

ALCPT English Comprehension Level (ECL) Practice Test (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. Complete the question: Who had Stacy () before she returned last night?
 - A. Been visiting
 - B. Visiting
 - C. Was visiting
 - D. Had visited

2. Complete the sentence: Do they prefer to walk to school rather than ()?
 - A. Drive
 - B. Ride
 - C. Cycle
 - D. Run

3. When you buy pants, sometimes you need to know the () of your leg.
 - A. Length
 - B. Girth
 - C. Width
 - D. Height

4. Abel gave me a hand and cut my grass.
 - A. He watered the plants.
 - B. He mowed the lawn.
 - C. He helped me.
 - D. He cooked dinner.

5. Two polygons that have the same shape, regardless of size, are described as ().
 - A. Alike
 - B. Different from
 - C. Similar to
 - D. Identical

6. The mechanic is going to _____ Mike's car at the garage.
- A. Repair
 - B. Fix
 - C. Service
 - D. Overhaul
7. He bought a __ car from a local lot.
- A. used
 - B. new
 - C. pre-owned
 - D. secondhand
8. Which word best describes something that makes sense?
- A. Logical
 - B. Illogical
 - C. Frivolous
 - D. Ambiguous
9. Which option represents the opposite of walking in the context of choosing a mode of travel?
- A. Driving
 - B. Running
 - C. Cycling
 - D. Flying
10. Frank got a () for the accident.
- A. Ticket
 - B. Fine
 - C. Citation
 - D. Warning

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Complete the question: Who had Stacy () before she returned last night?

- A. Been visiting**
- B. Visiting**
- C. Was visiting**
- D. Had visited**

This question tests using the past perfect continuous to describe an ongoing action that happened before another past event. To show that Stacy was in the middle of visiting someone up until the moment she returned last night, we need the form had been visiting. The full sentence becomes: Who had Stacy been visiting before she returned last night? The structure uses had as the auxiliary for the past perfect, been as the participle, and visiting in the -ing form to signal ongoing action up to that past moment. Why the other options don't fit as well: dropping the auxiliary and using been visiting isn't correct because the sentence needs the past perfect to link to the later past event. Using visiting alone isn't grammatical in this context. Was visiting describes a past continuous action at a specific time, not necessarily the duration up to the return. Had visited is past perfect simple and indicates a completed action, not one that continued up to the return.

2. Complete the sentence: Do they prefer to walk to school rather than ()?

- A. Drive**
- B. Ride**
- C. Cycle**
- D. Run**

You're comparing two ways people typically get to school. Using "rather than" signals you want the opposite or alternative mode to walking. The natural opposite in this everyday contrast is driving a car. So the verb should be the base form that describes that action: drive. That makes the sentence flow as "Do they prefer to walk to school rather than drive?" which is a common, smooth pairing. Other options can work in different contexts, but they introduce less direct or less natural contrasts here. For example, cycling is another mode of getting there, but it's closer to walking as a non-motorized option rather than the motorized contrast implied by walking versus driving. Ride can be vague because you'd need to specify what you're riding (a bike, bus, etc.), and running isn't the typical direct counterpart to walking in casual speech. Drive remains the clearest, most natural opposite in this sentence.

3. When you buy pants, sometimes you need to know the () of your leg.

- A. Length**
- B. Girth**
- C. Width**
- D. Height**

Understanding how clothing fits, you need to know the leg length to choose pants that fit properly. The length describes the distance from the crotch to the hem, often called the inseam, and it tells you how long the pant legs will be. This is essential to avoid pants that are too short or too long. Girth refers to around-measurements like the circumference of the thigh or waist, which doesn't tell you how long the leg is. Width describes how wide the leg or opening is, not its length. Height describes overall stature, not the specific leg measurement used for pants length. So the best choice is length because it directly determines how long the pants will fall on your legs.

