USCG Master 25-100 Ton License Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide

BY EXAMZIFY

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. Which type of extinguishers are permitted on inspected vessels?

A. Foam extinguishers

B. Carbon dioxide extinguishers

C. Dry chemical extinguishers

D. All of the above

2. All vessels must carry adequate and up-to-date charts, coast pilots, and light lists.

A. False

B. True

C. Only in Coastal Waters

D. Only for Commercial Vessels

3. Which ventilation configuration is required for spaces containing gasoline, machinery or fuel tanks?

A. Natural supply and mechanical

B. Forced ventilation

C. Natural only

D. Mechanical only

4. Acid batteries must be located in a tray constructed of material that is resistant to the electrolyte.

A. True

B. False

C. Only in Dry Areas

D. Only With Cover

5. When should steering gear be tested?

A. On arrival

B. After maintenance

C. Prior to each departure

D. Every other day

6. Painters on life floats shall be at least how many feet?

A. 50 feet

B. 100 feet

C. 150 feet

D. 200 feet

7. On life floats, how many paddles must be attached?

A. 1 paddle

B. 2 paddles

C. 3 paddles

D. 4 paddles

8. For a 75 ton vessel that is 80 feet long carrying passengers for hire, what is the minimum number of fire pumps required?

A. One Self Priming, One Power Driven Pump

B. Two Self Priming Pumps

C. One Fixed Pump

D. None

9. Each life float on an inspected vessel shall be fitted and equipped with 2 paddles, a light, a painter and pendants.

A. Two paddles, a light, a painter and pendants

B. Two paddles, a light, a painter and buoys

C. Two paddles, a light, a painter

D. Two paddles, a buoy, a light, and pendants

10. Fixed CO2 fire systems shall be installed to protect enclosed machinery and fuel tank spaces of all vessels using gasoline or other fuel having a flash point of what degree?

A. 100 degrees

B. 90 degrees

C. 110 degrees

D. 120 degrees

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Which type of extinguishers are permitted on inspected vessels?

A. Foam extinguishers

B. Carbon dioxide extinguishers

C. Dry chemical extinguishers

D. All of the above

Extinguishers on inspected vessels must be Coast Guard-approved and suitable for the fires you're likely to encounter at sea, covering a range of fire types. Foam extinguishers handle both flammable liquids and ordinary combustibles, making them useful in areas with engines and galley related risks. Carbon dioxide extinguishers are great for electrical fires and equipment spaces because they don't leave residue, though they can be dangerous in occupied spaces due to oxygen displacement. Dry chemical extinguishers are versatile and effective on Class A, B, and C fires, providing broad protection. Because all three types serve different, common maritime fire scenarios and are permitted when properly approved, the correct answer includes all of them.

2. All vessels must carry adequate and up-to-date charts, coast pilots, and light lists.

A. False

B. True

C. Only in Coastal Waters

D. Only for Commercial Vessels

The main idea is that every vessel must be prepared with the official navigational references for the waters it operates in. Charts show current depths, hazards, and the location and nature of aids to navigation; Coast Pilots give detailed guidance for navigating along the coast and in harbors; the Light List provides the latest information on lighthouses, buoys, and other aids, including their light characteristics and positions. Keeping these publications up to date ensures you have the latest information for safe routing, avoiding hazards, and confirming your position. This rule applies to all vessels, not just coastal or commercial ones, and even if you rely on electronic charts, you should carry the printed publications on board as backups.

3. Which ventilation configuration is required for spaces containing gasoline, machinery or fuel tanks?

A. Natural supply and mechanical

B. Forced ventilation

C. Natural only

D. Mechanical only

Gasoline, machinery, or fuel tanks can emit flammable vapors, so the space must be ventilated to dilute and remove those fumes continuously. The best setup brings in outside air (natural supply) to provide fresh air from the exterior, while an exhaust system (mechanical) actively removes vapors from the space. This combination helps keep vapor concentrations below flammable levels and prevents buildup, which is crucial since gasoline vapors can accumulate near the floor and spread through the space. Relying on natural ventilation alone may not move air efficiently to remove fumes, and relying on mechanical ventilation without a outside-air supply can fail to bring in fresh air or adequately dilute contaminants.

4. Acid batteries must be located in a tray constructed of material that is resistant to the electrolyte.

A. True

B. False

C. Only in Dry Areas

D. Only With Cover

Acid batteries contain electrolyte that is highly corrosive, so placing the battery in a tray made from material that resists that electrolyte is essential for containment and protection of the vessel. The tray acts as a spill basin, preventing leaks from corroding the deck, bilge, or structural components and making cleanup easier. This requirement applies regardless of dryness or whether the battery has a cover, since a cover does not guarantee containment if a leak occurs. Therefore, the statement is true.

