AALAS Laboratory Animal Technologist (LATG) 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. **Who regulates the importation of animals such as dogs, cats, and turtles?**

   A. CDC

   B. FDA

   C. PHS

   D. EPA

2. **Planning your work by prioritizing activities into high, medium, and low levels is a function of which management tool?**

   A. Material Management

   B. Personnel Management

   C. Time Management

   D. Expense Management

3. **The statement 'Animals must always be administered the drug dosage recommended by the manufacturer for the animal species to be treated' is true.**

   A. True

   B. False

   C. Not sure

   D. Depends on the drug

4. **What is the main purpose of organizing in facility management?**

   A. To create a structure for coordinating resources to reach goals.

   B. To ensure staff satisfaction.

   C. To manage finances of the facility.

   D. To develop goals and objectives.

5. **What are the two characteristics of medical waste that are used to determine if the waste material is considered infectious?**

   A. Virulence and quantity

   B. Availability of antidotes and immunizations

   C. Growth in cell culture and genomic profile

   D. Animal source and transmissibility

6. Rabbits rid themselves of gastric trichobezoars by vomiting.

A. True

B. False

C. They are unable to vomit but pass them in feces

D. They are treated with laxatives

7. Dose rates are generally expressed as:

A. mg/mL

B. g/L

C. mg/g

D. mg/kg

8. What test refers to the percentage of blood occupied by cells?

A. Platelet count

B. Differential

C. CBC

D. Packed cell volume

9. Which of the following diseases is zoonotic?

A. Parvovirus

B. Tetanus

C. Tuberculosis

D. Rabies

10. Which molecule carries genetic information across the nuclear membrane to direct protein assembly?

A. mRNA

B. DNA

C. Protein

D. Lipids

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Who regulates the importation of animals such as dogs, cats, and turtles?

A. CDC

B. FDA

C. PHS

D. EPA

Public health protection through preventing disease introduction guides import regulations for animals. The agency that regulates the importation of dogs, cats, and turtles is the CDC. It has authority to restrict or require documentation for bringing animals into the U.S. to prevent the entry and spread of communicable diseases, such as rabies in dogs and cats and Salmonella concerns in reptiles like turtles. The focus is on safeguarding people and animals from zoonotic threats at the point of entry. Other agencies don't regulate importation in this broad public-health sense. The FDA oversees animal drugs and feeds, PHS is the Public Health Service, and the EPA handles environmental and chemical regulations.

2. Planning your work by prioritizing activities into high, medium, and low levels is a function of which management tool?

A. Material Management

B. Personnel Management

C. Time Management

D. Expense Management

Time management is the concept being tested. When you plan your work by labeling activities as high, medium, or low priority, you're organizing tasks by urgency and importance to allocate your time effectively. This prioritization helps ensure that critical duties—like tasks with safety, welfare, or compliance implications—receive attention first, deadlines are met, and overall productivity improves because time isn't wasted on lower-priority activities. Other management areas focus on different resources: material management handles supplies and inventory, personnel management deals with staffing and scheduling, and expense management centers on budgeting and costs. The act of prioritizing tasks by level of importance and urgency is a clear application of managing how you spend your time.

3. The statement 'Animals must always be administered the drug dosage recommended by the manufacturer for the animal species to be treated' is true.

A. True

B. False

C. Not sure

D. Depends on the drug

Dosing is individualized for each animal and situation. The manufacturer's recommended dose is a guideline and starting point, not an absolute rule. Different factors can change how a drug behaves in an animal, so the actual dose often needs adjustment. These factors include the animal's species, weight, age, health status, pregnancy or lactation, and the route of administration, all of which affect absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion. In research and clinical settings, some uses are off-label or require protocol-based justification and oversight. Because metabolism and therapeutic needs vary, you don't automatically administer the exact manufacturer dose to every animal. This is why the statement is false. For example, a drug with a narrow therapeutic index can cause toxicity or fail to be effective with small dose differences, and different species can metabolize the same drug very differently.

4. What is the main purpose of organizing in facility management?

A. To create a structure for coordinating resources to reach goals.

B. To ensure staff satisfaction.

C. To manage finances of the facility.

D. To develop goals and objectives.

Organizing in facility management is about creating a structure that coordinates resources to achieve goals. It involves defining roles and responsibilities, establishing lines of authority and communication, and arranging people, equipment, space, and information so work can be carried out smoothly. When tasks and resources are organized, everyone knows who is responsible for what, how activities fit together, and how decisions get made, which helps turn plans into action and move the facility toward its objectives. While setting goals and managing finances are important, organizing provides the framework that connects those goals to the actual, coordinated effort across the operation.

