WETS Irrigation Technician Practice Exam (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. **Which statement is true about supervision when repairing an irrigation system?**

   A. Unsupervised Technician

   B. City Inspector

   C. Licensed Irrigator

   D. Manufacturer's Rep

2. **Back siphonage can occur when which scenario occurs?**

   A. Fire Department Pumping Large Amounts of Water From a Fire Hydrant

   B. A Closed Valve In The Line

   C. A Low Water Supply

   D. A Clogged Filter

3. **In run-time calculations, which factor is included in addition to ETc and application rate?**

   A. Irrigation efficiency

   B. Soil type

   C. Wind speed

   D. Water hardness

4. **What helps prevent emitters from clogging in an irrigation system?**

   A. Pressure Regulator

   B. Filter

   C. Backflow Preventer

   D. Solenoid

5. **Training for licensure must come from what type of provider?**

   A. TCEQ approved training provider

   B. University course

   C. Online-only provider

   D. In-house company training

6. When a zone energizes but delivers no water, what is the first recommended diagnostic step?

A. Check controller programming

B. Verify 24V supply to the zone valve/solenoid

C. Inspect wiring

D. Test the valve for leakage or failure

7. Backflow preventers should be tested how often?

A. Monthly.

B. Every six months.

C. Annually.

D. Annually, or according to local plumbing code requirements.

8. What should you do with trenches and holes created during irrigation system installation?

A. Fill them with select soil, tamped and back to original grade

B. Leave them open for drainage

C. Fill with topsoil only

D. Backfill with concrete

9. Which date marks when a licensed person must be on the job site at all times?

A. January 1, 2010

B. January 1, 2012

C. January 1, 2008

D. January 1, 2015

10. Which component should be used to reduce excessive pressure to sprinkler heads?

A. Irrigation controller

B. Pressure regulator

C. Backflow preventer

D. Filter

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Which statement is true about supervision when repairing an irrigation system?

A. Unsupervised Technician

B. City Inspector

C. Licensed Irrigator

D. Manufacturer's Rep

Supervision for irrigation repairs must come from a licensed irrigator because this role has the credentials and authority to oversee the work, ensure it follows local codes, and prioritize safety and system integrity. A licensed irrigator is trained to handle tasks like wiring controllers, installing backflow preventers, sizing and placing valves, trenching, and testing the system, and they can sign off on the job when it meets requirements. While a city inspector may check compliance after the work is done, they don't supervise day-to-day repair activities. A manufacturer's representative can provide product guidance but lacks the regulatory authority to supervise installation. An unsupervised technician may perform work that isn't compliant or safe. So, having a licensed irrigator oversee the repair ensures proper workmanship and adherence to standards.

2. Back siphonage can occur when which scenario occurs?

A. Fire Department Pumping Large Amounts of Water From a Fire Hydrant

B. A Closed Valve In The Line

C. A Low Water Supply

D. A Clogged Filter

Back siphonage happens when the supply pressure in the drinking water system drops, pulling water back into the system through any cross-connections. When a fire department is pumping large amounts of water from a fire hydrant, the sudden high flow can cause a significant drop in pressure downstream. That negative pressure can draw dirty or non-potable water from irrigation pipes or other connected lines back into the potable supply if a cross-connection exists. The other situations don't create that pressure dip needed for siphoning: a closed valve tends to create backpressure and push water away, a low overall water supply reduces pressure but doesn't necessarily create a siphon without a cross-connection, and a clogged filter simply restricts flow rather than generating a negative pressure that pulls water back.

3. In run-time calculations, which factor is included in addition to ETc and application rate?

A. Irrigation efficiency

B. Soil type

C. Wind speed

D. Water hardness

In run-time calculations, you're figuring out how long to run the irrigation so the crop receives its ETc. You base this on ETc and the system's nominal application rate, but you also must account for losses that prevent water from actually reaching the root zone. ThatAdjustment is irrigation efficiency. It captures how effectively the system delivers water, considering factors like distribution uniformity, emitter performance, line losses, and drift. By including irrigation efficiency, you ensure the calculated run-time reflects the true amount of water available to the crop, not just what the system could theoretically deliver. Other factors such as wind speed, soil type, or water hardness impact other parts of irrigation planning (evaporation, infiltration, equipment wear), but they aren't part of the standard run-time factor alongside ETc and application rate.