5. When should steering gear be tested?

A. On arrival

B. After maintenance

C. Prior to each departure

D. Every other day

Before you sail, you need to confirm the steering system is working properly so you can maintain control throughout the voyage. A pre-departure steering gear test verifies that the steering gear responds to helm inputs, that the power source for the system is functioning, and that any emergency or standby steering arrangement is ready if the primary system fails. This catch-before-sailing check helps ensure you won't depart with a hidden issue that could leave you unable to steer in challenging conditions or crowded waterways. Testing on arrival wouldn't guarantee readiness for the next leg, and while post-maintenance checks are important, the required practice is to verify the steering gear before each departure. Waiting another day or testing only every so often could miss developing problems.

6. Painters on life floats shall be at least how many feet?

A. 50 feet

B. 100 feet

C. 150 feet

D. 200 feet

Painter length for life floats is about ensuring there is enough reach to secure and handle the raft from the vessel under varying conditions. The requirement that the painter be at least 100 feet long provides a safe margin to reach a point on deck from a liferaft that may be a distance away when deployed, especially on higher freeboard vessels. This length helps keep the line clear of the hull and prop wash, allows crew to manage the line from the deck without leaning over the gunwale or entering the water, and reduces the chances of the raft drifting out of reach. Shorter lengths wouldn't reach the deck reliably, while longer lengths aren't necessary beyond this safety margin.

7. On life floats, how many paddles must be attached?

A. 1 paddle

B. 2 paddles

C. 3 paddles

D. 4 paddles

Two paddles are attached to a life float so you can both move and steer if the engine isn't available. Having two paddles lets you propel the float and also control its direction, which is essential in currents, wind, or when you're approaching rescuers. One paddle would make steering much harder and less reliable, especially in rougher conditions, so two provides the necessary maneuverability and redundancy.

8. For a 75 ton vessel that is 80 feet long carrying passengers for hire, what is the minimum number of fire pumps required?

A. One Self Priming, One Power Driven Pump

B. Two Self Priming Pumps

C. One Fixed Pump

D. None

Redundancy and enough firefighting capacity are required for passenger vessels of this size. Two pumps are needed so water can be supplied to the fire main even if one pump is not available. A self-priming pump is reliable because it can draw seawater without needing the engine to be running or to be manually primed, giving a quick, independent source of water. The other pump being power-driven (engine-driven) provides the higher, sustained flow needed when actively fighting a fire, especially if multiple hydrants or monitors are in use. Relying on a single pump—whether fixed or otherwise—wouldleave no backup if that pump failed or needed service. That's why the minimum setup is two pumps: one self-priming and one power-driven.

9. Each life float on an inspected vessel shall be fitted and equipped with 2 paddles, a light, a painter and pendants.

A. Two paddles, a light, a painter and pendants

B. Two paddles, a light, a painter and buoys

C. Two paddles, a light, a painter

D. Two paddles, a buoy, a light, and pendants

The essential idea is the standard equipment that must be aboard each life float on an inspected vessel. A life float needs two paddles to maneuver the float in the water if needed, a light so it can be seen by rescuers at night or in low visibility, a painter which is the strong line used to secure or tow the float to the vessel, and pendants which are the short securing lines attached to the float to help fasten and control it during rescue operations. The option that lists exactly those four items—two paddles, a light, a painter, and pendants—matches these requirements. Replacing pendants with buoys or omitting the painter or pendants would fail to meet the required equipment, and that's why the correct choice includes all four elements.

10. Fixed CO2 fire systems shall be installed to protect enclosed machinery and fuel tank spaces of all vessels using gasoline or other fuel having a flash point of what degree?

A. 100 degrees

B. 90 degrees

C. 110 degrees

D. 120 degrees

The requirement hinges on the flash point of the fuel. If a vessel uses gasoline or any fuel with a flash point at or below 110°F, a fixed CO2 fire suppression system must be installed to protect enclosed machinery spaces and fuel tank spaces. This threshold matters because fuels with low flash points can emit flammable vapors that ignite more easily in confined spaces, where vapors can accumulate and ventilation is limited. A fixed CO2 system floods the space, displacing oxygen and rapidly suppressing a fire, which is why it's required in these enclosed areas. Gasoline has a very low flash point (well below 110°F), so it triggers the requirement. Fuels with higher flash points, such as diesel, are not covered by this specific rule. The number 110 refers to degrees Fahrenheit, which is the standard used in these regulations.

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://uscgmaster25to100tonlicense.examzify.com

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