5. What are the two characteristics of medical waste that are used to determine if the waste material is considered infectious?

A. Virulence and quantity

B. Availability of antidotes and immunizations

C. Growth in cell culture and genomic profile

D. Animal source and transmissibility

The risk that medical waste poses as infectious hinges on whether viable pathogens capable of causing disease are present. The two factors that drive that risk are a pathogen's virulence—how capable it is of causing illness—and the amount of the organism present, i.e., the infectious dose. If the waste contains a highly virulent agent and enough organisms, the potential to cause infection is high, so it's classified as infectious and must be handled with proper containment. If the organisms are inactivated or present in very small numbers, the infection risk is much lower, even if a pathogen type is present. Other ideas like antidotes or immunizations, growth in culture, genomic profile, animal origin, or general transmissibility don't by themselves determine whether waste is infectious.

6. Rabbits rid themselves of gastric trichobezoars by vomiting.

A. True

B. False

C. They are unable to vomit but pass them in feces

D. They are treated with laxatives

Rabbits do not vomit. Their anatomy and physiology prevent a vomiting reflex, so contents in the stomach, including hairballs (gastric trichobezoars), cannot be expelled by vomiting. Hair that rabbits ingest during grooming can accumulate in the stomach and may contribute to GI stasis or obstruction if not managed, requiring supportive care to promote GI motility or, in some cases, veterinary intervention. Focus in care is on preventing hair ingestion with plenty of roughage and grooming, keeping the gut moving with proper hydration and prokinetic support as advised by a veterinarian. Laxatives are not a standard or reliable treatment for a gastric hairball and can be unsafe.

7. Dose rates are generally expressed as:

A. mg/mL

B. g/L

C. mg/g

D. mg/kg

Dosing is standardized by body weight. Expressing dose rate as milligrams per kilogram of body weight (mg/kg) ties the amount of drug to how large the animal is, so each animal receives a similar level of exposure regardless of size. This makes comparisons across animals and studies meaningful and ensures consistent pharmacologic effect. mg/kg is preferred because it directly represents the actual amount delivered relative to the animal, whether you're giving a single dose or dosing per day. Other expressions describe the concentration in the dosing solution (mg/mL or g/L) or are not as directly tied to the animal's size (mg/g is just a similar idea but not the standard). To use mg/kg, you multiply the dose by the animal's weight to find the total milligrams to administer, and you can then convert to volume based on the solution's concentration.

8. What test refers to the percentage of blood occupied by cells?

A. Platelet count

B. Differential

C. CBC

D. Packed cell volume

The test that refers to the percentage of blood occupied by cells is packed cell volume. This value, also called hematocrit, measures the cellular portion of blood (primarily red blood cells) as a percentage of the total blood volume. It's determined by separating the plasma from the cells, usually by centrifugation, so the cells settle at the bottom and the proportion of the tube they occupy is read as the PCV. This parameter is essential for assessing anemia, dehydration, and overall blood cell mass. Other options describe different components (platelets, white blood cell types, or a broader blood count) and do not specifically measure the cellular fraction.

9. Which of the following diseases is zoonotic?

A. Parvovirus

B. Tetanus

C. Tuberculosis

D. Rabies

Zoonotic means a disease that can be transmitted from animals to humans. Rabies is the classic example, since it can be passed to people through bites or contact with the saliva or nervous tissue of an infected animal, making it a direct and well-known animal-to-human disease. In practice, preventing exposure involves vaccinating at-risk animals, avoiding contact with wild or stray animals, and providing prompt post-exposure treatment for people who might be exposed. The other options don't fit as clearly as zoonoses in typical settings. Tetanus arises from environmental spores and isn't spread from animals. Parvovirus tends to affect specific animal hosts and isn't generally transmitted to humans. Tuberculosis can involve humans and animals in some contexts, but rabies is the most straightforward and widely recognized example of a zoonotic disease.

10. Which molecule carries genetic information across the nuclear membrane to direct protein assembly?

A. mRNA

B. DNA

C. Protein

D. Lipids

Genetic information flows from DNA to protein through RNA, with messenger RNA serving as the courier that exits the nucleus and directs protein assembly. Messenger RNA is made in the nucleus as a copy of the gene (transcription) and then travels through nuclear pores into the cytoplasm, where ribosomes read its codons and synthesize the corresponding polypeptide. DNA sits inside the nucleus and does not cross the nuclear membrane, and proteins or lipids do not carry the genetic code between compartments. Therefore, the messenger RNA is the molecule that carries genetic information across the nuclear membrane to direct protein synthesis.

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://aalaslatg.examzify.com

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