4. What helps prevent emitters from clogging in an irrigation system?

A. Pressure Regulator

B. Filter

C. Backflow Preventer

D. Solenoid

Preventing emitter clogging comes from removing debris before water reaches the emitters. A filter sits upstream of the emitters and physically traps dirt, sand, algae, and other particulates, so the tiny passages in drippers and emitters stay clear and flow remains consistent. Regular filter maintenance, like cleaning or backwashing, keeps this protection effective and helps prevent clog-related drops in performance. Other components have different roles. A pressure regulator maintains consistent pressure, which helps emitter performance but doesn't remove debris. A backflow preventer stops contaminated water from re-entering the supply, focusing on water quality rather than preventing clogs. A solenoid is a controlled valve that starts or stops flow; it doesn't filter out particles.

5. Training for licensure must come from what type of provider?

A. TCEQ approved training provider

B. University course

C. Online-only provider

D. In-house company training

Licensure training must come from a TCEQ-approved training provider. This ensures the course content, instructors, and attendance reporting meet state standards so the hours you earn are officially recognized toward licensure. Approved providers have their programs reviewed and listed by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, giving you confidence that your training will count toward the license. Courses from providers not on the approved list—even if they're from a university, online-only, or in-house company training—may not be accepted because they haven't been vetted or registered with the agency. So, to move forward with licensure, choose training from TCEQ-approved providers.

6. When a zone energizes but delivers no water, what is the first recommended diagnostic step?

A. Check controller programming

B. Verify 24V supply to the zone valve/solenoid

C. Inspect wiring

D. Test the valve for leakage or failure

The first step is to verify the controller programming. If a zone is energizing but no water is delivered, the issue is often in how the controller is commanding the zone rather than in the valve or wiring. By checking the program, you confirm that the station is actually scheduled to run, the correct run time is set, and the zone is mapped to the right valve. A misconfigured start time, run duration, or zone assignment can make the solenoid energize without producing water because the call to water isn't aligned with the field valve's operation. If the programming checks out, then move on to inspect power to the valve, wiring, and finally test the valve for leakage or failure.

7. Backflow preventers should be tested how often?

A. Monthly.

B. Every six months.

C. Annually.

D. Annually, or according to local plumbing code requirements.

Regular testing intervals for backflow preventers are set by the local plumbing code because these devices must be checked to ensure they fully prevent backflow at all times. The standard practice is to test them annually to verify they operate correctly, seals hold, and no leaks or movement allow back-siphonage or back-pressure. However, some jurisdictions specify different intervals depending on the device type, the risk level, or specific local requirements. That's why the best answer includes both the annual timing and the caveat that the exact schedule should follow local code. In short, you test once a year, unless the local plumbing code requires a different interval.

8. What should you do with trenches and holes created during irrigation system installation?

A. Fill them with select soil, tamped and back to original grade

B. Leave them open for drainage

C. Fill with topsoil only

D. Backfill with concrete

Restoring the surface after trenching is about stabilizing the line and returning the area to its normal surface level so drainage and surface integrity are preserved. The best approach is to backfill the trench with suitable soil in compacted layers until it's back to the original grade. Using well-graded, clean fill (often the excavated material or a similar select soil) and compacting it in lifts prevents future settlement, protects the irrigation piping, and keeps the lawn or planting bed even and safe. This also prevents water from pooling in a loose trench and avoids the rigidity and potential cracking that would come with concrete. Leaving trenches open is a safety hazard, and filling with topsoil alone may not compact properly and can settle unevenly, while concrete is unnecessary and can create drainage or movement problems.

9. Which date marks when a licensed person must be on the job site at all times?

A. January 1, 2010

B. January 1, 2012

C. January 1, 2008

D. January 1, 2015

Having a licensed professional on the job site at all times is about when the supervision rule takes effect and must be enforced. In this scenario, that rule was activated on January 1, 2010. From that date forward, any work that requires licensure must have a licensed person supervising on site during all work hours. This date marks when the regulatory requirement becomes mandatory, ensuring proper oversight, safety, and compliance with licensing rules. Dates preceding that point wouldn't reflect the active rule, while dates after would imply a different or additional change in regulations.

10. Which component should be used to reduce excessive pressure to sprinkler heads?

A. Irrigation controller

B. Pressure regulator

C. Backflow preventer

D. Filter

The key idea is controlling water pressure to match what sprinkler heads can handle. When supply pressure is too high, heads can mist, spray too widely, or wear out faster, and zones won't cover evenly. A pressure regulator lowers the incoming pressure to a safe, design-ready level for the heads, helping ensure consistent spray patterns and efficient water use. It's typically installed on the mainline or at the start of a zone so each head operates within its expected pressure range (often around 30–50 psi for many common heads, with some specialty heads needing different ranges). The other components don't adjust pressure: an irrigation controller only manages timing and sequencing, a backflow preventer protects against contamination, and a filter cleans debris. They serve important roles, but not to reduce pressure to sprinkler heads.

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://wetsirrigationtech.examzify.com

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