

CPCS TECHNICAL TEST THEORY REVISION GUIDE

PRACTICAL REVISION TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE KNOWLEDGE, CONFIDENCE AND TEST PERFORMANCE

Everything you need to know about preparing for a CPCS Technical Test and developing effective revision habits that improve knowledge retention, confidence and examination performance.



UNDERSTANDING THE CPCS TECHNICAL TEST

HOW ARE CPCS THEORY QUESTIONS SELECTED?

For most CPCS categories, the Technical Test consists of a reduced number of questions selected from the CPCS question bank.

The questions used during your Technical Test are generated on the morning of the test from the approved CPCS question bank.

This means candidates should not focus on memorising specific questions or answers. Instead, they should develop a broad understanding of the full range of knowledge required for their category.

Successful candidates understand the subject matter rather than relying on remembering individual answers.

WHY IS REVISION IMPORTANT?

Although revision materials provide excellent preparation, there is no guarantee that specific questions will appear during your Technical Test.

The purpose of revision is to build competence and understanding across the entire syllabus so that candidates can answer questions confidently regardless of which questions are selected.

IMPORTANT: CPCS A61 APPOINTED PERSON

The CPCS A61 Appointed Person Technical Test operates differently from most other CPCS categories.

KEY DIFFERENCES

- ✓ The test is completed in a written format.
- ✓ All questions contained within the CPCS question bank are included.
- ✓ Questions are generated on the morning of the test.
- ✓ The order of questions will vary from revision materials and previous test papers.

Because all questions may be presented, candidates should ensure they have a thorough understanding of the complete syllabus and not rely on learning questions in a particular sequence.

RELO REVISION TIP

Focus on understanding:

- Legislation
- Responsibilities
- Lift Planning
- Risk Assessment
- Method Statements
- Crane Selection
- Ground Conditions
- Load Assessment
- Team Responsibilities

Understanding these topics will help candidates answer questions correctly regardless of how they are presented during the Technical Test.

WHY CANDIDATES FAIL THEORY TESTS

- ✗ **Poor Preparation**
Leaving revision until the last minute.
- ✗ **Memorising Answers**
Learning answers without understanding the subject.
- ✗ **Lack of Practice**
Not testing knowledge regularly.
- ✗ **Information Overload**
Trying to learn too much at once.
- ✗ **Poor Time Management**
No structured revision plan.

THE RELO REVISION METHOD

1. UNDERSTAND BEFORE MEMORISING



Focus on understanding:

- Why procedures exist
- Why legislation matters
- Why safety controls are required

Candidates who understand the principles behind the questions are more likely to recall information correctly during the test.

2. BREAK REVISION INTO SUBJECTS



HEALTH & SAFETY

- PPE
- Site Safety
- Risk Assessment
- Safe Systems of Work

EQUIPMENT KNOWLEDGE

- Controls
- Components
- Inspections
- Limitations

LIFTING OPERATIONS

- Planning
- Communication
- Responsibilities
- Teamwork

LEGISLATION

- LOLER
- PUWER
- Working at Height
- BS7121 Principles

3. ACTIVE RECALL TECHNIQUE



- 1 Read a topic.
- 2 Close your notes.
- 3 Write down everything you remember.
- 4 Compare against the original material.
- 5 Repeat.

This strengthens long-term memory and improves recall under test conditions.

4. 30-10-5 REVISION METHOD



30 MINUTES LEARNING

Study one topic.

10 MINUTES TESTING

Attempt questions without notes.

5 MINUTES REVIEWING

Review mistakes and reinforce learning.

5. RECORD AND REPLAY METHOD

- 1 Record yourself reading a CPCS question.
- 2 Pause for approximately 5 seconds.
- 3 Read the answer aloud.
- 4 Continue through a series of questions.
- 5 Listen back during travel, exercise or downtime.
- 6 Try to answer before the recorded answer is played.

BENEFITS

- ✓ Improves recall speed
- ✓ Reinforces memory
- ✓ Supports auditory learners
- ✓ Allows revision away from books
- ✓ Turns travelling time into productive revision time



RELO KNOWLEDGE HUB

FREE CPCS REVISION RESOURCES

- ✓ Category Specific RELO Test Information Packs
- ✓ Category Specific Pre-Course RELO Learning Packs
- ✓ Industry Knowledge Guides
- ✓ CPCS Support Resources



<https://relo-group.com/training/knowledge-hub>

RELO LEARNING TABLETS



Complimentary RELO Learning Tablets are currently provided to candidates attending the CPCS A61 Appointed Person Course, giving access to course materials and revision resources before, during and after training.

COMMON REVISION MISTAKES

- ✗ Cramming the night before
- ✗ Memorising answers only
- ✗ Ignoring weaker subjects
- ✗ Revising without breaks
- ✗ Not attempting practice questions
- ✗ Studying passively

BEST PRACTICE REVISION TIPS

- ✓ Start early
- ✓ Revise little and often
- ✓ Use practice questions
- ✓ Focus on weaker areas
- ✓ Take regular breaks
- ✓ Ask instructors for guidance
- ✓ Maintain a positive mindset

CPCS TEST SUCCESS FORMULA



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much revision should I do?

Short regular sessions are generally more effective than long intensive sessions.

Should I memorise answers?

No. Understanding the subject matter is far more effective.

Are practice questions useful?

Yes. They reinforce learning and identify weak areas.

When should I start revising?

Ideally several weeks before your test date.

What if I struggle with revision?

Use structured revision materials and seek support from your instructor.



CONCLUSION

Passing a CPCS Technical Test is not about memorising hundreds of answers. It is about understanding safe working practices, equipment operation and industry best practice. By using structured revision techniques and quality learning resources, candidates can improve confidence, retain knowledge more effectively and maximise their chances of success on test day.