

# Wisconsin 720-Hour Academy Phase I Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

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# Table of Contents

<b>Copyright</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Table of Contents</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>How to Use This Guide</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Questions</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Answers</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Explanations</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Next Steps</b> .....	<b>16</b>

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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. Which of the following is NOT one of the mandatory policies required by Wisconsin State law?**
  - A. Domestic Abuse policy**
  - B. Use of Force policy**
  - C. Freedom of Speech policy**
  - D. Strip Searches policy**
  
- 2. What is the first step in conducting an effective interview?**
  - A. Engage and explain**
  - B. Closure**
  - C. Prep and planning**
  - D. Evaluation**
  
- 3. What does the greater danger exception entail?**
  - A. The possibility of shooting an innocent person is negligible**
  - B. Consequences of not stopping the threat must be less severe than the action taken**
  - C. It allows for lethal force when in a crowded area**
  - D. A greater risk must be determined by senior officers only**
  
- 4. What is the minimum time an individual arrested for OWI must be held?**
  - A. 8 hours**
  - B. 10 hours**
  - C. 12 hours**
  - D. 24 hours**
  
- 5. What does the 'Analyze' step in the SARA model involve?**
  - A. Defining the problem**
  - B. Implementing solutions**
  - C. Understanding conditions and root causes**
  - D. Gathering community input**

**6. Who is referred to as the respondent in a court appeal case?**

- A. Person filing the appeal**
- B. Key witness**
- C. Opposing party**
- D. Legal representative**

**7. Closed-ended questions should be used when:**

- A. Gathering comprehensive information**
- B. The witness provides a clear response**
- C. The witness fails to give complete answers**
- D. There is too much information to process**

**8. What is the 'danger zone' distance for unarmed situations?**

- A. 5 feet**
- B. 10 feet**
- C. 15 feet**
- D. 20 feet**

**9. What are the three stances in law enforcement dialogue?**

- A. Passive, Assertive, Aggressive**
- B. Open, Ready, Defensive**
- C. Casual, Formal, Intimidating**
- D. Calm, Compromising, Dominating**

**10. Under which circumstances can a suspect's counsel be bypassed according to constitutional protocol?**

- A. If they are uncharged and request to speak**
- B. If a serious crime is involved**
- C. If they voluntarily waive the right**
- D. It cannot be bypassed**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which of the following is NOT one of the mandatory policies required by Wisconsin State law?**

- A. Domestic Abuse policy**
- B. Use of Force policy**
- C. Freedom of Speech policy**
- D. Strip Searches policy**

The correct answer identifies the Freedom of Speech policy as not being one of the mandatory policies required by Wisconsin State law. In the context of law enforcement agencies, certain policies are legislated to ensure accountability, safety, and adherence to best practices. Mandatory policies, such as the Domestic Abuse policy, Use of Force policy, and Strip Searches policy, directly relate to the conduct of law enforcement officers and their interactions with the community. These policies are implemented to guide officers in critical situations, maintain the safety and rights of all involved, and set standards for appropriate behavior. Conversely, a Freedom of Speech policy is generally not mandated in the same way, as it relates more to constitutional rights than specific operational procedures within law enforcement agencies. While departments may have guidelines regarding officers' speech, especially as it pertains to official duties or public representation, these are not typically codified as mandatory policies under state law in the same way as the others mentioned. Thus, it stands apart from the list of required policies.

**2. What is the first step in conducting an effective interview?**

- A. Engage and explain**
- B. Closure**
- C. Prep and planning**
- D. Evaluation**

The first step in conducting an effective interview is preparation and planning. This stage is crucial as it lays the groundwork for the entire interview process. By thoroughly preparing, an interviewer can set clear objectives, understand the purpose of the interview, decide on the types of questions to ask, and familiarize themselves with the background information relevant to the individuals being interviewed. Adequate preparation helps the interviewer create a structured environment that facilitates a productive dialogue. It also allows for the identification of potential challenges and the development of strategies to address them, leading to a smoother interaction. This proactive approach sets the stage for all subsequent steps, including engaging with the interviewee and analyzing the gathered information effectively.

