

A Level Law Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	6
Answers	9
Explanations	11
Next Steps	17

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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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.

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.

7. Use Other Tools

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!

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Questions

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- 1. Which of the following best describes extrinsic aids?**
 - A. Materials within the statute itself**
 - B. Judicial opinions on case law**
 - C. Sources outside the statute to aid interpretation**
 - D. Case law from lower courts**

- 2. What does factual causation establish in legal terms?**
 - A. D's actions must be the sole cause of harm**
 - B. Harm would not have occurred but for D's actions**
 - C. It requires evidence of intent to cause harm**
 - D. D must be proven innocent until proven guilty**

- 3. In legal terms, when is a precedent considered 'wrong' by a higher court?**
 - A. When the law has changed**
 - B. When its application leads to unjust results**
 - C. When it is no longer relevant**
 - D. When it contradicts a previous ruling**

- 4. Which case involved a victim refusing a blood transfusion leading to a fatality?**
 - A. Blaue**
 - B. Jordan**
 - C. Cheshire**
 - D. Smith**

- 5. What was the legal outcome in Smith v Hughes regarding soliciting laws?**
 - A. Conviction was based strictly on location**
 - B. Conviction upheld despite not being literally in the street**
 - C. Acquitted due to lack of physical presence**
 - D. Law was deemed too complex to interpret correctly**

6. Under what circumstances can the prosecution appeal against a jury acquittal?

- A. When new evidence arises after the trial**
- B. When the acquittal results from jury tampering**
- C. When an error was made by the defense attorney**
- D. When the jury took too long to deliberate**

7. What must magistrates determine in a guilty plea for an either way offence?

- A. Whether the defendant should be released**
- B. Whether their sentencing powers are adequate**
- C. If the case should be dismissed completely**
- D. If the prosecution has valid evidence**

8. What are intrinsic aids primarily used for?

- A. To provide external guidance on legal matters**
- B. To clarify the meaning of statutes**
- C. To offer examples of case law**
- D. To summarize legal principles**

9. Which statement is true regarding the powers of the Legal Services Ombudsman?

- A. It can impose prison sentences on legal professionals.**
- B. It can order legal professionals to apologize to clients.**
- C. It has the authority to license legal practitioners.**
- D. It supervises the training of legal staff.**

10. What types of cases must be dealt with by Magistrates?

- A. Cases involving severe violent crimes**
- B. Cases involving summary offences**
- C. Cases with potential life imprisonment**
- D. Cases that result in significant fines**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following best describes extrinsic aids?

- A. Materials within the statute itself
- B. Judicial opinions on case law
- C. Sources outside the statute to aid interpretation**
- D. Case law from lower courts

Extrinsic aids refer to materials that exist outside of the actual statute but are used to assist in the interpretation of that statute. These aids can include items such as legislative history, commentaries, law reports, and other relevant documents or materials that provide context or clarification regarding the intent and application of the law. This understanding is crucial for legal practitioners who need to interpret statutes accurately, especially when the wording is ambiguous or unclear. In contrast, materials within the statute itself do not qualify as extrinsic aids since they are part of the primary legislation. Judicial opinions on case law and case law from lower courts represent interpretations and applications made by the judiciary, but they do not serve the purpose of aiding the interpretation of the statute directly as extrinsic aids do. Therefore, the correct answer highlights the significance of understanding and utilizing external resources to enhance the clarity and application of legal statutes.

2. What does factual causation establish in legal terms?

- A. D's actions must be the sole cause of harm
- B. Harm would not have occurred but for D's actions**
- C. It requires evidence of intent to cause harm
- D. D must be proven innocent until proven guilty

Factual causation is established by demonstrating that the harm would not have occurred "but for" the actions of the defendant. This principle is a fundamental element in tort law, particularly in negligence cases, where the plaintiff needs to show that the defendant's conduct is directly linked to the damage suffered. In other words, if the defendant had not acted in a certain way, the injury would not have happened. This test focuses on the direct cause-and-effect relationship between the defendant's actions and the resulting harm, ensuring that there is a clear connection necessary to hold the defendant liable. The other choices do not accurately reflect the concept of factual causation. The idea that the defendant's actions must be the sole cause of harm misinterprets the notion of causation since multiple factors can contribute to harm. The requirement of intent to cause harm pertains to different areas of law, such as intentional torts, rather than factual causation. Lastly, the presumption of innocence until proven guilty is an important principle in criminal law, not directly related to the factual causation discussed in tort law contexts.

