

USMC Infantry Knowledge 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

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- 1. What is indicated by the acronym PRC-152 in the context of the military?**
 - A. Standard USMC Radio**
 - B. Portable Radio Communication System**
 - C. Primary Radio Command Unit**
 - D. Personal Radio Communication**

- 2. What is the sustained rate of fire for the M4 carbine?**
 - A. 400-600rpm**
 - B. 36-50rpm**
 - C. 12-15rpm**
 - D. 700-900rpm**

- 3. What is the role of a squad leader in a Marine infantry unit?**
 - A. To provide logistical support in operations**
 - B. To lead and manage members of the squad during operations**
 - C. To conduct reconnaissance missions**
 - D. To serve as a tactical adviser to higher command**

- 4. Which equipment would be essential for a unit utilizing a Medium Anti-Tank Weapon?**
 - A. Rations Supply**
 - B. Communications Gear**
 - C. Fire Control System**
 - D. Personal Protective Equipment**

- 5. How many pounds does the M203 40mm Grenade Launcher weigh?**
 - A. 10.5 lbs**
 - B. 11.79 lbs**
 - C. 12 lbs**
 - D. 13 lbs**

- 6. Which of the following is a primary type of contour line?**
- A. Supplementary**
 - B. Index**
 - C. Baseline**
 - D. Primary**
- 7. What does TRP stand for in a military context?**
- A. Tactical Reference Point**
 - B. Target Response Plan**
 - C. Target Reference Point**
 - D. Troop Resource Point**
- 8. What is the first phase of combat planning?**
- A. Engagement**
 - B. Preparation**
 - C. Mobilization**
 - D. Execution**
- 9. Which of the following is NOT one of the BAMCIS troop leading steps?**
- A. Begin planning**
 - B. Arrange logistics**
 - C. Complete plan**
 - D. Issue order**
- 10. What does the infantry term “fire discipline” refer to?**
- A. The controlled and judicious use of gunfire in combat to avoid waste and maintain ammunition reserves.**
 - B. The practice of allowing free fire to gain tactical advantage.**
 - C. The organization of firing squads for executions.**
 - D. The enforcement of safety regulations during weapons training.**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is indicated by the acronym PRC-152 in the context of the military?

- A. Standard USMC Radio**
- B. Portable Radio Communication System**
- C. Primary Radio Command Unit**
- D. Personal Radio Communication**

The acronym PRC-152 refers to the standard radio used by the United States military, specifically designed for secure voice and data communication. It is a part of the family of "PRC" (Portable Radio Communication) equipment, which serves a critical role in command and control operations in various military environments. The PRC-152 is known for its versatility, allowing for interoperability across different military branches and compatibility with a range of communication nets. While other choices might seem relevant, they do not accurately encapsulate the official designation and primary function of the PRC-152. The radio's establishment as the standard USMC radio emphasizes its importance in facilitating reliable communication among Marines during missions, ensuring operational effectiveness and safety. This capability is crucial for maintaining situational awareness and coordinating actions in real-time.

2. What is the sustained rate of fire for the M4 carbine?

- A. 400-600rpm**
- B. 36-50rpm**
- C. 12-15rpm**
- D. 700-900rpm**

The sustained rate of fire for the M4 carbine is indeed 12-15 rounds per minute. This rate reflects a balance between maintaining accuracy and preventing overheating of the weapon. Sustained fire is characterized by a steady rate that allows the operator to engage a target effectively over time without excessive barrel heat, which can compromise accuracy and reliability. In practical terms, the sustained rate is designed for situations where the shooter must fire consistently over longer periods, such as during troop movements or while providing overwatch. This approach helps in managing fatigue and maintaining control during engagements. The other choices, while reflecting various rates of fire, do not represent the sustained firing capability of the M4. Higher rates, like those in the 400-600 rpm range, indicate a cyclic rate or rapid firing suitable for short bursts rather than sustained engagements, which can lead to overheating and reduce accuracy. The lower rates, notably those beyond the sustained rate, do not align with the operational effectiveness expected from the M4 carbine in a sustained fire scenario.