### 3. What does the greater danger exception entail?

- A. The possibility of shooting an innocent person is negligible
- B. Consequences of not stopping the threat must be less severe than the action taken**
- C. It allows for lethal force when in a crowded area
- D. A greater risk must be determined by senior officers only

The greater danger exception refers to a principle in law enforcement that allows officers to take necessary actions, including the use of lethal force, under specific circumstances where the consequences of inaction would result in greater harm than the action taken. This principle emphasizes a critical assessment of the situation, where the potential dangers posed by a suspect or an imminent threat must be weighed against the severity of the response, which could include the use of lethal force. In essence, if a law enforcement officer determines that not intervening would lead to significant and immediate danger to innocent lives or public safety, the greater danger exception permits them to act in a way that appropriately mitigates that risk, even if the action taken is severe. This decision-making process involves evaluating the potential outcomes and ensuring that the response is justified given the context of the situation. Other options present different scenarios or limitations that do not accurately reflect the essence of the greater danger exception. The principle is rooted in the need for officers to assess situations dynamically, balancing the safety of the public against the actions they might need to take.

### 4. What is the minimum time an individual arrested for OWI must be held?

- A. 8 hours
- B. 10 hours
- C. 12 hours**
- D. 24 hours

The correct choice indicates that the minimum time an individual arrested for Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) must be held is 12 hours. This requirement is in place to ensure that the individual has had sufficient time to become sober before being released. Holding individuals for this duration helps prevent the potential dangers associated with allowing someone who is still intoxicated to leave the facility, thereby adhering to public safety measures. The 12-hour rule also provides law enforcement with the necessary time to conduct further evaluations and determine the appropriate course of action regarding charges and possible further legal processes. This timeframe is established by state law to standardize the handling of OWI arrests and emphasize the seriousness of impaired driving.

## 5. What does the 'Analyze' step in the SARA model involve?

- A. Defining the problem**
- B. Implementing solutions**
- C. Understanding conditions and root causes**
- D. Gathering community input**

The 'Analyze' step in the SARA model is pivotal because it focuses on understanding the underlying conditions and root causes associated with a problem. This step goes beyond simply defining the problem; it delves into examining factors such as why the problem exists, what contributes to its persistence, and who may be affected. Through this analytical approach, practitioners can identify patterns, trends, and relationships that are crucial for developing effective and targeted solutions. Understanding these root causes is essential for reaching sustainable outcomes, as it helps ensure that any solutions implemented in later stages of the model address not just the symptoms but also the core issues underlying the problem. By investing time in the analysis, practitioners can avoid superficial fixes and instead create strategies that will lead to long-term improvements in the community affected by the issue at hand. This focus on root causes is what ultimately positions the 'Analyze' step as a foundational element in the SARA model, ensuring a well-informed approach to problem-solving.

## 6. Who is referred to as the respondent in a court appeal case?

- A. Person filing the appeal**
- B. Key witness**
- C. Opposing party**
- D. Legal representative**

In a court appeal case, the term "respondent" refers specifically to the opposing party in the appeal. This is the individual or entity that responds to the appeal brought forth by the appellant, who is the party that filed the appeal. The respondent essentially defends against the allegations made by the appellant and seeks to uphold the original court's decision. Understanding this terminology is important as it helps clarify the roles of different parties involved in appellate proceedings. The respondent's role is crucial in ensuring that the appellate court has the necessary information and context to make a fair decision regarding the appeal. This dynamic reflects the adversarial nature of the legal system, where each party has the opportunity to present their arguments and evidence to support their positions. The other options do not accurately fit the definition of "respondent." For instance, the person filing the appeal is known as the appellant. A key witness provides testimony relevant to the case, while a legal representative assists clients in navigating the legal process but is not referred to as the respondent in this context.