4. Abel gave me a hand and cut my grass.

- A. He watered the plants.**
- B. He mowed the lawn.**
- C. He helped me.**
- D. He cooked dinner.**

Understanding idioms and context: "gave me a hand" is a common expression meaning to help someone. In the sentence, Abel did two things: he helped me and he cut my grass. The best match is the phrase that says he helped me, because that directly reflects the meaning of the expression "gave me a hand." The other options point to actions not described by that part of the sentence (watering plants, cooking dinner) or focus only on the grass-cutting part, which isn't the focus of the idiom. So the intended meaning is that he helped me.

5. Two polygons that have the same shape, regardless of size, are described as ().

- A. Alike**
- B. Different from**
- C. Similar to**
- D. Identical**

Similar shapes keep the same arrangement of angles and the same overall shape even if one is bigger or smaller. For polygons, that means the corresponding angles are equal and the lengths of corresponding sides are proportional by a constant factor. So a small triangle and a larger triangle that look the same in shape are similar, because you could scale one up or down to match the other. Identical would require the same size as well, not just the same shape. Alike is too vague, and Different from is the opposite idea.

6. The mechanic is going to _____ Mike's car at the garage.

A. Repair

B. Fix

C. Service

D. Overhaul

The main idea here is choosing the verb that best describes what a mechanic does to a car that has a problem. In this setting, a mechanic going to work on Mike's car in a garage is most naturally about fixing something that isn't working properly. Repair fits this scenario well because it means to fix or mend a malfunctioning part or system so the car can operate again. It's a formal, standard term used in professional auto work. The other options don't fit as neatly: fix is acceptable but more casual; service implies routine maintenance rather than addressing a specific problem; overhaul would suggest a major, comprehensive rebuild, which goes beyond a typical repair.

7. He bought a __ car from a local lot.

A. used

B. new

C. pre-owned

D. secondhand

Describing ownership status and natural word choice are being tested here. The most natural way to fill in the blank is used because it clearly signals a vehicle that has had prior owners, which fits the everyday way people talk about buying cars from a lot that sells preowned vehicles. It's the plain, neutral option that listeners immediately understand as not brand-new. New would imply the car hasn't been owned before, which conflicts with the common scenario implied by buying from a local lot that often sells used cars. Pre-owned is correct in meaning, but it's more formal and shop-talky than used in everyday speech. Secondhand is understandable but sounds less natural in American English for this context.

8. Which word best describes something that makes sense?

A. Logical

B. Illogical

C. Frivolous

D. Ambiguous

When we say something "makes sense," we're talking about reasoning that is clear, coherent, and well supported. The best word for that is logical, because it describes thinking that follows a sensible pattern, fits together step by step, and relies on evidence or accepted principles to reach a conclusion. Illogical is the opposite—it describes thinking that breaks from reason or contradicts itself. Frivolous refers to something treated as unimportant or not serious, not its clarity or soundness. Ambiguous means unclear or open to multiple interpretations, which is the opposite of something that makes clear sense. So, the word that best describes something that makes sense is logical.

9. Which option represents the opposite of walking in the context of choosing a mode of travel?

- A. Driving**
- B. Running**
- C. Cycling**
- D. Flying**

The main idea being tested is choosing a travel mode that contrasts most with walking. Walking means moving on foot without any machine, usually at a slower pace. The opposite here is using a vehicle with an engine to get around, which is driving. Driving represents a switch from being powered by your own legs to relying on a motorized vehicle on roads, offering faster travel and less physical effort. Running and cycling are still powered by the body, even though they get you moving faster than walking, so they're closer to walking in method and energy use. Flying changes the setting entirely by taking travel into the air, which is a very different mode from walking on the ground. Among these, driving best fits the idea of an opposite in everyday travel options.

10. Frank got a () for the accident.

- A. Ticket**
- B. Fine**
- C. Citation**
- D. Warning**

Getting a ticket for the accident is the natural way to describe the situation. A ticket is a written notice issued by a police officer stating you violated a traffic law, and it may come with a fine or a court appearance. In everyday use, people say they "got a ticket" rather than "got a citation" or "got a warning." A fine is the amount of money you must pay, not the notice itself, and a warning implies no formal charge or record, which is less typical after a crash. Because the sentence refers to receiving the formal notice related to the incident, ticket is the best fit.

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://alcptengcomplevel.examzify.com>

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

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