3. What is the role of a squad leader in a Marine infantry unit?

- A. To provide logistical support in operations**
- B. To lead and manage members of the squad during operations**
- C. To conduct reconnaissance missions**
- D. To serve as a tactical adviser to higher command**

The role of a squad leader in a Marine infantry unit is primarily to lead and manage the members of the squad during operations. This encompasses a variety of responsibilities, including tactical decision-making, ensuring the welfare and accountability of squad members, and executing the orders from higher command effectively. The squad leader is pivotal in maintaining discipline, training the squad in necessary skills, and coordinating movements and actions during combat scenarios. This leadership position requires not only combat proficiency but also the ability to assess situations quickly and make informed decisions that enhance the squad's effectiveness in accomplishing its objectives. The squad leader also communicates vital information between squad members and the platoon leader, helping to maintain operational coherence and efficiency in the field.

4. Which equipment would be essential for a unit utilizing a Medium Anti-Tank Weapon?

- A. Rations Supply**
- B. Communications Gear**
- C. Fire Control System**
- D. Personal Protective Equipment**

A Fire Control System is essential for a unit utilizing a Medium Anti-Tank Weapon because it significantly enhances targeting accuracy and effectiveness against armored threats. This system typically includes various components such as sights, range finders, and stabilization mechanisms that enable the operator to effectively acquire and engage enemy vehicles or armored platforms. In combat scenarios, precision is crucial, especially when dealing with high-value targets like enemy tanks. The use of a sophisticated Fire Control System helps mitigate the risk of missing or misjudging shots, which can lead to ineffective fire and increased vulnerability for the unit. The other equipment, while important in different contexts, does not directly enhance the function of anti-tank capabilities in the same manner as a Fire Control System does. Rations are necessary for sustenance, communications gear assists in coordination, and personal protective equipment ensures soldier safety, but none of these elements specifically contribute to the effective use of a Medium Anti-Tank Weapon in terms of targeting and engagement.

5. How many pounds does the M203 40mm Grenade Launcher weigh?

- A. 10.5 lbs**
- B. 11.79 lbs**
- C. 12 lbs**
- D. 13 lbs**

The M203 40mm Grenade Launcher weighs 11.79 pounds, which is a key detail to remember for understanding the weapon's specifications and handling. This weight contributes to the overall balance and stability of the launcher when mounted on the M16 or M4 rifle. In selecting equipment for combat, knowing the weight of the M203 is essential for considerations related to mobility, endurance, and operational effectiveness. The specific design and materials used in its construction influence its weight; this detail underscores the importance of understanding each component in a military system. Having this knowledge aids Marines in effectively integrating the launcher into operations while accounting for the overall load they will carry.

6. Which of the following is a primary type of contour line?

- A. Supplementary**
- B. Index**
- C. Baseline**
- D. Primary**

The primary type of contour line is the index contour. Index contour lines are typically drawn thicker and labeled with specific elevation values. They are used to indicate the elevation of the terrain and to help users quickly understand the relief features of a map. Contour lines in general represent elevation on a map, with each line indicating a specific elevation above sea level. Index contours help highlight changes in elevation more clearly and make it easier for map readers to interpret the landscape. They serve as reference points for measuring elevation between them and assist navigators and outdoor enthusiasts in understanding the topography of the area. The other terms listed may refer to specific line types or concepts in mapping or navigation but do not represent primary types of contour lines in the same way that index contour lines do. For instance, supplementary contour lines are often used for more detailed surveying and aren't primary indicators, while a baseline is typically associated with the starting point for measurements rather than representing a topographical feature.

