

Anatomy and Physiology Diagnostic Imaging 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. Which term best describes the front side of the body?**
 - A. Posterior (Dorsal)**
 - B. Medial**
 - C. Lateral**
 - D. Anterior (Ventral)**

- 2. The knee is ___ to the thigh.**
 - A. Distal**
 - B. Proximal**
 - C. Medial**
 - D. Lateral**

- 3. Which cavity houses urinary bladder, reproductive organs, and rectum?**
 - A. Abdominal Cavity**
 - B. Thoracic Cavity**
 - C. Pelvic Cavity**
 - D. Pericardial Cavity**

- 4. Which term describes closer to the origin of a body part?**
 - A. Proximal**
 - B. Distal**
 - C. Medial**
 - D. Lateral**

- 5. The pelvic cavity contains which organs?**
 - A. Liver and spleen**
 - B. Brain and spinal cord**
 - C. Heart and lungs**
 - D. Urinary bladder, reproductive organs, and rectum**

- 6. The Transverse plane divides the body into which parts?**
 - A. Sagittal plane**
 - B. Frontal plane**
 - C. Transverse plane**
 - D. Oblique plane**

7. Which term means away from the head end, toward the lower part?
- A. Superior
 - B. Inferior
 - C. Ventral (anterior)
 - D. Dorsal (posterior)
8. The knee is ___ to the ankle.
- A. Proximal
 - B. Distal
 - C. Superior
 - D. Inferior
9. What is anatomy?
- A. The study of function
 - B. The study of systems
 - C. The study of structure
 - D. The science of living matter
10. The skin is _____ to the skeletal muscles.
- A. Superficial
 - B. Deep
 - C. Internal
 - D. External

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which term best describes the front side of the body?

- A. Posterior (Dorsal)
- B. Medial
- C. Lateral
- D. Anterior (Ventral)**

Directional terms describe where a structure sits relative to the body's surfaces. The front side is described as anterior, also called ventral. In the standard anatomical position, you face forward, so the chest and belly face the anterior surface, while the back faces the posterior (dorsal). Medial and lateral describe proximity to or distance from the midline, not front versus back. So the term that best fits the front side of the body is anterior (ventral). For example, the sternum is on the anterior chest.

2. The knee is ___ to the thigh.

- A. Distal**
- B. Proximal
- C. Medial
- D. Lateral

In anatomy, directional terms describe how parts are positioned along the body or limbs. Distal means farther from the trunk, while proximal means closer to the trunk. The thigh runs from the hip to the knee and sits nearer to the body's center, whereas the knee is farther from the trunk, at the end of the limb. That makes the knee distal to the thigh. Medial and lateral describe position relative to the midline, not along the limb's length, so they don't apply here.

3. Which cavity houses urinary bladder, reproductive organs, and rectum?

- A. Abdominal Cavity
- B. Thoracic Cavity
- C. Pelvic Cavity**
- D. Pericardial Cavity

The main idea is knowing which organs sit in which body cavity. The pelvic cavity is the lower, bony-lined space within the pelvis. It houses the urinary bladder, the reproductive organs, and the rectum. The bladder sits in this region for most of its size, and the reproductive organs (uterus and ovaries in females; prostate and parts of the reproductive tract in males) occupy this same space. The rectum lies toward the back of the pelvic cavity as it continues down to the anal canal. In contrast, the abdominal cavity contains most of the digestive organs like the stomach and intestines, while the thoracic cavity holds the heart and lungs, with the pericardial cavity surrounding the heart. So, the pelvic cavity best fits the organs listed.

4. Which term describes closer to the origin of a body part?

- A. Proximal**
- B. Distal**
- C. Medial**
- D. Lateral**

Proximal describes closer to the origin of a body part. For limbs, that means nearer to where the limb attaches to the trunk. So the thigh is proximal to the knee, and the elbow is proximal to the hand. Distal would be farther from the attachment point, as the hand is distal to the elbow. Medial and lateral relate to the midline of the body (toward or away from it), not to distance from the origin.

5. The pelvic cavity contains which organs?

- A. Liver and spleen**
- B. Brain and spinal cord**
- C. Heart and lungs**
- D. Urinary bladder, reproductive organs, and rectum**

The pelvic cavity houses the organs of the urinary and reproductive systems and the distal digestive tract. In this space you find the urinary bladder, the reproductive organs (such as uterus and ovaries in females; prostate and related structures in males), and the rectum. The pelvic cavity is the lower portion of the abdominopelvic cavity, bounded by the pelvic bones and sacrum. Livers and spleens sit in the upper abdomen, the brain and spinal cord are in the cranial and vertebral cavities, and the heart and lungs are in the thoracic cavity. Therefore, the organs listed in the pelvic cavity are the urinary bladder, reproductive organs, and rectum.

6. The Transverse plane divides the body into which parts?

- A. Sagittal plane**
- B. Frontal plane**
- C. Transverse plane**
- D. Oblique plane**

Planes of reference describe how the body can be sectioned for viewing or imaging. The transverse plane is a horizontal plane that runs perpendicular to the body's long axis, dividing the body into superior (upper) and inferior (lower) portions. This is why imaging slices described as axial or transverse separate the top from the bottom. The sagittal plane splits left from right, the frontal (coronal) plane splits anterior from posterior, and the oblique plane is angled, not producing a strict top/bottom division. So, the transverse plane is the one that divides into upper and lower parts.

7. Which term means away from the head end, toward the lower part?

- A. Superior
- B. Inferior**
- C. Ventral (anterior)
- D. Dorsal (posterior)

Directional terms describe where a structure is relative to another along the body's axes. When moving away from the head toward the lower part, the direction is inferior. Inferior means closer to the feet; the opposite term is superior, which means toward the head. The other options describe front/back (ventral/anterior) or back/up (dorsal/posterior) rather than the vertical head-to-feet axis, so they don't fit the description. For example, the stomach is inferior to the heart.

8. The knee is ___ to the ankle.

- A. Proximal**
- B. Distal
- C. Superior
- D. Inferior

Proximal means closer to the trunk of the body. The knee is nearer to the hip (the body's center) than the ankle, so the knee is proximal to the ankle. Distal would be farther from the trunk, which would describe the ankle relative to the knee. While the knee is also above the ankle (superior to inferior), the question focuses on the limbs' proximodistal relationship, making proximal the most appropriate term.

9. What is anatomy?

- A. The study of function
- B. The study of systems
- C. The study of structure**
- D. The science of living matter

Anatomy is the study of structure—the way the body is built, including the shape, size, location, and arrangement of parts and how they fit together. It looks at cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems, and how each piece sits in relation to others. This focus on form and spatial organization is what distinguishes anatomy from physiology, which deals with how those parts function and work. So the best match is understanding the body's structure, not its function or broader biology.

10. The skin is _____ to the skeletal muscles.

A. Superficial

B. Deep

C. Internal

D. External

Skin is superficial to skeletal muscles. It sits near the body's exterior, with the epidermis and dermis overlying subcutaneous tissue, and the muscles located deeper underneath. Deep would place the skin farther inside, which isn't correct for this relationship. Internal describes being inside, and while external could be used, the most accurate term for this context is superficial.

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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://anatomyphysiodiagnosticimaging.examzify.com>

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

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