

# Alabama Supervisory Landscape Professional (SLP) 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**

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- 1. What type of license is required for jobs exceeding \$50,000?**
  - A. State Licensed Landscape Architect's license**
  - B. State Licensed General Contractor's license**
  - C. State Licensed Arborist's license**
  - D. State Licensed Horticulturist's license**
- 2. What is the role of a landscape architect?**
  - A. To maintain gardens after installation**
  - B. To design outdoor spaces with aesthetics, functionality, and environmental concerns in mind**
  - C. To focus solely on plant selection**
  - D. To oversee the installation of hardscape features**
- 3. Which type of plants are primarily featured in xeriscaping?**
  - A. Drought-tolerant plants**
  - B. Water-loving plants**
  - C. Seasonal flowering plants**
  - D. Plants that thrive in shady conditions**
- 4. Which cutting technique is particularly important for preventing tearing of the bark during pruning?**
  - A. Back cut**
  - B. Through cut**
  - C. 3 cut method**
  - D. Angle cut**
- 5. How can landscape professionals minimize chemical exposure to workers?**
  - A. By using personal protective equipment (PPE) and adhering to label instructions**
  - B. By avoiding the use of all chemicals**
  - C. By limiting work hours to reduce exposure**
  - D. By providing additional training on chemical use**

**6. What is the most critical step when harvesting a balled and burlapped tree?**

- A. Cutting the ties that hold the burlap around the ball**
- B. Ensuring the ball is fully intact before removal**
- C. Watering the soil around the tree prior to harvesting**
- D. Trimming the top of the tree**

**7. What is the recommended mowing height for most turf to promote healthier growth?**

- A. Less than 1 inch**
- B. 1-2 inches**
- C. 2 inches or more**
- D. Above 4 inches**

**8. What are common signs of over-watering plants?**

- A. Wilting foliage and brown tips**
- B. Yellowing leaves, root rot, and wilting despite moist soil**
- C. Slow growth and leaf drop**
- D. Dry soil and stunted development**

**9. What happens to roots during the harvesting process of wire basket trees?**

- A. They grow faster than the tree can be transported**
- B. They tend to grow over the wire instead of pushing it out of the way**
- C. They completely detach from the tree**
- D. They are severed entirely during the removal**

**10. How often should ground covers, annuals, and herbaceous perennials be fertilized?**

- A. Once a month**
- B. Every week**
- C. Every 4-6 weeks**
- D. Twice a season**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. What type of license is required for jobs exceeding \$50,000?

- A. State Licensed Landscape Architect's license**
- B. State Licensed General Contractor's license**
- C. State Licensed Arborist's license**
- D. State Licensed Horticulturist's license**

For landscape and construction jobs that exceed \$50,000 in value, a State Licensed General Contractor's license is required. This license ensures that the contractor has met the necessary educational and practical experience requirements to operate legally and competently in the construction industry. The General Contractor's license encompasses a broad range of construction activities, including landscaping projects that exceed the monetary threshold. It indicates a level of oversight and assurance regarding project management, adherence to building safety codes, and compliance with state regulations. While other licenses, such as those for landscape architects, arborists, or horticulturists, have their specific scopes and are crucial for ensuring expertise in their particular areas (designing landscapes, managing trees, or cultivating plants, respectively), they do not authorize a professional to manage projects of this financial scale in construction or landscape installation. Therefore, the correct answer emphasizes the regulatory requirement for larger projects to be overseen by general contractors, who hold the requisite license to ensure all aspects of the job meet state standards.

## 2. What is the role of a landscape architect?

- A. To maintain gardens after installation**
- B. To design outdoor spaces with aesthetics, functionality, and environmental concerns in mind**
- C. To focus solely on plant selection**
- D. To oversee the installation of hardscape features**

The role of a landscape architect primarily involves designing outdoor spaces with a focus on aesthetics, functionality, and environmental considerations. This entails creating designs that not only look visually appealing but also incorporate practical uses of the space and address ecological impacts. A landscape architect must understand how various elements like plantings, hardscapes, and water features interact within the environment and meet the needs of clients and the community. In this profession, landscape architects consider factors such as topography, climate, and local sustainability practices to develop plans that enhance the functionality of a space while also protecting and preserving the natural environment. Their expertise goes beyond mere aesthetic appeal, as they play a vital role in ensuring that landscapes serve their intended purpose effectively and sustainably. Other options suggest roles that are more specialized and do not encompass the broader responsibilities of a landscape architect. For instance, maintaining gardens is typically the task of a landscape maintenance professional. Focusing solely on plant selection is a narrower aspect of landscaping and generally falls under horticulture. Overseeing the installation of hardscape features is important but is usually part of the landscape architect's implementation phase rather than their primary role in design. Thus, the correct answer fully encapsulates the comprehensive responsibilities of a landscape architect.

