especially near obstructions where cross traffic or pedestrians may appear abruptly; speeding reduces your time to react to anyone or anything that might be hidden by the obstruction; not signaling leaves other drivers guessing your movements, increasing the chance of a collision.

3. For drafting, the pump's rated capacity requires how many inches of water above the traditional strainer?

- A. 12 inches
- B. 24 inches
- C. 36 inches
- D. 48 inches

Drafting relies on keeping the suction submerged enough to prevent air from entering the pump and to maintain prime. The rated capacity assumes a certain suction head, so maintaining about 24 inches of water above the strainer ensures the pump stays submerged enough to avoid air ingestion and loss of prime, keeping the discharge at its intended flow. If the water is shallower, air can be drawn into the suction, prime can be lost, and the pump won't deliver its rated capacity. Deeper water than 24 inches isn't necessary for this purpose, so the standard minimum is 24 inches (two feet) above the strainer.

4. Identify the intake configuration that provides the best flow rate for a 4-inch direct fill connection.

- A. One LDH With A Manifold With One LDH And Two MDHs**
- B. One LDH With An In-Line Gate Valve
- C. Two LDHs In Parallel
- D. A Single LDH

Maximizing intake flow comes from giving water multiple parallel paths to reach the fill point. The best setup uses a manifold that splits the source into several hoses, so the flow isn't forced through a single line and its friction losses. In this configuration, water is fed through one large-diameter hose and two medium-diameter hoses via a manifold, creating three parallel paths. This increases the total cross-sectional area available for flow and reduces the overall resistance seen by the fill connection, allowing a higher combined flow rate into the 4-inch direct fill. Adding an inline gate valve would introduce unnecessary resistance, decreasing flow. A single large hose or just two large hoses in parallel still limits flow to the capacity of those paths and doesn't make use of the additional parallel routes a manifold provides. The manifold arrangement blends the strengths of multiple hoses to deliver the greatest possible intake rate for the 4-inch fill connection.

5. When incident flow rates exceed 300 gpm, which setup should be used?

- A. One portable tank
- B. Two or more portable tanks**
- C. Three portable tanks
- D. Four portable tanks

When the water demand at the incident is high, you need a continuous source that won't run dry or cause the pump to lose its prime. A single portable tank can't reliably sustain that higher flow because as the pump draws water, the tank level drops and suction conditions can deteriorate, risking air entrainment and a drop in discharge. Using two or more portable tanks creates a relay system: one tank feeds the pump while the other refills or is prepared to take over, keeping the pump fed and the flow steady. This minimal two-tank arrangement is the practical way to meet higher flows without interruption, and adding more tanks isn't usually necessary for this purpose.

6. Which statement indicates a steering problem?

- A. It is a normal condition
- B. Possible steering problem**
- C. Engine issue
- D. Brakes worn

Recognizing a potential steering issue is about spotting warnings that directly point to the steering system. The statement "Possible steering problem" is the best indicator because it explicitly flags that something in the steering might be off and needs inspection before you proceed. It means there could be excessive play, stiff steering, pulling to one side, or unusual noises that require a check of the steering linkage, power assist, and related components. In contrast, saying it is a normal condition indicates no issue; identifying an engine issue or brakes worn points to other systems and does not specifically flag steering concerns. Since steering problems are safety-critical, any message or indication that mentions steering should prompt a thorough inspection before operation.

7. What net discharge pressure corresponds to 100% discharge?

- A. 150 psi**
- B. 200 psi
- C. 250 psi
- D. 100 psi

Net discharge pressure is the pressure at the discharge when the pump is delivering its rated flow, after accounting for losses in the hose and fittings. For the MWS fire practice test, 100% discharge corresponds to a net discharge pressure of 150 psi. This value represents full capacity under the standard test setup, giving the expected pressure for complete discharge. Pressures like 200 psi or 250 psi would exceed the standard full-discharge condition, while 100 psi is too low to represent full discharge. So 150 psi is the reference pressure for 100% discharge.

8. An apparatus with capacity greater than 2,500 gallons is best suited for which application?

- A. Shuttle operations
- B. Mobile rescue
- C. Stationary water supply**
- D. Rapid response

A bulk, fixed water source is the most effective use for a tank-sized capacity. When a MWS unit can carry more than 2,500 gallons, it can establish and sustain a stationary water supply at the incident scene, feeding multiple attack lines and reducing the need for frequent refills. Staying in one place and serving as a reliable bulk source keeps water flowing to crews as long as the incident lasts, which is the key advantage of a large-capacity stationary setup. Shuttle operations involve moving water between sources, which is less efficient for a large, high-capacity tank that's better kept in a fixed location. Mobile rescue and rapid response prioritize speed and mobility over providing a bulk, stationary water supply, so they don't benefit as much from a tank of this size.

9. Which statement accurately reflects the drafting head requirement for maintaining rated capacity?

- A. Drafting requires a 4 inch head above a traditional strainer
- B. Drafting requires a 48 inch head above a traditional strainer
- C. Drafting requires a 24 inch head above a traditional strainer to operate at rated capacity**
- D. Drafting requires a 12 inch head above a traditional strainer

Drafting from a water source relies on the suction the pump creates and the hydrostatic pressure of the water column above the intake. The vertical distance between the water surface and the strainer (the drafting head) determines how much pressure is available at the pump suction to pull water into the pump and sustain rated flow. A drafting head of about 24 inches (2 feet) provides enough static head to keep the pump primed, overcome suction losses and friction in the suction line, and maintain the rated capacity. If the head is too small (4 or 12 inches), there isn't enough pressure to reliably pull water and maintain the desired flow, especially under real-world conditions like friction losses or surface agitation. If the head is too large (48 inches), the pump has to lift a much taller water column, which can make priming harder and increase the risk of loss of prime or cavitation, reducing reliability. So 24 inches above the strainer strikes the proper balance to sustain the rated capacity.

10. A major advantage of large diameter hoses is their:

- A. Use as supply lines**
- B. Lightweight handling**
- C. High maneuverability in tight spaces**
- D. Low durability**

Large diameter hoses are built to move big volumes of water quickly over distance, so their main advantage is serving as supply lines to carry water from the source to the pump or to the scene. The bigger bore reduces friction losses compared with smaller hoses, meaning you can push more water through with less pressure drop, which is crucial when you're pulling water from a hydrant or portable source and delivering it to the point of use. Because of their size and weight, they're not chosen for lightweight handling or tight-space maneuverability, and they're not selected for low durability. The key benefit in a mobile water supply setup is delivering high flow reliably over longer runs.

SAMPLE

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://usafmwsfire.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE