USPA Skydiving B 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. What does "backfilling" refer to in skydiving?

    A. Jumping without any altitude regulations

    B. Jumping directly above the designated drop zone

    C. Jumping from positions that are not directly above the designated drop zone

    D. Jumping in adverse weather conditions

2. To prevent a collision with another jumper under canopy, it is important to:

    A. Communicate with other jumpers

    B. Look before you turn

    C. Descend quickly

    D. Always go left

3. During a skydive, what is the primary focus of the diver after exiting the aircraft?

    A. To hold a specific pose

    B. To achieve stability in freefall

    C. To look for the landing zone

    D. To communicate with other divers

4. When should a light be turned on and operating during a night jump?

    A. Upon exit from the aircraft

    B. Once under an open parachute until landing

    C. Only during the initial descent

    D. After reaching the ground

5. What type of jumps may count towards the B License?

    A. Formation skydiving and freestyle jumps

    B. Only solo jumps

    C. High altitude jumps only

    D. Coordinated jumps with instructors

6. **Who has the right-of-way under canopy?**

    A. The jumper with the highest altitude

    B. The jumper who is landing first

    C. The lower jumper

    D. The jumper who is more experienced

7. **Who is responsible for ensuring cloud-clearance requirements are met during a jump?**

    A. The pilot alone

    B. The jumper alone

    C. The jumper and pilot jointly

    D. The ground crew

8. **What should you do if your main parachute does not deploy correctly?**

    A. Try to fix it mid-air

    B. Immediately cut away and deploy reserve

    C. Wait to see if it deploys later

    D. Land without deploying any parachute

9. **What role does a jump course instructor play?**

    A. Provides weather updates before jumps

    B. Offers training and safety instructions to new jumpers

    C. Oversees the equipment maintenance

    D. Conducts jump evaluations after each session

10. **What is the purpose of maintaining a safe distance from clouds while skydiving?**

    A. To maintain visibility and avoid collisions

    B. To ensure correct deployment height

    C. To prevent body obstruction

    D. To avoid turbulence

Answers

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

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What does "backfilling" refer to in skydiving?

A. Jumping without any altitude regulations

B. Jumping directly above the designated drop zone

C. Jumping from positions that are not directly above the designated drop zone

D. Jumping in adverse weather conditions

Backfilling in skydiving specifically refers to the act of jumping from a position that is not directly above the designated drop zone. This practice is significant in understanding jump patterns and ensuring safety during descent. When a skydiver backfills, they are typically aiming to land in the designated area while exiting from a different spot. This could occur when there are multiple jumpers in the air, especially during a busy drop, where positioning can be adjusted based on the movement of other skydivers and the overall traffic in the sky. Understanding this concept is crucial for maintaining safety protocols since it involves considering how to manage air traffic and avoid collisions. Proper coordination and communication are vital when backfilling, as jumpers need to be aware of each other's positions to minimize the risks associated with landing in proximity to other jumpers. This knowledge is essential for all skydivers aiming for higher skill levels and ensures that jumps are executed smoothly and safely.

2. To prevent a collision with another jumper under canopy, it is important to:

A. Communicate with other jumpers

B. Look before you turn

C. Descend quickly

D. Always go left

The importance of looking before you turn while under canopy cannot be overstated. When you are descending in a crowded airspace, maintaining situational awareness is crucial for avoiding collisions. By looking before making a turn, you can spot other jumpers and assess their positions. This allows you to make informed decisions about your flight path and adjustments needed to avoid any potential conflicts.   Good canopy control involves not only your own trajectory but also awareness of those around you. Jumpers can be on any course, and they may not be aware of your movements, so proactive scanning helps you stay safe. This practice enhances your ability to navigate through the airspace without compromising your and others' safety. The other options touch on elements of safety, but they do not emphasize the critical need for visual assessment before executing maneuvers, which is vital for maintaining a safe distance from other jumpers. Communication is helpful, but situational awareness is the first line of defense in preventing collisions.