## 7. Closed-ended questions should be used when:

- A. Gathering comprehensive information
- B. The witness provides a clear response
- C. The witness fails to give complete answers**
- D. There is too much information to process

Closed-ended questions are specifically designed to elicit short, direct responses, often limited to a simple "yes" or "no" or a specific piece of information. This makes them ideal for situations where clarity and conciseness are paramount. When a witness is not providing complete answers or is giving vague, ambiguous responses, closed-ended questions can help steer the conversation towards more clear and definitive information. By asking these questions, the interrogator can cut through the uncertainty and obtain specific details that may be vital to an investigation or understanding a situation. In contrast, when gathering comprehensive information, open-ended questions encourage detailed responses, allowing the witness to explain their thoughts and experiences more fully, which would not be suitable for closed-ended questioning. The other options, which focus on clear responses or information overload, don't align with the primary utility of closed-ended questions, which is to clarify and extract concrete details when necessary.

## 8. What is the 'danger zone' distance for unarmed situations?

- A. 5 feet
- B. 10 feet**
- C. 15 feet
- D. 20 feet

The 'danger zone' distance for unarmed situations is typically recognized as 10 feet. This distance is critical in self-defense and law enforcement training, as it represents a range where an unarmed assailant can reach an officer or individual before they can effectively respond with defensive tactics or deescalation techniques. Within this zone, the potential for physical confrontation increases significantly, which is why awareness and appropriate precautions are essential. In a training context, understanding this distance allows individuals to maintain a safer standoff, providing crucial time to assess the scenario and take necessary action to protect themselves. Recognizing the 'danger zone' assists in developing situational awareness, emphasizing the importance of maintaining an adequate distance from potential threats to enhance safety in various situations.

## 9. What are the three stances in law enforcement dialogue?

- A. Passive, Assertive, Aggressive**
- B. Open, Ready, Defensive**
- C. Casual, Formal, Intimidating**
- D. Calm, Compromising, Dominating**

The three stances in law enforcement dialogue typically refer to the approaches that officers can take when communicating in various situations. The correct answer highlights the "Open, Ready, Defensive" stances which are crucial in law enforcement interactions. The "Open" stance involves a welcoming demeanor, actively engaging with others in a manner that promotes trust and effective communication. It encourages a dialogue where individuals feel comfortable expressing their concerns or cooperating with law enforcement. The "Ready" stance reflects a preparedness to respond to situations as they develop. It indicates that the officer is attentive and alert but not overly aggressive, allowing for a balance between professionalism and readiness to take appropriate action if necessary. The "Defensive" stance is important as it shows an officer's awareness of potential threats and a proactive approach to ensuring safety. It involves maintaining a posture that protects oneself but still allows for dialogue. This stance is crucial when de-escalating potentially volatile situations while remaining vigilant. Understanding these stances helps law enforcement officers navigate complex interactions effectively, ensuring that they can communicate clearly and effectively while also maintaining safety for themselves and the community.

## 10. Under which circumstances can a suspect's counsel be bypassed according to constitutional protocol?

- A. If they are uncharged and request to speak**
- B. If a serious crime is involved**
- C. If they voluntarily waive the right**
- D. It cannot be bypassed**

A suspect's counsel can be bypassed when they voluntarily waive their right to an attorney. This means that if a suspect explicitly decides to forgo their right to legal representation and agrees to speak with law enforcement, any statements made during that interaction could potentially be used against them. The importance of this waiver lies in the understanding that the right to counsel is a constitutional protection; however, it is ultimately the individual's choice to invoke or waive that right. This process is not merely a formality; law enforcement must ensure that the suspect comprehends the implications of waiving their right to counsel. This includes understanding that they are entitled to legal advice and that any admissions or confessions might have significant legal consequences. Therefore, a voluntary waiver must be informed and made without coercion. The other situations mentioned do not provide a valid basis for bypassing counsel. For example, simply being uncharged does not negate the right to an attorney, nor does the involvement of a serious crime. Maintaining the right to counsel is a critical element of ensuring fair legal representation and protecting the rights of individuals within the justice system.

# 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://wi720hracademyphase1.examzify.com>**

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

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