7. What does TRP stand for in a military context?

- A. Tactical Reference Point
- B. Target Response Plan
- C. Target Reference Point**
- D. Troop Resource Point

In a military context, TRP stands for Target Reference Point. This term is essential as it refers to a predetermined point on the battlefield that is used to help guide artillery fire, airstrikes, or other forms of attack on a target. The identification of these points is crucial for effective targeting, coordination, and the minimization of collateral damage during operations. Target Reference Points can be established based on their visibility and landmarks, making them vital in planning and executing maneuvers in combat scenarios. The other terms, while they may appear relevant, do not accurately define the function of TRP as understood in military operations. Tactical Reference Point, for example, is not a commonly recognized term in military jargon. Target Response Plan and Troop Resource Point also convey ideas related to targeting and resource management but do not specifically relate to the well-defined concept of a Target Reference Point used to denote specific locations for targeting purposes.

8. What is the first phase of combat planning?

- A. Engagement
- B. Preparation**
- C. Mobilization
- D. Execution

The first phase of combat planning is preparation. During this phase, planners gather intelligence, assess the operational environment, define objectives, and develop strategies to achieve those objectives. Preparation is crucial as it sets the groundwork for subsequent phases, ensuring that all essential resources are in place, and that units understand their roles and the overall plan. This phase focuses on organizing the forces, coordinating logistics, and conducting briefings to ensure that all personnel involved are properly informed and ready for action. In combat planning, the preparation phase ensures thorough understanding and readiness, which are critical for successful operations. Other phases like engagement, mobilization, and execution follow the preparation phase and rely heavily on the groundwork laid during this initial step. Engaging the enemy, moving forces into position, or executing the plan all depend on the thorough preparations made earlier.

9. Which of the following is NOT one of the BAMCIS troop leading steps?

- A. Begin planning**
- B. Arrange logistics**
- C. Complete plan**
- D. Issue order**

The troop leading steps of BAMCIS stand for Begin planning, Arrange reconnaissance, Make reconnaissance, Complete the plan, Issue the order, and Supervise. Each step plays a crucial role in ensuring that a leader effectively guides their team through the mission planning and execution phases. Choosing to Arrange logistics as the answer is incorrect because logistics are integral to mission planning and are considered during the "Arrange reconnaissance" step. Logistics encompass the necessary supplies, personnel, and equipment needed for successful mission execution. The correct answer is that "Arrange logistics" is not a specific step within the BAMCIS framework. Instead, logistics should be considered throughout the planning process, particularly when arranging reconnaissance and making the plan. This understanding emphasizes the importance of comprehensive planning and foresight in military operations, where ensuring that all logistical needs are addressed is vital for mission success.

10. What does the infantry term "fire discipline" refer to?

- A. The controlled and judicious use of gunfire in combat to avoid waste and maintain ammunition reserves.**
- B. The practice of allowing free fire to gain tactical advantage.**
- C. The organization of firing squads for executions.**
- D. The enforcement of safety regulations during weapons training.**

The term "fire discipline" pertains to the meticulous control and thoughtful application of gunfire during combat scenarios. This concept is vital for ensuring that every round fired serves a purpose, thereby preventing unnecessary expenditure of ammunition and preserving valuable resources. In combat, maintaining fire discipline means engaging the enemy with precision rather than simply unleashing a barrage of fire, which could lead to wasted ammunition and loss of tactical advantage due to the failure to hit targets effectively. By adhering to fire discipline, infantry units can sustain their fire capabilities over a longer duration and make more informed strategic choices in battle. It also contributes to the safety of friendly forces by reducing the likelihood of friendly fire incidents, as disciplined firing helps to isolate targets and minimize the chance of inadvertent hits on fellow Marines. Other options reflect different concepts that may not align with the principles of fire discipline. For example, free fire can lead to indiscriminate shooting, risking collateral damage and depletion of ammunition. The organization of firing squads relates to military justice rather than combat engagement protocols, and safety regulations focus on the training environment rather than the tactics employed in active combat.

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://usmcinfantryknowledge.examzify.com>

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

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