3. During a skydive, what is the primary focus of the diver after exiting the aircraft?

A. To hold a specific pose

B. To achieve stability in freefall

C. To look for the landing zone

D. To communicate with other divers

Achieving stability in freefall is crucial for a skydiver immediately after exiting the aircraft. Stability allows the diver to maintain a controlled and predictable orientation during the fall, which is essential for safe and accurate deployment of the parachute. When a skydive is performed correctly, the diver should aim to stabilize their body position to maximize their freefall experience and prepare adequately for parachute deployment. Maintaining stability also enhances the ability to use any necessary aerial maneuvers or adjustments. If a diver is stable, they can effectively manage their body position, contributing to a smooth transition into the parachute phase of the jump. Failure to achieve stability can lead to issues like excessive spinning or tumbling, which can complicate the parachute deployment and affect the overall safety of the jump. Meanwhile, while holding a specific pose may play a role in stability, it is not the primary focus as the first priority remains achieving that stability. Looking for the landing zone is generally considered at a later stage in the dive, after stabilizing in freefall. Communication with other divers, while sometimes important in group jumps, is not the primary concern of an individual diver immediately after exit. Thus, the focus on achieving stability effectively encompasses the essential skills necessary for a

4. When should a light be turned on and operating during a night jump?

A. Upon exit from the aircraft

B. Once under an open parachute until landing

C. Only during the initial descent

D. After reaching the ground

The light should be turned on and operating once under an open parachute until landing because visibility is crucial during night jumps where ambient light is minimal. By having the light activated during the parachute descent, it allows the jumper to be more visible to other jumpers or pilots in the area, enhancing safety and ensuring that everyone remains aware of each other's positions in the air. This practice also aids in monitoring altitude and aligning for the landing zone. While it may seem relevant to consider having the light on upon exit or during descent, the primary purpose is to ensure visibility during the parachute glide phase where the jumper is more susceptible to losing spatial awareness. Keeping the light illuminated until touching down ensures maximum safety throughout the entire descent and landing process, which is critical in night conditions.

5. What type of jumps may count towards the B License?

A. Formation skydiving and freestyle jumps

B. Only solo jumps

C. High altitude jumps only

D. Coordinated jumps with instructors

The correct choice is formation skydiving and freestyle jumps because both categories are recognized as valid jump types that contribute to the requirements for obtaining a B License. Formation skydiving allows skydivers to engage in group jumps that emphasize teamwork and precision, while freestyle jumps showcase individual skills in maneuvering and control during freefall.   These types of jumps demonstrate a skydiver's ability to perform complex aerial maneuvers and effectively navigate various skydiving scenarios, which are essential competencies for advancing to the B License level.   Other options do not encompass the breadth of jump types that contribute towards the license. For example, limiting the count to only solo jumps would not reflect the collaborative skills necessary for more advanced jumping. High altitude jumps may be exciting, but they do not encompass the more varied experiences required for the B License. Coordinated jumps with instructors are valuable but are not the only type of jump that can count, emphasizing that the license requirements seek a broader skill set captured by a variety of jump types.

6. Who has the right-of-way under canopy?

A. The jumper with the highest altitude

B. The jumper who is landing first

C. The lower jumper

D. The jumper who is more experienced

The jumper who is at a lower altitude has the right-of-way under canopy. This rule is critical for ensuring safety during landing approaches. Since a lower jumper is generally closer to the ground and will touch down before others, it is essential that they have priority to land without interference from jumpers above them. Higher jumpers must take care to yield the right of way to those below. This system helps to prevent collisions and promotes safe landing patterns. Factors such as who is landing first or the level of experience do not affect right-of-way rules; the focus is purely on altitude relative to other jumpers in the canopy. By adhering to this guideline, skydivers minimize the risks associated with busy landing zones.