3. In legal terms, when is a precedent considered 'wrong' by a higher court?

- A. When the law has changed**
- B. When its application leads to unjust results**
- C. When it is no longer relevant**
- D. When it contradicts a previous ruling**

A precedent is considered 'wrong' by a higher court when the law has changed. This occurs when there are changes either through new legislation or when the interpretation of existing laws is updated by the higher court itself. Legal principles and precedents are meant to adapt to the evolving legal landscape, ensuring that the law reflects current values and social norms. For instance, if a higher court issues a ruling that reinterprets or alters the legal framework, a previous decision may be deemed incorrect going forward. This might also include instances where significant societal changes or views on policy impact the applicability of a prior legal precedent. Though other options touch on relevant aspects—like unjust results or contradictions—these do not encompass the fundamental basis for a legal precedent being considered 'wrong' according to the hierarchy and evolution of law. Changes in law through statutes or higher court rulings directly affect the validity of past rulings, whereas the other factors often relate more to the outcomes of the decisions rather than their legal status per se.

4. Which case involved a victim refusing a blood transfusion leading to a fatality?

- A. Blaue**
- B. Jordan**
- C. Cheshire**
- D. Smith**

The case that involved a victim refusing a blood transfusion leading to a fatality is indeed Blaue. In Blaue, the court dealt with a situation where the victim, a Jehovah's Witness, refused a blood transfusion necessary for her survival due to her religious beliefs. The case raised important issues about the nature of causation and the responsibilities of victims in criminal law. In this case, the facts showed that the victim was stabbed by the defendant, and although the injuries were serious, her refusal of the blood transfusion was a pivotal factor in the outcome. The judge ruled that the defendant was still liable for the death, as the law recognizes that the defendant must take the victim as they find them, including their pre-existing beliefs and choices. This case illustrates the principle that a defendant can be held criminally responsible for a death that is linked to their actions, even if the victim's refusal of treatment contributed to the result. Thus, Blaue is an important case in establishing the legal principles surrounding causation and the treatment of victim autonomy in criminal law.

5. What was the legal outcome in Smith v Hughes regarding soliciting laws?

- A. Conviction was based strictly on location
- B. Conviction upheld despite not being literally in the street**
- C. Acquitted due to lack of physical presence
- D. Law was deemed too complex to interpret correctly

In Smith v Hughes, the case revolved around the interpretation of soliciting laws, specifically concerning the activities of prostitutes. The central issue was whether the defendants could be convicted under the soliciting statute even if they were not physically located on the street but were soliciting from a private area. The court ultimately upheld the conviction by affirming that the law was designed to protect the public from the nuisance of prostitution, regardless of whether the solicitation took place literally on the street. The interpretation focused on the intention of the law rather than the stringent physical location of the activity. The reasoning hinged on the idea that soliciting could still be perceived as a public nuisance, thereby justifying the application of the law even when the solicitation was not directly occurring in a public space. This approach underlined the intention behind the legislation and showcased how the courts could interpret laws to align with societal purposes rather than being limited to a literal interpretation, leading to the correct identification of the outcome as maintaining the conviction despite the lack of a physical presence on the street.

6. Under what circumstances can the prosecution appeal against a jury acquittal?

- A. When new evidence arises after the trial
- B. When the acquittal results from jury tampering**
- C. When an error was made by the defense attorney
- D. When the jury took too long to deliberate

The prosecution can appeal against a jury acquittal when the acquittal results from jury tampering because this undermines the integrity of the trial process and the justice system as a whole. Jury tampering directly impacts the validity of the verdict; if it can be shown that external influences affected the jury's decision-making process, the acquittal may not reflect a fair and impartial evaluation of the case. This scenario raises serious concerns about the administration of justice, and the legal system allows for an appeal in such circumstances to rectify the damage done by improper influences. The other options do not establish sufficient grounds for an appeal against a jury acquittal. New evidence following a trial may not suffice, as the principle of double jeopardy protects individuals from being tried again for the same crime after an acquittal. Similarly, an error made by a defense attorney, while potentially impactful during the trial, typically does not provide grounds for prosecution to appeal an acquittal, as the prosecution must prove that the defendant is guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, irrespective of the defense's performance. Lastly, the duration of jury deliberation does not inherently affect the validity of the verdict unless it can be shown that unreasonable delays resulted in juror coercion or similar issues.