**3. Which type of plants are primarily featured in xeriscaping?**

- A. Drought-tolerant plants**
- B. Water-loving plants**
- C. Seasonal flowering plants**
- D. Plants that thrive in shady conditions**

Xeriscaping is a landscaping method specifically designed to minimize water use and promote water conservation, particularly in arid and semi-arid regions. This approach emphasizes the use of drought-tolerant plants, which are adept at surviving in conditions with limited water availability. These plants typically possess characteristics such as deep root systems, thick or waxy leaves to reduce water loss, and the ability to store moisture. By focusing on drought-tolerant species, xeriscaping not only enhances the aesthetic appeal of a landscape but also aligns with sustainable practices by reducing the need for irrigation. This makes it an environmentally responsible choice, especially in areas where water resources are scarce. Using plants that naturally thrive in dry conditions ensures that the landscape remains vibrant and healthy without excessive water consumption. In contrast, options that refer to water-loving plants, seasonal flowering plants, or those that prefer shady conditions do not align with the principles of xeriscaping, as they would require more water and maintenance, thereby undermining the water-efficient goals of this landscaping strategy.

**4. Which cutting technique is particularly important for preventing tearing of the bark during pruning?**

- A. Back cut**
- B. Through cut**
- C. 3 cut method**
- D. Angle cut**

The three-cut method is particularly important for preventing tearing of the bark during pruning because it effectively supports the weight of the branch as it falls. This technique involves making one undercut on the branch to create a notch, followed by a cut from the top that severs the branch completely. By first making the undercut, the weight of the branch is no longer supported by the bark, which helps to prevent the bark from tearing as the branch falls. Completing the cut with a clean angle at the top ensures a smooth finish, allowing for better healing of the tree and minimizing injury. Using this method not only maintains the integrity of the bark but also reduces the likelihood of creating entry points for disease and pests, contributing to the overall health of the tree.

## 5. How can landscape professionals minimize chemical exposure to workers?

- A. By using personal protective equipment (PPE) and adhering to label instructions**
- B. By avoiding the use of all chemicals**
- C. By limiting work hours to reduce exposure**
- D. By providing additional training on chemical use**

Utilizing personal protective equipment (PPE) and adhering to label instructions is an essential and effective method for landscape professionals to minimize chemical exposure to workers. PPE, which includes items such as gloves, masks, goggles, and protective clothing, acts as a barrier between the worker and harmful substances, significantly reducing the risk of skin contact, inhalation, or ingestion of chemicals. Following label instructions is equally important, as it provides guidance on safe application rates, recommended protective gear, and specific measures to take during and after application. This ensures that chemicals are used properly and safely, thereby mitigating potential hazards to workers. Together, these practices create a comprehensive approach to maintaining worker safety in environments where chemicals are used, while still allowing professionals to perform their necessary tasks effectively. In contrast, avoiding the use of all chemicals may not be practical or feasible, as many landscape management tasks require chemical applications for pest control, fertilization, or weed management. While limiting work hours might reduce exposure time, it does not address the immediate risks present during application. Providing additional training on chemical use is beneficial; however, it must be paired with the proper use of PPE and adherence to safety protocols to be truly effective in minimizing exposure.

## 6. What is the most critical step when harvesting a balled and burlapped tree?

- A. Cutting the ties that hold the burlap around the ball**
- B. Ensuring the ball is fully intact before removal**
- C. Watering the soil around the tree prior to harvesting**
- D. Trimming the top of the tree**

The most critical step when harvesting a balled and burlapped tree is ensuring the ball is fully intact before removal. This is essential because the root ball contains the vital roots that the tree requires to survive and thrive after planting. Maintaining the integrity of the root ball minimizes root disturbance and damage, which can significantly impact the tree's establishment in its new location. When the ball is intact, it provides a protective layer of soil around the roots, which is crucial for moisture retention and nutrient access. By carefully handling the tree during the digging process to preserve the root ball, the gardener ensures that the tree has the best chance of survival and successful growth once it is transplanted. The roots need to be as undisturbed as possible to allow for gradual acclimatization to a new environment.