7. Who is responsible for ensuring cloud-clearance requirements are met during a jump?

A. The pilot alone

B. The jumper alone

C. The jumper and pilot jointly

D. The ground crew

The responsibility for ensuring cloud-clearance requirements are met during a jump falls jointly to both the jumper and the pilot. This collaborative effort is crucial for safety and compliance with regulations.   The pilot is tasked with navigating the aircraft in a manner that avoids clouds and adheres to visual flight rules (VFR). However, the jumper must also be aware of the conditions before exiting the aircraft, which includes assessing the visual cues of cloud cover and ensuring that their intended jump area meets the legal minimum distance from clouds. By working together, the pilot provides critical information about the flight path and altitudes while the jumper must make informed decisions regarding their exit from the aircraft. This joint responsibility ensures that both parties are actively contributing to a safe jump environment, thereby minimizing risks associated with cloud cover and maintaining proper visibility.

8. What should you do if your main parachute does not deploy correctly?

A. Try to fix it mid-air

B. Immediately cut away and deploy reserve

C. Wait to see if it deploys later

D. Land without deploying any parachute

When faced with a situation where your main parachute does not deploy correctly, the correct action is to immediately cut away and deploy the reserve parachute. This option is grounded in the principle of safety and urgency in emergency situations. The primary reason for this approach is that a malfunctioning main parachute can lead to dangerous scenarios such as a stable but uncontrollable descent, or a potential total failure of the canopy leading to rapid descent rates. By quickly cutting away from the main parachute, you minimize the risk associated with the malfunction. This action enables you to activate the reserve parachute in a timely manner, which is designed to be more reliable and provide a safe landing when executed correctly. In contrast, attempting to fix the issue mid-air or waiting to see if the parachute deploys later can significantly increase the risk of serious injury or worse. In the critical moments following a failure of the main parachute, there is little time to waste, and hesitation can have dire consequences. Therefore, cutting away and deploying the reserve is crucial for ensuring your safety and increasing the chances of a successful landing.

9. What role does a jump course instructor play?

A. Provides weather updates before jumps

B. Offers training and safety instructions to new jumpers

C. Oversees the equipment maintenance

D. Conducts jump evaluations after each session

A jump course instructor plays a crucial role in preparing new skydivers for their first jumps and continuing their education in the sport. Their primary responsibility is to offer training and safety instructions, which are fundamental for ensuring that jumpers understand both the techniques of skydiving and the safety protocols necessary to minimize risks.   The training provided by the instructor encompasses a variety of topics, including exit techniques, body positioning during freefall, parachute deployment, and emergency procedures. This foundational education is essential because it equips jumpers with the knowledge and skills they need to participate in skydiving safely. It also helps instill a culture of safety and responsibility within the sport, which is vital for all participants. While providing weather updates, overseeing equipment maintenance, and conducting evaluations post-jump are important aspects of skydiving operations, they are not the primary responsibilities of a jump course instructor. Weather updates are typically provided by specialized staff or safety officers, equipment maintenance is the responsibility of riggers or maintenance personnel, and jump evaluations may be conducted by instructors or safety officers but are not their core function. Hence, offering training and safety instructions stands out as the key role of a jump course instructor in the context of skydiving education.

10. What is the purpose of maintaining a safe distance from clouds while skydiving?

A. To maintain visibility and avoid collisions

B. To ensure correct deployment height

C. To prevent body obstruction

D. To avoid turbulence

Maintaining a safe distance from clouds while skydiving primarily serves to ensure visibility and avoid collisions. When skydivers approach or enter cloud cover, visibility can become severely restricted, making it difficult to see other jumpers, aircraft, or the landing area. This lack of visibility increases the risk of mid-air collisions, which can have serious consequences during freefall. By staying clear of clouds, skydivers are better able to maintain situational awareness, check their altitude, and be aware of their surroundings.   The other aspects mentioned, such as ensuring correct deployment height and preventing body obstruction, are important in their own contexts but are not the main reasons for maintaining distance from clouds. Correct deployment height focuses on knowing when to deploy the parachute, which is influenced by altitude but not directly related to the presence of clouds. Body obstruction can refer to a variety of factors during the dive, yet it doesn't capture the essential purpose of avoiding clouds. Lastly, while turbulence is a consideration, especially in the vicinity of clouds, the immediate need and priority for keeping a safe distance relates to visibility and collision avoidance.

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://uspa-skydivingb.examzify.com

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