7. What must magistrates determine in a guilty plea for an either way offence?

- A. Whether the defendant should be released
- B. Whether their sentencing powers are adequate**
- C. If the case should be dismissed completely
- D. If the prosecution has valid evidence

In the context of a guilty plea for an either way offence, magistrates primarily focus on whether their sentencing powers are adequate. When a defendant pleads guilty to an either way offence, which can be tried either in a magistrates' court or the Crown Court, magistrates must assess if they have the authority to impose an appropriate sentence based on the severity of the crime and the specifics of the case. If they believe that the implications of the offence might require a greater sentence than they can lawfully impose, they may need to send the case to the Crown Court for sentencing. This aspect of the process is critical because magistrates have defined limits on the sentences they can impose, and certain offences may require a level of punishment that is beyond their jurisdiction. Thus, ensuring that they can adequately deal with the case's nuances and the context of the offence is essential for justice to be served. Understanding this framework helps clarify why the determination concerning their sentencing authority is central in cases of guilty pleas to either way offences.

8. What are intrinsic aids primarily used for?

- A. To provide external guidance on legal matters
- B. To clarify the meaning of statutes**
- C. To offer examples of case law
- D. To summarize legal principles

Intrinsic aids are primarily utilized to clarify the meaning of statutes. These aids refer to the materials contained within the statute itself that can help interpret its meaning or intention. This includes aspects such as the title, preamble, section headings, and any footnotes or explanatory notes provided in the statute. By analyzing these components, legal professionals can gain insights into the legislative intent and the context in which the law was created, which assists in applying the statute appropriately. The other options don't accurately reflect the purpose of intrinsic aids. External guidance, case law examples, or summaries of legal principles may provide valuable context or information, but they do not originate from within the text of the statute itself and don't serve the specific role of intrinsic aids in statutory interpretation.

9. Which statement is true regarding the powers of the Legal Services Ombudsman?

- A. It can impose prison sentences on legal professionals.
- B. It can order legal professionals to apologize to clients.**
- C. It has the authority to license legal practitioners.
- D. It supervises the training of legal staff.

The statement that the Legal Services Ombudsman can order legal professionals to apologize to clients is correct because one of the Ombudsman's roles is to address complaints from the public regarding legal services. While the Ombudsman does not have the power to impose legal penalties or prison sentences, it can recommend that legal professionals issue apologies to clients as part of resolving complaints about unsatisfactory service or conduct. This mechanism is designed to provide recourse for clients and encourage accountability in the legal profession. The other statements reflect functions beyond the Ombudsman's authority: it cannot impose prison sentences, license practitioners, or supervise training. Licensing is typically managed by regulatory bodies, while training oversight falls under professional education and training institutions.

10. What types of cases must be dealt with by Magistrates?

- A. Cases involving severe violent crimes
- B. Cases involving summary offences**
- C. Cases with potential life imprisonment
- D. Cases that result in significant fines

Magistrates primarily handle summary offences, which are less severe criminal cases that can be dealt with quickly and efficiently in a lower court setting. Summary offences typically include minor crimes such as theft, criminal damage, and minor assaults. These cases do not carry the possibility of imprisonment for more than six months, ensuring they are managed at the Magistrates' Court rather than the higher Crown Court, which handles more serious offences. Other types of cases, such as those involving severe violent crimes or potential life imprisonment, would be outside the jurisdiction of Magistrates and instead be directed to the Crown Court. Additionally, while significant fines can be imposed for various offences, they are not exclusive to the jurisdiction of Magistrates, as both Magistrates' and higher courts can impose fines depending on the severity of the case. Overall, the focus of Magistrates is on summary offences, making this the correct answer.

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://a-level-law.examzify.com>

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

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