**7. What is the recommended mowing height for most turf to promote healthier growth?**

- A. Less than 1 inch**
- B. 1-2 inches**
- C. 2 inches or more**
- D. Above 4 inches**

The recommended mowing height of 2 inches or more is important for promoting healthier growth in most turfgrass species. Mowing grasses at this height allows for adequate leaf surface area, which is essential for photosynthesis. The increased leaf area helps the grass produce more energy, resulting in a denser and more resilient lawn. Furthermore, taller grass can help improve water retention and shade the soil, reducing evaporation and protecting the grassroots from extreme temperatures. Keeping grass at 2 inches or more also encourages deeper root growth, which enhances drought resistance and overall turf health. In contrast, mowing too short can stress the grass, making it more susceptible to diseases and leading to poor quality lawns.

**8. What are common signs of over-watering plants?**

- A. Wilting foliage and brown tips**
- B. Yellowing leaves, root rot, and wilting despite moist soil**
- C. Slow growth and leaf drop**
- D. Dry soil and stunted development**

The identification of yellowing leaves, root rot, and wilting despite moist soil as common signs of over-watering is based on how plants respond to excess moisture. When plants receive too much water, the roots can become saturated, leading to a lack of oxygen in the soil. This condition causes the roots to deteriorate and potentially rot, a phenomenon known as root rot. As the roots are compromised, they are less able to absorb nutrients and water effectively, which manifests as yellowing leaves due to nutrient deficiencies. Additionally, over-watered plants may exhibit wilting symptoms despite the moist soil, which can be counterintuitive. This occurs because the roots are unable to take up water effectively when they are damaged, resulting in the plant showing signs of wilting because it is essentially 'drowning.' Recognizing these specific symptoms is crucial for proper plant care and water management. While the other options mention symptoms associated with plant health issues, they do not specifically point to the characteristics that clearly signal over-watering. Understanding these signs is key for a landscape professional to maintain healthy plants and avoid over-watering mistakes.

**9. What happens to roots during the harvesting process of wire basket trees?**

- A. They grow faster than the tree can be transported**
- B. They tend to grow over the wire instead of pushing it out of the way**
- C. They completely detach from the tree**
- D. They are severed entirely during the removal**

When wire basket trees are harvested, the roots tend to grow over the wire instead of pushing it out of the way. This phenomenon occurs because the roots are healthy and actively seeking space to expand. Rather than breaking through the confines of the wire basket, they adapt by growing along its surface. This characteristic is essential for the tree's stability and continued development after transplanting. Understanding this behavior helps ensure that nursery professionals and landscapers take the proper steps during the transplanting process. Recognizing that the roots may have encased themselves around the wire enables those involved to gently tease out the roots as needed, promoting better establishment in the new environment. This understanding is crucial for successful transplantation practices, as it highlights the importance of handling the root ball carefully to avoid damaging the roots that have grown over the wire. A well-executed transplant can lead to a healthier tree that adapts better to its new surroundings.

**10. How often should ground covers, annuals, and herbaceous perennials be fertilized?**

- A. Once a month**
- B. Every week**
- C. Every 4-6 weeks**
- D. Twice a season**

Fertilizing ground covers, annuals, and herbaceous perennials every 4-6 weeks is appropriate for their growth and health. This timing allows for a steady supply of nutrients to support their active growth, particularly in the growing seasons of spring and summer. Frequent fertilization, such as once a month or every week, may lead to nutrient buildup in the soil, which can harm the plants and the environment. Fertilizing twice a season might not provide enough nutrients for these plants, especially during peak growth periods when they require more resources to thrive. Therefore, the interval of 4-6 weeks strikes a balance, ensuring the plants receive adequate nutrition without the risk of over-fertilization. This approach is essential for maintaining vigorous growth, abundant blooms, and overall plant health.

# 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://alabamaslp.examzify.com>**

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

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